

Keith Community Council

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 7th September 2015 at Keith Community Centre.

Members in attendance: Jane Martin (Chair), Susan Hutcheon, Marguerite Cruickshank, Neil Kidd, Sandy Dickson, Councillor Gary Coull and Councillor Stewart Cree

Also in attendance: Tracey Rae – Community Support Officer, Meg and Emma Representatives from Edintore Windfarm

Apologies: Sadie Ogg.

JM started tonight's meeting by congratulating Tracey Rae on her new appointment within Moray Council. She thanked Tracey for all the support she has received over the years.

There then was a presentation from representatives from Towiemore Windfarm where construction is due to start. The B9115 will be closed from Newtack to Bomakelloch for six weeks. The six turbines are expected to arrive in June next year. There are no plans for any more turbines to be constructed. A Community Benefit Fund which will benefit the local community will be available with funding of £70,000 to be distributed each year for a 25 year period. 14.1 megawatts will be generated which will create £5000 per unit. Three people from Keith Community Council, Strathisla Community Council and Drummuir Trust will form part of the committee. The first meeting of the working group will be 8th October. Money from the fund does not necessarily have to be used for example to update community halls – it can be used to fund an apprenticeship for a job in the community or used for projects which have lost funding through council cuts.

1. Police update: There were no police present at tonight's meeting

Police have spoken to the persons who had been drinking alcohol at Fife Keith near to bus stop.

The traffic police attended Fife Park where it was reported that youths were wielding knives. There was no sign of youths when police arrived within the hour of the call.

2. Approval of minutes from last meeting: Approved as accurate by Sandy Dickson and seconded by Marguerite Cruickshank.

3. Matters arising from the last minutes:

- A reply has been received from James Smith regarding the parking issue on Land Street. He said that residents would probably object to double yellow lines being put into place as this would mean only one vehicle is allowed to park on the part between lanes. He also said that a lot of cars parked on the street acts as a calming measure and traffic should be slowed down in this area.
- There are still concerns about cars parking too near to Duff Street junction where people can't see when they are exiting onto A96 from Duff Street.

4. Correspondence:

a) John Calder a representative from Keith Community Radio is recovering well and is hoping to come to record a meeting which Had been planned before he became ill.

- b) A solicitor has contacted councillors asking for feedback as to why Keith is a good place to stay.
- c) The third part of the training sessions will take place on 29th September @ Elgin Academy.
- d) There will be Community Council Workshops on 30th November.

5. Treasurer's Report:

CC Account Balance is £1487 and the grant for this year from the Moray Council has to be added.

Keith Christmas Lights account balance is £7447

Scots Toun Account Balance is £4250.

£35 will be used to buy a replacement Banner which was blown away in strong winds earlier in the year.

6. Community Councillors' Update:

1. **Planning & Licensing.** No updates.
2. **Signs, street furniture and marketing.**

An editor has been appointed for the 'In Keith' website.

3. **Roads and rights of way.**

A wall that was taken down adjacent to St Rufus Church has now had mesh erected so that no one can fall into the gaps. The wall is to be rebuilt.

JM been to see Ralph @ Bear about a problem where a drain needs cleaned on Moss Street. There is apparently a tin jammed in it. Ralph went to see complainer who is happy with response that the work will be done soon when they get funding from Transport Scotland. There is drain on A95 outside KGS nearer to the testing station which is rattling. Moray Council belongs this one – **SC will deal.**

The newly constructed hospital steps known as the Steppies were discussed. There seems to have been damage to them by skateboarders or possibly a quad bike. Cement work which was done has come undone. There are LED lights being put in as well.

4. **Keith in flower.**

There have been lots of positive comments regarding the tubs which have been displayed around Keith this summer.

5. **Environment and Cleansing.** Property owners who have been leaving bins at the side of the lanes have been spoken to. JM has received a number of complaints about Emma's Emporium on Mid Street where the owner has a lot of goods displayed on Mid Street. He will be spoken to about goods piled upon top of each other as they could topple and strike someone.

A complaint has been received about an untidy yard belonging to a local businessman. JM to go talk to him.

GC said that the football pitch at Cuthil Park is to be replaced with grass and five aside goals. It was suggested that KERBS be consulted to see what their plans are as they have funding for new equipment but not sure where it is going.

Better drainage and new bark is to be replaced in St Rufus Park. A group of parents are setting up a group to get better new play equipment at the park. TR to meet with them next week.

Chivas tidied up an overgrown area the same day that JM reported it to them.
There seems to be oil running of the gardens near to tennis courts.

6. External Groups updates:

Scots Toun: MC has spoken to Rod. They feel that education is the best route for the Scots language to be heard and for the money to be spent on. Matthew Spink is due to visit Mither Tongue where a possibility of a book festival could be held where the kids would be involved.

Christmas Lights: A meeting was held last week. Another tree will be planted in the Matthew Stewart gardens. The real trees need to have replacement lights so that they will all be in sink. Lights will go up in Keith Square. SD to arrange with Moray Council to get fittings onto street lights.

JCC: JM attended the last meeting.

8. AOCB: Lorna has resigned as secretary due to a career change.

No further business.

Date of next meeting: Monday 5th October at 19:00 in the Community Centre.