Strathisla Community Council

Minutes - 6:00pm - Wednesday 7th October 2026

Keith Community & Sports Centre, Banff Road, Keith

Attendees:

Strathisla Community Councillors: John Taylor (JT), Tina Murphy (TM), Karen Pryce Iddon (KPI), Tim Renshaw (TR), Geraldine McKillop (GM), Rachael McCutcheon (RM)

Keith Community Councillors: Steve Hickin (SH), Stuart Chapman (SC)

Moray Councillors: Donald Gatt (DG), Theresa Coull (ThC)

Visitors: Representatives of Craigellachie Residents

1. **Welcome & Apologies -** JT opened the meeting and welcomed all. It was good to see representatives from Craigellachie attend and also Steve and Stuart from Keith Community Council.

   Apologies: James Mark (JM), Tracy Colyer (TrC), George Gartly (GG), Lesley Gartly (LG). TM read short note from TrC.

2. **Minutes of last meeting** – Weds 2nd September - Minutes approved - Proposed KPI, seconded GM

3. **Matters arising not on Agenda:** Newmill Bus Shelter - no update but understood Murphy Group have 3 quotes for bus shelter, photos and location details

4. **Resilience Project** - no change in status with no further information received from Rhona Paterson. CCLO has been asked to escalate. Steve Hickin & Stuart Chapman were attending SCC specifically to discuss the resilience plans for both Keith and Strathisla and commented that the JCC held no status information on resilience plans. No one appeared to have information on the Resilience plans or how they work and information cascades. Moray Local Action Group Website refers to numerous items that have been supplied for the '6' halls but there is no information on which '6' halls or where the equipment is being stored, or what the testing and maintenance regimes are. No records of inspection appear to be available. KPI commented that Rothiemay never received a resilience box. Jane Martin (as CCLO) and Theresa Coull had filled in the initial Resilience plan, which was essentially a telephone tree. The Resilience Officer at the time has moved on and the CSU are now overseeing Resilience plans. The Keith plan is overdue for review – not known if a Strathisla plan exists. They also commented that if you try to follow links for local resilience groups on the MC website this takes you in circles. KCC have requested a copy of the Resilience plan which has been submitted in their name and intend to undertake their own review and take ownership of the plan going forward.

5. **Treasurers Report –** Current bank balance £12,237.79 of which resilience fund is £8,712.20. Remembrance Day Wreaths are ordered.

6. **Zenobe Microgrant Fund**
   All of current Zenobe Grant funding of granted 3/4/26 has been awarded. Next round of funding awaited. Requests had been made for various reports which had not been agreed to by KCC or SCC. SH of KCC has written to Foundation Scotland about this.

7. **Planning Applications – Weekly Wards –** noted that the Gullymules application has been withdrawn. POAN – Statkraft Greener Grid Park Extension – Public Consultation 3rd November – ask for join meeting with KCC and SCC in the morning. TM to action. Vattenfall – Aultmore – RM reported concern over the 66 private water supplies that may be affected. Application states water to be 'monitored' which does not seem to provide any comfort or protection for the residents. Maybe a question to be put to Laura Mitchell. Zoom to be organised – joint with KCC.

8. **Reports, Events Attended** – Police Report received and circulated. KPI and JT attended the Save the Deveron meeting, some very valid points raised. Question again raised as to why there is no map showing current and proposed National Grid / SSEN sites, proposed routes and related energy projects for Moray. Aberdeenshire has one.

9. **Councillor Reports** – DG & TC- usual committees held and lots of constituency work ongoing. Full details of the Public Service Reform Strategy are still awaited.

10. **Strathisla Updates:**
    a. **Boharm / Mulben** – TR – major concern is the refreshed Caley Casks application
    b. **Botriphnie / Drummuir** – JM – no report
    c. **Grange** – JT / GM – Some recent road repairs remain unlined
    d. **Newmill** – GG / LG / RMC – all appears ok at the moment
    e. **Rothiemay / Knock** – KPI – nothing to report
    f. **Rural Keith** – TM – trees along A96 still marked assumed for cutting back.

11. **Correspondence:** List circulated – no comments

12. **JCC** – draft minutes of last meeting have been circulated

13. **AOCB – Caley Casks Planning Application – Viewfield Farm, Craigellachie** – visitors from Ben Aigan / Craigellachie - still opposition & strong opinion on this refreshed application which is now to build shed and fill it, one after the other, with a range of issues being raised and discussed. The group still believe that of the 32 stated policies 22 are not relevant and greatest concern remains the access to the site from the A95, the narrow road and single track bridge at Fiddichside, the history of landslip in the area, the poor quality of the environmental impact assessment along with concerns over noise / light pollution and loss of agricultural land. SCC will submit response highlighting concerns of residents in the area and questioning the 'shed by shed' approach which may mean ongoing works for years to come. SCC will not oppose the application.

Date of next meeting ~ Wednesday 4th November 2026