

# Keith Community Council

## **Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016 at Keith Community Centre.**

**Members in attendance** Neil Kidd (Acting Chair), Susan Hutcheon, Marguerite Cruickshank, Sandy Dickson, Catherine Sinclair (Assoc. member), Dave Carson from approx. 8pm

**Also in attendance:** Councillor Gary Coull, PC Bayliss (Police Scotland), Fiona, Tesco Community Champion, Shelley Nicol, Councillor Stewart Cree from 7.20pm

- 1. Welcome and Apologies:** Neil welcomed everyone to the meeting. He will continue to be Acting Chair until a new Chair can be appointed but does not wish to be Chair. No apologies.
- 2. Approval of minutes from last meeting:** The minutes were approved as accurate by Sandy Dickson and seconded by Susan Hutcheon.

### **3. Police update**

As per report circulated by email, including some matters raised at previous meetings.

Keith Community Council have received a letter regarding anti-social behaviour by some Keith Grammar pupils at lunchtime. PC Bayliss said the school have been advised of the matter and Police will patrol the area when time allows. Police staffing levels in Keith have increased by one.

Neil called in at the Police station regarding updates on CCTV camera repairs and was advised it would be followed up and passed to Insp. Strachan.

**ACTIONS: PC Bayliss to ask for Keith Community Council to be contacted regarding any outstanding matters Insp. Armit was dealing with and make sure Insp. Strachan aware.**

**PC Bayliss to report concerns raised about illegal parking on Mid Street including parking beyond 30 minute limit, and parking too close to junctions with lanes on various streets.**

### **4. Fiona, Tesco Community Champion**

86 people representing 54 groups attended the Tesco open meeting. Neil and Marguerite attended. Several people represented more than one group. Most groups were looking for support e.g. in running events, especially where committees are small or have older members. Fiona found it a useful meeting.

Tesco Keith community activity extends as far as Rothiemay, Newmill, Grange, Dufftown and, Fochabers. To provide help with an event, Fiona needs a group to write to her at least 2 weeks beforehand. The area store director is committed to community work and the local stores doing some joint work. Fiona's budget for community help is £500 twice yearly. Fiona offered Keith Community Council to have representatives at any future meetings - to be considered. Thanks to Fiona for her support.

There was further discussion on events including the gala – it is difficult to find a group with the capacity to take such a big project on – and on TMSA and the Extravaganza.

### **4. Treasurer's Report:**

Community Council Account Balance is £1497

Keith Christmas Lights account balance is £6202 with a bill for erecting lights at Reidhaven Square to be paid

Scots Toun £3407 – tartan sashes for TMSA

## 5. Matters arising from the last minutes

**Gas cylinders old campsite:** Neil spoke to Environmental Health and was advised the delay in uplifting them is due the contaminated ground so a specialist contractor is required. They are of particular concern due to recent fire raising on the site. **ACTION: Cllr Cree to follow up**

**Change of bank signatories** Susan agreed to be a signatory.

**ACTION: Marguerite and Susan to arrange visit to bank**

**Item 5) Pull-up banner** - not at Keith Health Centre. **ACTION: Catherine to check with library**

## 6. Correspondence:

**Litter pick** – March 20<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 12 or 1pm. Areas to be confirmed at March meeting depending on levels of interest. The Moray Council can supply litter pickers. Need to be aware of risks from syringes etc. and keep young people away from water.

**ACTION: Fiona to contact Brownies, British Legion, Loft Youth Project, St Rufus Youth Group. Neil to contact Scouts.**

**Emms Emporium** – Both Roads and Environmental Health visited but found the premises closed. The shop is still trading. **ACTION: Cllr Cree to follow up**

**Community Council Grants** – email from CLO reminding all Community Councillors what grants may be used for.

**Joint Community Council** – next meeting 11<sup>th</sup> February. If any other councillors are available to attend, please do so.

**Community Councils website** – email from CLO advising or relaunch of website

**Keith Grammar School prize-giving** – Request for £25.00 prize money sponsored by Keith Community Council approved.

**Letter re removal of trees at Braco Street** – Discussion held including potential damage to walls, planting of other species, risk to character of the area and of setting a precedent.

**ACTION: Neil to visit site and report back**

## Supplementary Planning Guidance – Rural Groupings

### 7. Community Councillors' Update:

- **Planning & Licensing.** No updates
- **Signs, street furniture and marketing.**  
**ACTION Cllr Cree to investigate 'Scotland's First Scots Toun' sign** – carried forward  
Scots Toun funds could be used to meet costs or part fund.
- **Roads and rights of way.** A response was received about water ponding on Union Bridge and Brig of Haughs. There is still a lot of surface water but there has also been sustained and heavy rainfall. Broken slab on A96 side of North Church opposite manse which is trip hazard. Drain cover Banff Road opposite vehicle test centre still clicking and disturbing residents (although currently being avoided due to cones on road). Has been previously reported.  
**ACTION: Cllr Cree will follow up on slab and drain cover**

- **Keith in flower.** Keith Builders Merchant are to replace their box on Moss Street. There are more than enough groups and individuals expressing interest in taking care of baskets and displays. A meeting will be held, date to be arranged. Keith in Flower would like to do more at Reidhaven Square and are re-approaching a company regarding 'spider' type planter with brackets for hanging baskets. Permission will be required to site these.  
Leylandii trees at the Bandstand garden have been cut down at a resident's request so Keith in Flower will plant shrubs and bushes in their place. Bandstand railings also to be discussed at meeting as require repair and painting or even to be replaced.
- **Environment and Cleansing.** No updates
- **Cllr Cree.** No updates
- **Cllr Coull.** No updates

#### 8. External Group Updates:

- **KSRP** – next marketing meeting on 8th February. Burns statue sculptor advised proposed site on street corner may have pipes and electric cabling below. BEAR's permission will also need to be sought re this site.  
**ACTION: Cllr Cree to request search of Mid Street corner site re cables and wires**
- **Christmas Lights** – Bill for lights in Reidhaven Square to be checked before paying. Workload not much increased but bill almost double that of last year.
- **Scots Toun** – as per Signs, street furniture and marketing.

#### 9. AOCB:

- **Anti-social pupil behaviour** – as per Police. Letter received outlining issues of littering and throwing items at houses near Tesco at lunchtime by some pupils. Keith Community Council are supportive of the meeting suggested in the letter – Neil & Cllr Cree would attend. It was agreed that a letter be written to the Police as well.  
**ACTION: Catherine to draft letter and send to Neil**
- **Scots language** – children's speech is becoming more anglicised, losing the ability to make the 'ch' sound as in 'nicht'. There was discussion on an idea to address this and another location for Doric footprints – to be confirmed.  
**ACTION: Marguerite to share link to Education Scotland video**
- **Anti-social barking problem** – discussed and noted
- **Community Councillor recruitment** – continue to look for potential Community Councillors and advertise in Banffshire Herald.
- **Community Emergency Resilience Planning** – Catherine attended a workshop hosted by Elgin Community Council. The Emergency Planning Officer is happy to give a presentation on developing a plan to Keith Community Council if desired.

**Date of next meeting: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March** at 19:00 in the Community Centre.