

KEITH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
3rd February 2014



PRESENT

Jane Martin
Charlie Lawson
Neil Kidd
Sandy Dickson

Cllr Gary Coull
Cllr Stewart Cree
Susan Hutcheon
Sadie Ogg

IN ATTENDANCE

Shelly	Banffshire Herald
PC Stewart	Keith Police
PC Smith	Keith Police
Peter Smith	Keith Resident

1. APOLOGIES

Ron Shepherd, Lorna Mulligan and Margueritte Cruickshank

2. PROPOSE MINUTES OF

Minutes of meeting dated 2nd December 2013 were proposed tonight by Charlie Lawson and seconded by Sandy Dickson.

3. POLICE MATTERS

Peter Smith a resident from Edithfield Cottages attended the meeting. Residents in the area have concerns about the speed of traffic on the road to Newmill within the 30mph speed limit. Vehicles have been known to be going at speeds over 30mph mainly between 8am and 9am in the morning and between 5pm and 6pm at night. Drivers are ignoring the speed limit and Peter along with other residents want something done i.e. more police patrols at this time with speed guns. The officers in attendance were hopeful that they were to get traffic calming measures in place.

Local officers are in the process of being trained to use the speed guns. GC thought it may be helpful if the 30 mph limit was moved nearer to Chivas and that average speed lines would be put in place. He also said that since Keith Builders and Wisemans have vacated the area that traffic was speeding up as traffic would have possibly been slowed down by vehicles turning off to these places of business. GC has spoken to Chivas employees who travel to work in this area to make them aware of the speed of some vehicles.

The road from Crooksmill to Keith is going to be closed for a time so vehicles which usually use this road to get to A96 will have to travel into Keith to get to the A96 which means more traffic than normal on this section of road. Police will go back to Sergeant Mullloy and hopefully get resources as discussed at tonight's meeting.

Are drivers stopping at the corner of Church Road committing an offence with dipped headlights on? Police replied that no they are not committing a crime.

Reports of a vehicle parking half way on the pavement outside the Royal Hotel causing an obstruction for drivers seeing if the road is clear to cross onto Banff Road. Police said to note the registration and phone 101 and they would then deal with offender.

There were 34 recorded crimes since the last meeting in December up to 26 January which consisted of assaults, thefts, road traffic offences vandalisms and other minor offences. During December an operation for two days detected drivers with faulty lightening with a number of drivers receiving tickets. Training is being given to officers to use the speed detection equipment to track down the ongoing drivers who speed within the town and out with as well.

In relation to the needles found in Balloch Road patrols were carried out and no further misuse of drugs has been detected.

In relation to the cars parking on double lines at the school letters have been issued to parents and regular patrols have been continuing.

An issue where a member of the public has not been spoken to after reporting an incident which involved a child being taken from its buggy. The offender concerned has been dealt with this matter along with several other matters.

4. Matters Arising

NK completed and returned the sports and leisure review questionnaire.

JM spoke to KSRP and REAP about how KCC are willing to help out with planting and looking after the tubs including the Band Stand and Scotsraig gardens in Keith which will not be planted out this year by Moray Council. REAP would like to plant herbs in some of the tubs. Funding will be available through the Moray Towns Partnership. JM has costing of plants which were discussed. She will get other prices as well to compare.

5. Correspondence

There was a meeting held in January where most members were able to attend as there was a large amount of correspondence to be dealt with.

This included a letter JM has received from Alastair Kennedy. Do we want to be included in TSI - Third Sector Moray? Memembers wondered if there was something hidden as TSI won't be able to help community councils. Are they trying to get rid of community councils? It was decided that we should remain independent. We may end up with no voice for our community. We want to work with Moray Council by fulfilling the role of watchdog for our local community.

Scottish Civic trust is looking for nominations. The REAP allotment association will be nominated. LM will respond. **ACTION – LM to deal with matter.**

Consultation on increase of licensing fees. List was read out and it was feared that if there was too much of an increase that some prices would be passed onto the public and amenities etc would not be used as too costly in this economic climate. Scottish Water – there is a decision to be made in June if there will be an increase in water charges.

NHS – we need to respond individually to this one.

Another meeting to discuss future of Sports and Leisure facilities in March
NK to respond to this consultation. Discussion about the sports centre including

that it is no longer a community centre it is s gym. There are no activities for kids in holidays now or no youth group and bowling has been cut down. Why is it shut at the Christmas break when people are looking to get a bit of exercise?
Reduction of grass cutting will start on 1st April. NK to respond to which areas we would like done less and which areas to do more or the same.
The constitution has no changes to be made to it by members. JM filled it out and will forward to relevant person.

6. TREASURERS REPORT

No update

7. COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS UPDATE

A. Mr Neil Kidd – Planning and Licensing

Planning application in for change of use from caravan site to houses on Dunnyduff. Road. No objections NK to go to a training event in Elgin Academy for planning. SO may also be able to go with him. Be another meeting before the event which is to be held in March.

B. Mr Charles Lawson and Mr Sandy Dickson – Roads and rights of way

CL told how allegedly how Sievwrights had been told to tar over the water hydrant by Scottish water. This was in regard to the recent fire at D C George. Scottish water used to check the hydrants but don` t see this necessary any more. Keith Fire station was not in attendance to the fire as they did not have enough crew to attend – minimum of five fire fighters are required. GC writing a letter voicing our concerns about this recent situation. JM to put a letter to CE Royal Hotel – there is a dirling cover near to the Royal and hydrants at DC George and Innes the plumber both broken- CL and SD to deal with this **– ACTION - CL and SD will deal with matter**

C. Mrs Marguerite Cruickshank – Signs and street furniture

Still waiting for a date for the new street signs to go up.

D. Mrs Lorna Mulligan – Environment and Cleansing

SO said there had been bottles smashed along with other mess in the playground of the old primary school. There was a debate with Moray Council on who owned it and who should be cleaning the mess up however the mess has been cleaned up after Duncan Falconer being called upon by at Moray Council. At the moment until the sale of the school is completed the school is still owned by Moray Council. The pathway which runs up through the school will remain open as a condition of the sale. It was reported that the KDR as being untidy and doesn` t look good for visitors who are in Keith especially if they are coming from Linn House or up from the main railway station up to the likes of Strathisla distillery. A complaint was received about a Refuse collector in the Christmas holidays, this was passed to the relevant departments at Moray Council.
Tree on Regent Street has been cut back

E. Housing

No update.

F. Cllr Stewart Cree

No update

H. Cllr Gary Coull

No update

8. EXTERNAL GROUP UPDATE'S

A. KSRP and CARS

The pop up shop in the former DE shoe shop has opened today with Outfit Moray being there for the week. They have no rent to pay only electric. It is hoped that the project will be successful and that it may lead to new shops opening in Mid Street.

The scaffolding has gone up and works under way to property on Mid Street around Mither Tongue. This is the work of the regeneration partnership/ Cars taking place.

JM and GC will be going to an event in the Eight Acres in Elgin to promote Inkeith.com . The group are looking for a part time administrator.

B. FKAG

No update

C. JCC

Minutes from the last meeting are online.

D. Christmas Lights

A meeting will have to be arranged to see what can be done to add to the lights that there are. At the recent Rotary Service in December Ranald was asked who he would like the collection to be donated to and he said the Christmas lights. It is hoped that lighting will be put up around the church gardens with this donation of over £300.

9. A.O.C.B

It was asked if there has been any update with Richard Lohead querying the train ticket prices that people from Keith have to pay. Apparently it is cheaper to go to Aberdeen from Elgin or further field than it is from Keith. No update on this meantime. JM is going to a meeting regarding the Aultmore windfarm on

Wednesday 5th February and asked if anyone else could attend. Most people at work but JM will ask members who weren't present tonight to see if they could attend.

It is hoped that Keith can be awarded the title of Scots Toun. The first prize of £6000 will be awarded to the winner to develop projects aimed at encouraging the Scots language. MC, JM GC, SC and Rod Lovie are working together to apply to win the award for Keith. Applications have to be in by 28th February 2014. Keith and district heritage group have written a letter of support and GC and SC will be going up Md Street with a Vocobox to record people speaking in Doric.

Date of next meeting

Monday March 3rd 2014

Minutes prepared by Susan Hutcheon