

The Keith Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting on Monday 02nd March 2026

Time & Venue: 19.00hrs in Keith Community Fire Station

Those in Attendance:

Community Councillors: Neil Kidd NK (Chair), Steve Hickin SH (Secretary), Callum Stuart CS (Vice Chair), Stuart Chapman SC, Linda Gorn LG, Bruce Cruickshank BC.

Associate Member: Kevin Mitchell, (KM), Watch Commander SFRS,

Ward Councillors: Cllr T. Coull, Cllr D. Gatt.

Cllr T. Colyer had arranged to attend via a TEAMS link, unfortunately the link broke down and contact was lost.

Others Present: Debbie Herron (Foundation Scotland)

1. Welcome & Apologies

The Meeting opened at 19:00hrs and Chair N. Kidd welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from: A. Inglis, S. Hunt, D. Rough – **Action = Apologies accepted and noted.**

2. Proposal and Adoption of the Minutes of the February 2026 Meeting

Proposed by: L. Gorn, seconded by: B. Cruickshank that the minutes of the February 2026 meeting be adopted as drafted. **Action = Adopted as Drafted.**

3. Debbie Herron – Foundation Scotland – Administrator of Zenobe Blackhillock CBF

The Chair welcomed Debbie to the meeting to give an update on the community Benefit Fund.

The framework for the fund is in place, the posters have been delivered, application forms are online and can be either filled in online or downloaded and the website is ready for launch. All that is needed now is for Zenobe to deposit the first six months funds of £6250 into the KCC account.

Following her report the Chair thanked Debbie for her attendance at the meeting and she left the meeting at 19.32hrs.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the February 2026 Meeting

Speeding & Double parking on School Road at end of school

KM advised that there had been a joint emergency services exercise on School Road to highlight the importance of keeping the road clear and safe. **Action = Noted**

KCC Constitution

The Secretary advised that we are still awaiting the return of the counter signed Constitution from Moray Council. **Action = Noted and Secretary to monitor and follow up as necessary.**

Grit Bin Taylor Road

This has now been refilled with grit. **Action = Noted**

K. Mitchell Associate Membership

The Secretary advised the meeting that the CCLO has been notified of K. Mitchell's adoption into Associate Membership of Keith Community Council. – **Action = Noted**

5. Correspondence

Update on Haughs Bridge from Billy Gordon, Engagement Manager for AMEY

Billy Gordon advises that AMEY have been unable to make repairs to the damage as their resources were engaged with dealing the effects of the recent adverse weather, the temporary barrier will remain in place until they can carry out repairs.

Action = Noted

The Keith Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting on Monday 02nd March 2026

Time & Venue: 19.00hrs in Keith Community Fire Station

LG brought in a letter passed to her by the Fife Keith Action Group concerning the flower displays on regent Street and Fife Keith square.

Correspondence continued

The meeting discussed the content of the letter and it was decided the Secretary would reply with appropriate advice and information.

Action = Secretary to write to the Fife Keith Action Group.

6. Consideration of Co-Opting D. Rough to Keith Community Council

The matter of Mr D. Rough's interest in joining Keith Community Council was discussed, Mr Rough had previously been a member of Keith Community Council under the 2021 to 2025 Moray Council Scheme but he had been unable to participate in the recent Community Council election as he had been away at that time. Mr Rough had been a valued and active member of the previous community council and the meeting considered his membership to be an asset. With this in mind, all members present agreed to co-opt Mr Rough into membership of the current Keith Community Council under the provisions of the *Moray Scheme for the establishment of Community Councils 2025 – 2029*.

Action: Secretary to notify the CCLO of the decision to co-opt Mr D. Rough into membership of Keith Community Council.

7. Treasurer's Report

In their absence the Treasurer had submitted a written report by email.

Bank account balances:

Keith Community Council - £521.31
Payment out = £50 Honorarium to the Secretary

Keith Christmas Lights - £11,412.29
Deposit = £200 final Christmas donations.

KCC Defibrillators - £1544.41
No change from previous month.

Keith Scots Toun - £2560.59
No change from previous month.

Keith in Flower - £953.19

Action = Treasurer's report noted

8. Community Reports

Kevin Mitchell, Watch Commander SFRS

Report for February 2026 – Keith Community Fire Station Crews attended the following incidents:

Throughout February we attended 10 fire calls:

4 *Special Services* = 1 Gain Entry in Keith, 1 Gain Entry in Huntly, 1 Search and Rescue in Keith Area, 1 Assist paramedics in carrying a casualty to the Helimed helicopter.

3 *Fires* = Wheelie Bin Fire in Buckie, Garage Fire in Grange, Car Fire in Rothienorman, Whilst at Inch standby.

2 *False Alarms* = 1 Smoke Alarm, Taylor Court, 1 Smoke Alarm in Dufftown.

1 *Standby* = 1 Standby in Inch.

Charity Work = Our Christmas Collection raised £1049 which we have donated to the Fire-fighters Charity.

Last year we raised £6049, with the following receiving: £4049.00 to The Fire-fighters Charity, £1000 to Prostate Cancer, £1000.00 going to SCA Helicopter.

The Keith Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting on Monday 02nd March 2026

Time & Venue: 19.00hrs in Keith Community Fire Station

Parliament Visit = WC Mitchell was down to Scottish Parliament to meet with Sharon Dowey Shadow Minister for Victims and Community Safety and Siobhian Brown Minister for Victims and Community Safety.

End of Report. Action = Report Noted

Community Reports continued

Parks & Litter

NK advised that he noted that St. Rufus Park had quite a lot of litter present this week.

Action = Noted

Planning

SC submitted a report of planning applications as shown on the Moray Council website, he also commented that the weekly wards list did not appear to contain some of these applications.

Action = The report was noted.

Ward Councillors

Cllr Coull:

Has conducted Ward activities, normal committee work, Budget meetings and has the Planning Committee meeting this coming Thursday.

Action = Noted

Cllr Gatt:

Has conducted Ward activities, attended the Education committee and the Housing Committee.

Action = Noted

KCC Sub Groups

Christmas Lights:

BC advised that discussions are ongoing for possible display sites along the A96 through Keith to replace the now banned displays on the lamp posts along Moss Street, Church Road and Regent Street.

Action = Noted

KCC Defibrillators

CS advised that all KCC Defibrillators are working and available for use.

Action = Noted

9. AOCB

Seafield Avenue Bridge

SC advised that, in his Health & Safety Role for the Keith & Dufftown Railway Association, he had been trying to contact T. Mackay a Service Manager at the Transportation/Operations & Environment department of Moray Council, for an update on Moray Council's progress with options for the Seafield Avenue bridge. SC stated that after a site meeting with Mr Mackay, despite sending several emails and phone calls Mr Mackay had not replied him and he was concerned that there was no progress on the matter.

Action = Cllr Gatt will follow this up.

There being no other relevant business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 21.15hrs.

Date, Time & Venue of the next meeting:

Monday 06th April 2026 @19.00hrs in Keith Community Fire Station

Note: KCC does not hold meetings in January or August