

# The Keith Community Council

## Minutes from the Meeting on Monday 04<sup>th</sup> March 2024

@ 19.00hrs

### Venue: Keith Community Fire Station

**Members in Attendance:** Neil Kidd (Chair), Steve Hickin (Secretary), Callum Stuart (Vice Chair), Dawn Borland, Stuart Chapman, Les Innes, Amy Inglis, Phil Eckford.

**Ex-Officio Members:** Cllr T. Coull, Cllr D. Gatt, Cllr T. Colyer

#### **Others in Attendance:**

Kevin Mitchell – Watch Commander Keith Fire Station, Linda Gorn - United Keith, Sgt S. Mackay Police Scotland.

1. **Chair Neil Kidd welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting at 19:05hrs**

2. **Apologies were received from:** Marguerite Cruickshank (Treasurer).

3. **Police Matters:** Sgt Mackay gave an update on matters in Keith; There is a new Inspector in command of the Keith & Buckie area, Inspector Brian Ferry. TESCO – Officers attended to a group of youths gathering near the entrance to the store who were drinking. It is thought that these youths were not local and had travelled from Elgin using the free bus travel scheme and using the late night bus services. Mid Street Kebab Shop – this is now closing on time as per its license but people are still congregating outside, officers will keep an eye on this. Upon completing his update Sgt Mackay left the meeting at 19.26hrs

4. **Proposal and Adoption of the Minutes of the March meeting:**

The minutes of the March meeting were adopted as drafted.

Proposed: A. Inglis Seconded: C. Stuart.

5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting December 2023:**

**Keith War Memorial Lighting** - Cllr Gatt advised that he was awaiting a reply from Moray Council regarding the light that points up Land Street.

**Union Street Pot Hole** – Cllr Coull advised that the pot hole has now been repaired.

6. **Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Watch Commander Kevin Mitchell**

Watch Commander Mitchell gave his report for February 2024; Throughout February Keith Crews attend 11 Fire calls, four False Alarms and One False Alarm with Good Intent. There were five Fires attended; Two Fires in a Fochabers Hotel, a Kitchen fire in Keith, a chimney fire in Grange and a fire in the open at Aultmore. There were three RTC's attended.

7. **Correspondence:**

Correspondence is normally forwarded by email to KCC members for their attention.

8. **Treasurer's Report:**

Keith Community Council - £4025.70 – This includes the Admin Grant deposit.

Christmas Lights - £6612.44 – includes a £500 Moray grant.

Scots Toun - £2820.59

Keith Defibrillators - £1119.21

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Keith in Flower - £4217.74

The Treasurer asked that Community Council confirm if we are donating £30 to Keith Grammar School Prize Giving this year. The donation was approved unanimously.

## **9. Councillor's Reports;**

**Cllr Coull** – The Moray Council Budget for the coming financial year has been approved, new posts for Community Wardens and Youth Workers have been approved. Donations from the Ward Fund have been distributed in Keith; Longmore Hall £1200, Keith & District men's Shed £500, Keith Christmas Lights £500, Community £500.

**Cllr Gatt** – This year Moray has passed their first collegiate Budget. The Audit Scotland report has been published.

## **Matters for Councillor's Attention**

Neil Kidd raised the matter of the pot hole on Banff Road adjacent to the Longmore Hall. It was also mentioned that fault reports made via the Moray Council website do not appear to attend to.

Cllr Colyer advised that she was currently raising the issue with the department concerned.

## **10. Sub Groups;**

- a. Christmas Lights** – Maintenance and repair of the lights has started in preparation for this year's Christmas display.
- b. Keith in Flower** – Work is underway at the Band Stand.
- c. Keith Defibrillators** – All Defibrillators are currently in working order.
- d. Scots Toun** – Nothing to report at this time.
- e. KSRP** – Nothing to report at this time.

## **11. AOCB;**

**Phil Eckford** advised that the newly installed manhole cover on Moss Street had started to sink and he was raising the matter with roads contractor Amey.

**Chair Neil Kidd** raised the matter of allocating areas of responsibility to KCC members, this had been done in the past but with the recent turnover of Community Councillors it had stopped.

The following roles were allocated;

P. Eckford – Roads and Pavements

M. Cruickshank – Street Furniture, Signs and Marketing of Keith,

D. Rough – Local issues and concerns,

S. Chapman – Planning,

D. Borland – Keith in Flower,

C. Stuart & A. Inglis – Defibrillators and Christmas Lights,

S. Hickin – Manage Facebook page and other media.

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## The Chair raised the following matters;

Is it Moray council that removes road kill from the road sides?

**Cllr Gatt** said he will raise the matter with Moray Council waste department.

Litter picking in Keith Parks; there was a discussion on this matter and the Chair advised he will monitor littering in the parks.

Badgers in Fife Keith, the Chair advised that dog walkers had reported seeing Badger Setts in Fife Park.

Raw sewage had been reported coming from drains on Banff Road which has been reported to Moray Council.

Grass Cutting in Keith, the Chair has spoken to Ken Brown at Moray Council and there is no change in the grass cutting regime for Keith.

C. Stuart advised that Keith in Flower is looking for sponsors for flower beds in the Bandstand and other locations.

L. Gorn advised she will pass on the contact numbers for businesses willing to become sponsors.

The Chair asked if it was allowed under the constitution for the Community Council to use Admin funds for sponsorship.

After consulting the *Moray Council Community Council Scheme 2021 – 2025* the Secretary advised that *clause 15.3.3 subsection n* allows funds to be used for General Publicity, promotional & ceremonial activities, which should cover sponsorship.

After a discussion on this matter it was agreed that KCC will sponsor a flower bed at the Bandstand.

There being no further relevant business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 20.55hrs.

## Date, Time & Venue of the next meeting:

**Monday 01<sup>st</sup> April @ 19.00hrs in the Meeting Room of Keith Community Fire Station**