

The Keith Community Council

Minutes from the Meeting on Monday 07th April 2025

@ 19.00hrs

Venue: Keith Community Fire Station

Those in Attendance:

Community Councillors: Neil Kidd (Chair), Steve Hickin (Secretary), Marguerite Cruickshank (Treasurer), Stuart Chapman, Amy Inglis, Davie Rough.

Ward Councillors: Cllr D. Gatt.

Others: Kevin Mitchell – (Watch Commander Keith Community Fire Station), Paul Winton (Crew Commander Keith Community Fire Station), Linda Gorn.

1. The Meeting opened at 19:05hrs with N. Kidd in the Chair

2. **Apologies were received from:** Cllr T. Colyer, Cllr T. Coull, KCC C. Stuart, KCC D. Borland.

3. **Adoption of the Minutes of the March 2025 meeting**

The Minutes of the March 2025 meeting were adopted with the following amendments;

Cllr Gatt advised that the first line of the minute of his report should be amended from “*Attended Planning training, has joined the licensing committee*” to read: Attended Planning Committee, Attended the licensing committee.

M. Cruickshank advised that her name should be removed from the list of attendees at the March 2025 meeting and added to the list of apologies as she was not in attendance at that meeting.

Proposed S. Chapman – Seconded D. Rough

The Chair advised the meeting that he would like it noted in these full minutes that there had been an Extraordinary Emergency meeting of Keith Community Councillors on 19th March 2025 to address the issue of serious allegations against a KCC member. That meeting was recorded in a Confidential Minute which is being held on file.

It was Proposed by S. Chapman and seconded by D. Rough that the Extraordinary Emergency Meeting of 19th March 2025 be noted in tonight’s meeting minutes.

The proposal was carried unanimously.

4. **Police Matters:** It was noted by this meeting that, under the new structure for Community Council reports and the increasing operational demands, officers will not routinely be scheduled to attend Community Council meetings. The Community Council reports will now be generated on a Bimonthly basis with this April report being the first of this new cycle, the next report will be in June. The new style report was discussed and it was noted that while the report contained information about police initiatives and general crime prevention it did not contain any information about actual crimes and the police response within Keith.

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5. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the March 2025 meeting

White Lining Road markings in Keith

Cllr Coull had forwarded an email from Transportation Information Officer Eilidh Robertson at Moray Council which confirmed that Keith is on the list for white lining work that will be carried out between April and October 2025 at 35 sites.

Seafield Avenue Railway Bridge

Community Councillor Chapman advised that the hump Back railway bridge at the bottom of Seafield Avenue had been surveyed and the report was that the bridge was OK to remain open but it does need attention to the damage.\

6. Correspondence:

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

The Secretary had circulated a list of all correspondence received by email between 04/03/2025 and tonight's meeting, (07/04/2025), and had introduced the following items for consideration at tonight's meeting;

Commercial Hotel Wall forwarded by Cllr Coull from senior Building Standards Officer Daniel Last who advised he had visited the site and did not feel there was any immediate risk but he would check on it when passing.

War Memorial Fencing & Litter Cllr Gatt had forwarded an email from Moray Council Environmental & Commercial Services Manager Paul Wolverson who advised arrangements had been made for the litter to be removed but there was no planned work for the fencing for next year and there were no resources or budget to attend to the fence. He suggested that maybe voluntary groups in the community might be willing to assist.

Union Bridge Update Roads contractor AMEY sent a brief update on the work status at the Bridge.

7. Reports:

Treasurer

Keith Community Council - £2540.90

Christmas Lights - £8891.98

Scots Toun - 2560.59

Keith Defibrillators – £1361.21

The Treasurer asked if KCC will be donating the usual £30 to Keith Grammar school for the annual school awards ceremony, or, as we had contributed that amount for a very long time, would members like to consider an increase.

A short discussion took place on would an increased amount be appropriate, it was Proposed by D. Rough, seconded by A. Inglis that "KCC donate £50 to KGS for the annual awards ceremony, which was passed unanimously.

Community Reports

Watch Commander Keith Community Fire Station

Watch Commander Mitchell gave his report for March;

Keith Community Fire Crews attended 15 fire calls during March as follows,

1 False Alarm at Sheltered Housing in Huntly,

3 False Alarms with Good Intent – a controlled burning in Keith, a controlled burning at Rothiemay, a BBQ in Mulben.

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A two vehicle RTC at Newmill,

3 special services – a dog rescue from the river Bogie at Huntly, A Gas leak in Huntly, An overheating Electrical Box in Keith.

7 fires – a House fire in Huntly, a chimney fire in Grange, a small garden fire in Mulben, a Wildfire in Newmill, a Wildfire in Llanbryde, Wildfire in Garmouth (8hrs), Wildfire in Rothiemay.

Community Services – Attended Keith Primary School and gave a fire safety talk to P1, P2 and Nursery. Hosted a group from the Keith Community Centre Nursery at the Fire Station for a Fire safety talk.

Ward Councillors

Cllr Gatt – Attended the Cullen & Port Knockie Harbour Advisory Committee, took part in an online meeting regarding the Aberdeen Incinerator, Attended Planning Committee, Briefed on the Buckie Harbour Master Plan, Attended Keith Primary School for a Q&A session with pupils from P5, Attended a workshop on the future transformation of Moray Council, Attended the opening of the Cullen Heritage Society Centre, attended the Keith Library Users group meeting.

Defibrillators – All Keith Community Council Defibrillators are in service.

Facebook & Media – Unsolicited posts and spam continue to be removed from the KCC Facebook page.

Planning - S. Chapman submitted a summary of planning applications for the Town.

Christmas Lights - Repairs and refurbishing of the lights after last year's display will start next week.

Keith in Flower – A proposal for Bunting to be installed on Mid Street to brighten it up and attract attention to the shops was submitted for consideration with a request for funding (£1000) of the Bunting.

It was proposed by A. Inglis, seconded by S. Chapman,
Votes for: 5, votes against: 1, adopted by majority vote.

KSRP – Funding has been granted for recruiting a new Community Development Officer.

8. AOCB:

Innes Lane Car Park Moray Council have monitored the use of this car park and the offending vehicles that were reported have gone. The Disabled parking bay and the Mother & Child bay have both been repainted, larger vehicles, (vans), have been ticketed and the drivers advised that their vehicle is not suitable for that car park.

Keith Primary School has won this year's Keith Rotary Quiz and progress to the next round.

Preparations for the 30 years of Kilt making training in Keith and the 80th Anniversary of VE Day are underway and the bolts of Tartan Material have arrived.

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The Chair noted that tonight's meeting was Amy Inglis' last as a Community Councillor as she was standing down as part of her Maternity leave. Amy was thanked by all those present for her service to the Keith Community as a Community Councillor and she was given best wishes for her forthcoming happy event.

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

Date, Time & Venue of the next meeting:

Monday 02nd June 2025 @ 19.00hrs in the Meeting Room of Keith Community Fire Station.

Adopted