

Keith Community Council



Minutes of meeting held on 2 June, 2014 at Keith Community Centre.

In attendance: Jane Martin (chair), Susan Hutcheon, Sandy Dickson, Charlie Lawson, Neil Kidd, Marguerite Cruickshank, Sadie Ogg, PC Mitch Dickson, Shelley Nicol, Cllr Gary Coull, Esther Green.

1. **Apologies** – None.
2. **Minutes** – The minutes were approved by Neil Kidd, seconded by Jane Martin. MC requested the minutes to be sent in a different format as she had difficulty opening them.
3. **Police Update** – There were 20 recorded crimes since the last meeting, a considerable drop on the previous month. A number of assaults had taken place in licensed premises and a planned anti-social driving operation did not go ahead due to staff being required for other matters. Officers provide 24 hour cover at Keith, with the station office opened from 8.30am-4.15pm
4. **Matters arising**
 - a. **Black and gold pointer signs and cemetery maintenance policy** – Jane Martin to investigate through Tracey Rae.
 - b. **Golf Club flags** – The new Golf In Keith flags were in place for the first time at Saturday's anCnoc open and gained positive endorsement from players and members.
 - c. **Community Planting Day** – The Incredible Edible event on May 31 was a huge success, with a good turn-out of volunteers eager to help plant plants and spruce up the area. Tesco generously provided the refreshments and pancakes; Strathisla Pipe Band performed and there were demonstrations from a woodcarver. The public is being encouraged to make use of the gardens this summer, and to use the herbs and produce.
 - d. **Odd Sock Soup and Sandwich Lunch and Afternoon Tea** – This joint venture by community council member Sadie Ogg and June Simpson was also an incredible success, raising in excess of £2000 which will be enough to buy a quirky memorial bench for Rev Ranald at St Rufus, and also at Grange and Botriphnie. Sadie received a round of applause for her efforts.
5. **Correspondence**
 - a. **Service bus** – had been re-routed during the A96 roadworks but service has returned to its usual route again.
 - b. **Blackhillock Drop In Event** – opportunity to find out more about the major works at the electricity sub-station with a drop-in at the Ugie House Hotel on Tuesday, 3 June
6. **Community Councillor Updates**

- A. Planning and licensing – A letter of objection to Hyde Park planning application was submitted to Moray Council’s planning office after last month’s meeting. Neil Kidd reported no relevant issues from this month’s lists.
 - B. Signs, Street furniture and marketing – New A96 street signs to direct passing motorists to the town centre shops are due to be in place in July. Scots Toun – no more information on handover of award, but members were concerned to learn that the Scots language has been removed from the Scottish Parliament website. Agreed to write to Scottish ministers Fiona Hyslop and Alasdair Allan to express concern, on the grounds of parity and fairness to all, copying in David Horsburgh of the Scots Language Centre. Town gateway signs at Fife Keith being kept clean by a window cleaner.
7. Environment/Cleansing – There is litter beside the Drum Road football pitch. **External group updates:**
- A. CARS meeting next week
 - B. FKAG – no news
 - C. KSRP – An appeal to bring people called Keith to Keith for the festival weekend is to be made. Gary Coull has been in touch with Keith Morrison, Pipe Major and Citizen of the Year, and a photo call is being planned for Reidhaven Square in advance of the festival’s open air concert on Sunday, June 8. It is another unusual event by the inKeith.com team aiming at raising the profile of Keith and putting the area on the map. A wider plea to bring anyone called Keith from any part of the world to Keith at Keith Country Show in August will also be organised.
8. **AOCB**
- a. Jane Martin told members that plans are underway for Keith Grammar School to run a fete/fun day on the same day as the **Queen’s Baton Relay** comes to Keith, July 2.
 - b. Discussion around a **Pride o the Toun Award** in which a framed certificate could be presented to the bonniest looking premises in Keith to encourage businesses to take pride in window displays and shop fronts, pavements, frontages, absence of weeds etc. Members felt there would be merit in this and it was worth exploring further, perhaps a competition for businesses in Mid Street and Fife-Keith for the ‘Lookin Bonnie in Keith; Pride o the Toun Award 2014’ . Someone from outwith Keith would judge the competition and a framed certificate, designed and sponsored by MC, could be presented to the bonniest looking premises, with associated exposure on inKeith.com. Subject to be explored further before proceeding, and more ideas to be presented to next meeting.

Next meeting - the date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday, July 7.