

Strathisla Community Council
Minutes - 6:00pm - Wednesday 6th May 2026
Keith Community & Sports Centre, Banff Road, Keith

Attendees:

Strathisla Community Councillors: John Taylor (JT), Geraldine McKillop (GM), Tina Murphy (TM), James Mark (JM), George Gartly (GG), Lesley Gartly (LG)

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

Others:

1. **Welcome & Apologies** - JT opened the meeting and welcomed all. **Apologies:** Rachel McCutcheon(RM), Tim Renshaw (TR)
2. **Minutes of last meeting** – Weds 1st April - Minutes Approved - Proposed GM, seconded JM
3. **Matters arising not on Agenda:**
Defibrillators – Now that the Zenobe Funding has been received letter to be sent to halls to fund raise for maintenance – TM to draft
Newmill Bus Shelter – Site identified, price being investigated. Funding will need to be looked into. Would be permitted development by MC Transportation Dept
Rothiemay Resilience – TM had discussed at length with Liz Coutts, who commented that the Rothiemay Hall Committee is really struggling to continue and they are not in a position to take on any additional responsibility or commitment as the hall's future is not particularly secure
4. **Resilience Project** – TM - Rhona Patterson has still not submitted the information required. CCLO aware the information provided to date is inadequate. CCLO asked to chase this up. Item to remain on Agenda. ThC reported that there is a new resilience officer at Moray Council
5. **Treasurers Report** – JM reported bank balance £11,463.67 of which resilience fund is £8,712.20
6. **Zenobe Blackhillock Microgrants** - The remittance advice for £6,250 had been received from Zenobe to indicate the funds had been paid into the bank but no statement received to cover this as yet. The fund has been advertised on FB and in the TSI newsletter. Posters had been handed out at previous meeting and more were available. TrC will draft further posters. TM and Steve Hickin of KCC are in regular communication to ensure there is no overlap with applications
7. **Planning / Weekly wards** – Retrospective application at 74 Main Street, Newmill awaits decision as does the application between Braecroft and Gillymule. Noted one new application at Rothiemay
8. **Beauly to Blackhillock to Peterhead 400kvOHL** – concerns have been raised about the level of survey preparation work which has been undertaken and the tree felling which has already been done. There are further investigations and surveys required in respect of private water supplies and health. There are further meetings coming up. TM confirmed she would register interest by the closing date of 14-05 but was unable at the minute to assist in drafting letters and responses. Community Councillors to speak to people in their areas
9. **Reports, Events Attended** – Police Scotland North East report received which now included local crime figures. No events attended
10. **Councillor Reports** – Various committees held – Licensing, Police Fire & Rescue, Full Council earlier today. Constituency work remains ongoing. The visit by the Duke of Edinburgh had gone very well and the children from Keith Grammar School had represented themselves in a great light

- 11. Strathisla Updates:**
- a. **Boharm / Mulben** – TR – no report
 - b. **Botriphnie / Drummuir** – JM – Residents at Towiemore have enquired how other rural settlements have in the past been connected to the mains water system and is there any criteria which may require a water supply to be supplied. ThC will inquire at MC. The other route would be an application for funding, cost would be around £250 per metre and would involve several kilometres
 - c. **Grange** – JT / GM – another car off the road at the Hall on Sunday. Very large pothole in road past Merryfold. Private Road around Nethermills is having holes filled
 - d. **Newmill** – GG / LG – MC Antisocial Behaviour officer reported they had concluded their investigation into the car dismantling etc. Sandbags remain in situ at bridge. Litter pick organised for this Sunday
 - e. **Rothiemay / Knock** – KPI – no report
 - f. **Rural Keith** – TM – several new potholes developing, lots of litter lying and filled bags thrown from passing cars. Seem to be increasing numbers of lorries overnighing in the A96 layby and not using the lorry park
- 10. Correspondence:** List circulated – no comments
- 11. JCC** – next meeting Thursday 14th May – 7pm – Elgin Community Centre
- 12. AOCB** – 20mph – ThC commented big benefit for residents, she has noticed improvement and easier to get out of lanes

JT thanked everyone for attending and wished all a safe journey home

Meeting closed at 7:15pm

Date of next meeting ~ Wednesday 3rd June 2026

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