



# Keith Community Council

## Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November October 2017 at Keith Community Centre

- Members in attendance** Neil Kidd (Chair), Susan Hutcheon, Marguerite Cruickshank (Treasurer), Sandy Dickson (Vice Chair), Fiona Addison, Sandra Clark, Steve Hickin and Catherine Sinclair  
**Also in attendance:** Cllr Donald Gatt, Cllr T Coull, Inspector N Campbell (Police Scotland), Chris Saunderson (The Banffshire Herald)

**Welcome and Apologies:** Neil welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Shepherd and Dave Carson

- Approval of minutes from last meeting:** The minutes should say 'Scotsraig Gardens' not 'Scotsraig Park'. Subject to this change, the minutes were approved as accurate by Steve Hickin and seconded by Sandy Dickson

### 3. Keith Patient Participation Group – Campaign Update

The petition was handed to the Chair of NHS Grampian at the Board meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Initially it appeared that the case for a new hospital/health centre would be developed in the coming 5 – 10 years, in part because of other higher priority sites in Grampian. However, there has been some progress since then. Whilst Keith Hospital remains a high priority for Grampian and the top priority in Moray, no funding has yet been identified. Work between Moray Joint Integration Board and NHS Grampian will be presented to NHS Grampian's Asset Management Group in November 2017 and they will seek agreement to progress to the next stage, which includes commencing discussion with landowners. Pam Gowans, Chief Officer of Moray Health & Social Care Partnership is also due to meet Keith Practice staff in December 2017 to discuss their concerns. As funding is not yet secured, there is some negotiating to be done between Moray Council and NHS Grampian, and the environment is ever changing, it is not currently possible to give a firm timescale for developments.

This is not exactly what Keith Patient Participation Group hoped for, but does represent a step forward. It will be important to keep campaigning and keep pressure up. For example, Leon spoke to Keith 50+ group and they will also be writing letters regarding this campaign.

- Police Matters:** November's Community Safety Report was circulated by email. In the last month in Keith there have been: 3 minor assaults for which there are positive lines of enquiry; one housebreaking; 2 numberplates stolen; 1 bottle of whisky stolen from a distillery; a lorry driver has been dealt with for a dangerous load; a stone was thrown at a vehicle and struck the driver – enquiries are ongoing.

Concerns raised by different members of the public were passed to the Police, including driving the wrong way on the Tesco – Balloch Road slip road, anti-social behaviour on Balloch Road, parking at or very near the A96 junctions with Duff Street and Seafield Avenue. Parking on pavements on Moss Street is ongoing and getting worse. Dangerous driving at the Banff Road lollipop crossing is ongoing. Parking on Mid Street beyond time limits and on double yellow lines is ongoing. Where appropriate and possible, Police will give passing attention. Members of the public can report non-emergency issues on 101 and should do so as this helps build a picture of problem areas.

## 5. Treasurer's Report:

Keith Community Council - £1,628.18

Christmas Lights - £5,026.68

Scots Toun - £3,319.27

The independent examination was completed today and accounts will be sent to the CCLO.

**ACTION: Marguerite to print a bank statement for Catherine to send to SSE**

## 6. Matters arising from the last minutes:

**Road markings at lollipop crossing** – Moray Council advise that markings will be redone once worn out. This response is not satisfactory. The wording is only on one side of the road and is not always visible to drivers. Because there is now a line, vehicles are pulling up to it, rather than stopping behind the poles as before. This makes the space to cross narrower and has made the situation worse rather than better. It is a safety issue. Discussion was held. It was agreed that the matter should be reported again to the Crossing Patrol supervisor.

**ACTION: Cllr Gatt will report that the situation is worse now than previously**

**Scotsraig Gardens** – discussion was held on the poor state of the gardens. It was agreed to find out what Moray Council plans were and what maintenance schedule is in place. It may then be possible to find a group to take on maintaining it if required. There have been a number of complaints from members of the public about the state of gardens and lanes but any group or plan needs to have a long term commitment.

**ACTION: Cllrs to ask if there is a maintenance plan for Scotsraig Gardens. Neil to ask Dave Carson how his enquiries with various groups have progressed**

**Beatrice Community Fund** – the memorandum of understanding was posted to SSE. A grant offer letter has been received and a signed copy is to be sent back with a copy of a bank statement to confirm the name to go on the cheque. **ACTION: Catherine to ask about maximum size of grant (£250?) and if applicants also get a copy of terms & conditions of grant.**

**Defibrillator** – the CCTV cameras on Regent Street are working. There were no objections to using Keith Community Council grant to buy a cabinet and to fit a plaque to promote the Community Council. Steve Hickin may be available to oversee fitting of cabinet. **ACTION: Catherine to find out costs from Sandpiper/Cullen Community Council and to ask if SSE volunteers might be able to wire the cabinet in. Also to find out electricity usage if possible.**

## 7. Correspondence:

**United Keith** – discussion was held. **ACTION: Neil to clarify whether there is any connection to Community Council re use of public liability insurance**

**Christmas Extravaganza** – a suggestion was made to hold the Christmas Extravaganza outdoors. **ACTION: Neil to reply**

**Braco Street tree** – a letter was received from Moray Council advising the wrong tree had been replaced last year. The original tree will be removed and replaced this year. Moray Council are aware that the removal of mature trees is an emotive issue and apologise for the mistake.

**Town Clock** – the clock has been striking 14 at 1am and is a bit unpredictable. Ian Grant has been tidying up around the clock and will observe it being serviced by an expert. He wondered if there was any funding available to maintain the clock as Moray Council no longer do so. There is little

funding in the Keith Common Good Fund. **ACTION: Neil will forward the email from Ian to the Cllrs - to be discussed further**

**Post Office gutters** – can these be cleaned again. It was previously done by KSRP/CARS project. Enquiries to be made about owner's contact details **ACTION: Cllr Coull**

**Antisocial behaviour and antisocial driving Balloch Road** – see Police. A Community Warden Reference number has been issued

**Messy lanes and gardens** – see Scotsraig Gardens. It was discussed again that residents and businesses are likely to have to weed and litter pick their own lanes as Moray Council does not have funds for this. A sustainable approach needs to be taken regarding the care of gardens.

**Letter from member of the public** – all concerns have been passed to the relevant authorities

**Community Council research** – this will now take place in Moray rather than Inverness on 28<sup>th</sup> November at the Harvest Centre in Elgin. CCLO is requesting good representation from Moray Community Councils for this work looking at how to strengthen Community Councils.

## **8. Community Councillors' Update:**

- **Planning & Licensing.** An amendment to planning for a proposed site for houses was submitted. **Bengal Spice late license** – did not come before Licensing Committee this month. **ACTION: Catherine to follow up on**
- **Signs, street furniture and marketing.** The 'Scots Toun' Gateway signs were fitted 6<sup>th</sup> November. The installers of the footprints are still to give a price. Marguerite will remind them that ideally the funding should be spent before the end of March. The deadline for entries to the sculpture competition is 15<sup>th</sup> November
- **Roads and rights of way.**  
**Bollards** – Moray Council will send someone to assess them for cleanliness  
**Manhole covers** – some still need fixed. Sandy will do a survey of which utility companies own those requiring repair
- **Environment and General Issues.** – Fiona will take on this role. No updates
- **Cllr Theresa Coull.**  
Cllrs Coull and Gatt had a tour of Keith Institute. The building is sound, other than one wet corner. The floors are also sound. The Institute is suitable for a Community Asset Transfer and Moray Councillors would like to see it in community use. Similarly if an offer was made to purchase the building, it would be given due consideration.  
**ACTION: Cllr Gatt to ask how much it costs Moray Council to maintain the Institute**
- **Cllr Gatt** – as above

## 9. External Group Updates:

- **KSRP** – the AGM was held last week. Office bearers remain the same. Jamie McIntosh is in post as the In Keith admin. Promotional work will continue including the website, Facebook and pop-up shop, attendance at the quarterly Moray Towns meetings and printing and distributing Keith leaflets. There are also plans for checking and maintaining flagpoles and flags. The project to create street plans and interpretation boards for laybys is being progressed. A full page advert has been taken out in Lifestyle Magazine to promote all the Keith Christmas events and activities – issue available from 18<sup>th</sup> November.
- **Christmas Lights** – the Fife Keith Christmas trees have been ordered and the Extravaganza is organised for 25<sup>th</sup> November. Keith Men's Shed are doing the teas.
- **Scots Toun** – As KSRP and Signs and Street furniture. There were no objections to Marguerite ordering white window stickers and clings as the clear ones are not very noticeable/not being put up
- **Keith in Flower** – no update
- **Edintore Community Benefit Fund Constitution changes** – there were no objections to the proposals that 1) In the event of a Community Council folding, the remaining Fund Panel members could recruit from the wider community (leave the constitution as is) and 2) that Panel members will step down (3 in the first year and 2 every year thereafter) at each AGM, the first being in March 2018. Members will step down by agreement

## 10. AOCB:

All Keith Community Councillors have now had induction training

**Remembrance service** - Neill will lay the wreath for Keith Community Council. Cllrs Coull and Gatt are attending the ceremony and Cllr Coull is laying a wreath

**JCC** – Fiona, Neil and Steve will attend the next meeting. Steve may be available to represent Keith at future Joint Community Council meetings

**Date of next meeting:** 4<sup>th</sup> December at 19:00 in the Community Centre.