Strathisla Community Council

DRAFT Minutes - 6:00pm - Wednesday 4th November 2026

Keith Community & Sports Centre, Banff Road, Keith

Attendees:

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

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

1. **Welcome & Apologies -** JT opened the meeting and welcomed all

   Apologies: James Mark (JM), Tracy Colyer (TrC), George Gartly (GG), Lesley Gartly (LG), Rachael McCutcheon (RM)

2. **Minutes of last meeting** – Weds 7th October - Minutes approved - Proposed GM, seconded JT

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. George to update at next meeting.
   Caley Casks Application **–** further response to application submitted

4. **Keith Fire Station –** JT commented that Keith Fire Station had not been able to muster a crew for the recent fire at Keith Grammar School. Fire Safety was an issue that was flagged at yesterday's meeting with Statkraft and also in the light of potential further infrastructure applications in the pipeline. ThC to raise at the Police, Fire & Rescue Committee meeting. ThC commented that the only full-time crew was at Elgin Fire Station, all other Moray Fire Crews are retained. Letter to Fire Scotland to express concern

5. **Resilience Project** - No change in status with no further information received from Rhona Paterson. CCLO has been asked to confirm what next steps may be to escalate. TM has requested a copy of any Resilience Plans relating to areas covered by SCC. KCC have received the copy of the Keith Plan requested. ThC has confirmed that the Rothiemay Reslience Box in storage at Longmore Hall. KPI will make arrangements for it to be collected and stored in Rothiemay

6. **Treasurers Report –** Current bank balance £12,185.79 of which resilience fund is £8,712.20. Remittance advice received for further payment of £6,250 from Zenobe for the Blackhillock BESS Fund, which will make balance £18,435.79.

7. **Zenobe Microgrant Fund -** Further information awaited from Strathisla Pipeband. No other current applications. £6,250 currently available.

8. **Planning Applications – Weekly Wards** – no comments

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9. **Reports, Events Attended** – Statkraft – Keith Greener Grid Park Extension – Statkraft gave a very helpful presentation to a joint meeting of the Keith and the Strathisla Community Councils. JT, GM and TM attended from SCC and Steve Hickin & Davie Rough from KCC. Much newer quieter technology now available. Kevin Mitchell of Keith Fire Station has been on a site visit. A further community fund of £20,000 will be made available, in addition to the current £20,000 already available. It was felt that people may not understand what the funds may cover and that this may be putting people off applying. Fund to be actively promoted. It may be possible to fund larger projects, staged over more than one funding round.
Moray Springboard Local Assembly – Moray Coast Regeneration – JT attended this workshop, which was fairly basic involving a drawing from heritage, something current and something for the future and making cardboard models. The 3 topics were in Buckie; the Harbour, a Community Centre and a Community Park. The day was hosted by Climate Scotland. The Buckie Harbour Master confirmed that a Feasibility Study for Buckie Harbour was already under way

10. **Councillor Reports** – DG - slight gap in activity during the Tattie Holidays - usual committees held and lots of constituency work ongoing. Number of primaries have held their Parent Councils, Portknockie had a very successful and well attended 150th Anniversary. There had been a drop in for the new Local Development Draft Plan, the public consultation will run for 17 weeks. The papers are available online – 1,018 pages plus supplementary appendages. Main policies are in Vol 2 – SCC members encouraged to read bits about its local area. ThC – Special Licensing Board had met, as had Planning. Long Service Awards for Moray Council Staff had been presented. Funding was being sought for sauna works following the fire at Keith Sports Centre, quotes currently being submitted to carry out the work. As usual constituency work was very busy.

11. **Strathisla Updates:**
    a. **Boharm / Mulben** – TR - Nothing
    b. **Botriphnie / Drummuir** – JM – no report
    c. **Grange** – JT / GM – recent road repairs remain unlined - DG to follow up
    d. **Newmill** – GG / LG / RMC – all appears ok at the moment
    e. **Rothiemay / Knock** – KPI – nothing to report
    f. **Rural Keith** – TM – nothing to report.

12. **Correspondence:** List circulated – Public Transport Consultation link not working in email – consultation possibly not live yet

13. **JCC** – Next meeting – Thursday 12th November – JT and KPI plan to attend

14. **AOCB –** Remembrance Day Wreaths – distributed: TR – Mulben, KPI – Rothiemay, JT – Grange & Newmill, JM already has for Drummuir.

Meeting closed @ 6:40pm

Date of next meeting ~ Wednesday 2nd December 2026

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