

# **Strathisla Community Council**

## **Minutes of meeting – 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 in Keith Community Centre**

1. **Present** – Keith Comrie, Ian Ross, James Mark, Karen Pryce-Iddon, John Gelling, Jacob Gelling, **In attendance** – Cllr Gary Coull, Esther Green (minutes secretary), Larissa Murray, Police Scotland officers David Baird and Morag Lawrence, Pete Docherty (Edintore Wind Farm).
2. **Apologies** – Cllr Ron Shepherd, Innes MacPherson, Priscilla Gordon-Duff.
3. **Minutes** – With two amendments, minutes of the February meeting were approved as accurate by James Mark and seconded by Keith Comrie.
4. **Police matters** –Police Scotland officers David Baird and Morag Lawrence were in attendance and reported that there had been two recorded crimes in the Strathisla, one of which closed undetected; the other still under investigation.

The Forestry Commission have reported vandalism of two sets of gates at Aultmore Forest and it is the Forestry Commission's impression that this was for the purpose of poaching or other theft. Anyone who sees anyone acting suspiciously is asked to contact the police.

An allegation of careless driving is still being investigated.

A planned clampdown on anti-social driving in the Keith area is to be launched soon and the community, alongside police, are encouraged to help tackle this problem. Further details will be announced later.

Police were not aware of a recent theft of domestic heating fuel in the Drummur area but asked that the householder be encouraged to report the matter.

Police agreed to take a look at Glenisla House in Newmill, where it has been noted that the property is no longer secure and young people have been congregating within. The issue of the property, which has lain empty for more than 30 years, is to be the subject of a meeting between Cllr Coull and council officials from building standards, legal and revenue. He will report back the outcome of these talks.

**(Action police patrols; GC to have meeting)**

### **5. Guest presentation – Pete Docherty, Edintore Wind Farm Proposal**

Pete Docherty attended the meeting to give an update on the community benefit that will arise out of the Edintore Wind Farm which will see six turbines located on a site around 4km south of Keith.

A final programme of construction is currently being drawn up and Drummur Trust, Keith Community Council and Strathisla Community Council are being consulted about the community benefit, which could be £90,000 per year. Docherty Consulting Ltd is seeking representatives to sit on a preliminary steering group. Pete expects to be back in touch with SCC in April to discuss when the steering group will meet and would be happy to answer any questions and provide more information at any stage.

6. **Treasurer's report** – Balance stands at £2338.17, less £60 for minutes secretary's honorarium and £15 Broadband charge .

7. **Youth issues** – The shortage of teachers at KGS was noted as an area of concern. This problem is affecting many schools in Moray and education officials are very much aware and actively seeking solutions. Cllr Coull said he would express SCC's concerns to the education department.

8 **Planning** – No issues.

## 9. Botriphnie

a) Edintore Brae B9115 - the road edges have worsened since this was last reported and request that action be taken. **GC to pursue**

b) Glack of Midthird - road not in a good condition.

c) Towiemore Bridge – 'bump' in the middle of the bridge road surface reported.

d) Mill Brae – edges of a section of this road were washed away during the last floods.

e) Fly tipping of an industrial scale with around 150 tyres dumped at the layby at Loch Park was reported. This was an issue Councillor Stewart Cree has had previous involvement in and request that he review the issue. **SC requested to action**

f) Film night – Drummuir hall is hosting its latest film night, screening 'Mr Turner' on March 28 at 7.30pm. There may also be a children's matinee.

## 10. Grange

a) The suggestion to move relocate the Grange memorial to the grounds of King Memorial Hall did not find favour with those that John Gelling consulted with in the community. The existing memorial is thought to be the only one in Scotland with a horse trough, and there is a brass plaque in the hall listing those from the Grange area who died in the war.

b) Fundraisers – a quiz night is taking place on 21 March at 7.30 and afternoon teas on May 10 from 2-4pm, both in King Memorial Hall.

## 11. Newmill

a) Overhanging branches at Winding Brae – GC said that the owner has been made aware and the work is likely to be carried out while this section of road is closed.

b) Passing places on the B9017 – Moray Council's traffic section has looked at this and stated there are already advisory signs in place. Encouraging drivers to use them is a different matter.

c) Lanes and potholes – IR to supply GC with a list of lanes maintained by the council that require maintenance. **Action – IR/GC**

d) Speed counter for vehicles - Request for equipment to be installed to measure speed of vehicles coming in from the old kirk side of the village was made. Alternatively suggested was smiley face sign to alert motorists to their speed **Action - GC to investigate**

## 12. Rothiemay

a) Traffic calming – This is still an issue that villagers would like on the main road into the village coming from the garage to have some form of traffic calming. Pavement or raised paint could be options. **Action – GC to pursue**

b) Shed at graveyard – The community would like to see the small previously used by the village gravedigger to be refurbished as it is in a poor state.

c) GC to ask traffic/police to investigate damage to verges caused by large lorries turning. KPI happy to meet with officials to explain the issues and possible solutions. **Action GC/KPI**

## 13. Boharm

a) The new children's playpark has been installed; a new pavilion may be next.

## 14. Correspondence

a) The local authority has paid the SCC insurance

b) John Calder of KCR has been invited to attend the April meeting

c) Details given of the Bridge of Marnoch Road closure

## 15. AOCB

a) KPI and IR attended the last meeting of the JCC. It was a lively meeting with a number of topics discussed.

b) Replacement minutes secretary – Larissa Murray attended meeting and agreed to take over post from Esther, starting from April. SCC minutes notebook passed over to Larissa.

16. **Next meeting** - The next meeting of Strathisla Community Council will be held on Wednesday, 1 April 2015.

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