

The Keith Community Council

Minutes from the Meeting on Monday 07th October 2024

@ 19.00hrs

Venue: Keith Community Fire Station

Members in Attendance: Neil Kidd (Chair), Steve Hickin (Secretary), Les Innes, Davie Rough, Callum Stuart, Dawn Borland, Phil Eckford, Stuart Chapman.

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

Others in Attendance: Kevin Mitchell – Watch Commander Keith Fire Station, Paul Winton – Crew Commander Keith Community Fire Station, Sgt Graham Allan - Police Scotland, Linda Gorn KSRP.

1. The Meeting opened at 19:10hrs with N. Kidd in the Chair

2. Apologies were received from: A. Inglis, M. Cruickshank.

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the September 2024 meeting

The Minutes of the July 2024 meeting were adopted as drafted - Proposed by D. Borland, Seconded by C. Stuart

4. Police Matters: The Chair welcomed Sgt Allan to the meeting. Sgt Allan gave a roundup of incidents in Keith during the previous month; there had been fifteen new incidents in Keith six of which were domestic incidents. Sgt Allan advised that they were still trying to follow up on the parking issues on Mid Street and in other parts of Keith.

L. Gorn advised that businesses on Mid Street were still concerned about parking issues. Sgt Allan asked if the registration numbers of vehicles parking all day in the bays and the yellow lines on Mid Street could be passed on to the police for their attention. He left his email address as a contact point.

D. Rough asked if there were contingency plans for traffic management and diversions if the A96 through Keith was closed due to an incident like the recent house fire.

Sgt Allan advised that roads contractor AMEY have designated diversion routes in the event of closures on the A96.

After completing his report Sgt Allan left the meeting at 19.33hrs.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the September 2024 meeting

Bus Shelter Reidhaven Square Cllr Gatt advised that a contract for replacing the glass in the bus stop has been issued.

Auld Brig Davie Rough advised that Diageo will be starting work on Auld Brig shortly.

Car Parking on Balloch Road during Keith FC Home Games: N. Kidd advised that he had spoken to the Chairman of Keith FC on this matter and they are looking into it.

Scots Language Signs

C. Stuart advised that he had prepared a mock up of the intended signs and will use these to show the manufacturer what is required.

6. Union Bridge;

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L. Gorn advised that arrangements had been made with roads contractor AMEY for signs advising that the shops in Keith are still open for normal business to be installed adjacent to the temporary Traffic Lights.

7. Correspondence:

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

8. Treasurer's Report

Keith Community Council - £3180.70

Christmas Lights - £3252.07

Scots Toun - £2820.59

Keith Defibrillators – £1399.21

Keith in Flower - £3570.67

9. Reports

Local Concerns – D. Rough reported that Diageo have advised him that a survey of Auld Brig has been carried out and work will start shortly.

He also reported that a drain outside the Commercial Hotel on Mid Street was blocked and that the side wall of that building overlooking Sodgers Lane West had a large bulge in it.

L. Gorn advised that a different drain outside the Commercial Hotel sometimes has raw sewage coming out of it.

Cllr Coull advised she would look into these matters.

Roads & Pavements – P. Eckford advised that roads contractor AMY had relayed some of the road markings on the A96 in Fife Keith but they were incomplete and he will be asking AMEY when they markings will be completed.

Planning – S. Chapman advised that the Royal Hotel was having new windows installed.

Keith in Flower – D. Borland reported that the tubs around Keith have now been cleared and are ready for winter.

Parks & Litter – N. Kidd advised that the main issue for litter at the moment was by the Grave Yard. He also advised that there were piles of cut grass being dumped on the access road to Cruickshank's field at the top of Broomhill Road.

Christmas Lights – Callum Stuart reported that a small storage space had been identified in the former public convenience building at the top of Mid Street but a larger space was still needed.

Roads contractor AMEY have written to the Christmas Lights committee to advise they will require contractors registered with the Highways Electrical Registration Scheme, (HERS), to erect the Christmas Lights along the A96 through Keith and Fife Keith. The costs of related to these regulations is prohibitive and will have a detrimental impact on the Christmas lights display.

Facebook & Media – Steve Hickin advised that he had been removing unsolicited posts from the KCC Facebook page.

Scots Toun – C. Stuart as advised in 'Matters Arising from the Minutes of the September meeting' a mock up of the Scots language sign has been prepared.

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Cllr Coull – Advised she had attended a Twinning planning meeting; the Twinning process had been suspended during the COVID pandemic but had now restarted.

Cllr Gatt – Advised that he had attended the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities and the annual Budget round has started.

Cllr Colyer – Advised she has been attending the normal round of committee meetings.

10. Watch Commander Keith Community Fire Station

Watch Commander Kevin Mitchell introduced Crew Commander Paul Winton who will host the KCC meetings when Kevin is unavailable. Kevin gave his report for September.

11. AOCB:

PVG's for Christmas Lights Santa Run Volunteers C. Stuart has been advised that for the Santa Run two of the volunteers should have PVG certificates and therefore could these be funded by KCC.
KCC will fund the PVG's.

Keith Common Good Fund Chair N. Kidd has been looking into this and it appears most of the money is held in investments.

KCC Defibrillators

C. Stuart advised that he had met with the Chair of the Longmore Hall committee regarding the Defibrillator located there which needs replacing and asked if the committee would like to donate funds for a replacement. The Committee Chair advised that they were going to approach the charity Keiran's Legacy and ask them to supply a Defibrillator. Responsibility for the Defibrillator at the Longmore Community Hall has been transferred to Keiran's Legacy.

Chair N. Kidd advised that he had received an email to his personal email address from Keiran's Legacy charity regarding the KCC Defibrillators installed around Keith and Fife Keith. The Chair felt that it was inappropriate for this correspondence to be sent to his personal email, the Secretary advised the Chair that this was correct and emails concerning KCC business should be sent to the KCC email address.

The Chair will contact Keiran's Legacy and advise them to put their concerns in an email sent to the Keith Community Council email address.

Chair N. Kidd raised the matter of the parking at the bottom of Broomhill Road where poorly parked vehicles could restrict access for larger vehicles such as a Fire Engine.

There being no other relevant business the meeting closed at 21.15hrs

Date, Time & Venue of the next meeting:

Monday 04th November @ 19.00hrs in the Meeting Room of Keith Community Fire Station