



# Keith Community Council

**Minute of meeting held on Monday, July 7, 2014 at Keith Community Centre**

**In attendance:** Jane Martin, Sandy Dickson, Marguerite Cruickshank, Susan Hutcheon, Esther Green (minutes secretary) and Robert Atkins (Police Scotland).

**Apologies:** Stewart Cree, Gary Coull, Charlie Lawson, Neil Kidd, Lorna Mulligan, Wendy Clarihew (Banffshire Herald).

**Minutes:** On the addition of Lorna Mulligan to the attendance list, minutes of the June meeting were approved.

**Police matters:** Robert Atkins told members there had been 19 crimes since the last meeting, including the theft of a high value bicycle. There were no assaults outside licensed premises and there was a police presence at the festival and tractor pulling and everyone was well behaved. Operation Piston was due to take place a few weeks ago but police had to be redeployed to front line services due to a lack of resources. A number of officers from the area will be providing police coverage at the Commonwealth Games.

Sgt Molloy has a new post within the custody division in Elgin and his successor has still to be appointed. In the meantime, agendas, minutes or other correspondence from the community council should be sent to [Robert.atkins@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Robert.atkins@scotland.pnn.police.uk)

Police are aware of underage youths congregating and drinking at the railway bridge; and a small minority of young people littering between Tesco and KGS has resulted to police speaking to children and a warning in the school bulletin that anyone caught littering could be hit by anti social behaviour tickets and an £80 fine.

There had previously been mention of a Hot Strike multi-agency event with a focus on anti-social driving taking place sometime in July, sponsored by KCC, but no more news on this. JM to contact Andy Jamieson at Moray Council for details. **(Action: JM)**

## **Matters arising**

- a) Broomhill Cemetery - Response had been received on Moray Council's graveyard policy, which means that due to budget reductions and weed-suppressing chemicals no longer being available, areas around headstones are being grassed over.
- b) Woodcarving: Plans are being made to site three large wooden carved sculptures, measuring around 6ft x 4ft and featuring the inkeith logo, in Keith. Permission has been received to site one at the bandstand, now the roads authorities are to be asked for consent to locate one at each end of the A96 gateways to Keith. These will cost £750 each and will be funded by the Moray Towns Partnership. EG to email roads authorities to seek consent, with the opportunity for a site meeting and other details. **(Action: EG)**

- c) Signage: MC wondered if Keith's existing town gateway signs could include reference to Keith being a Scots Toun but JM said that given past experience of requesting changes to signs, this was unlikely.
- d) Queen's Baton Relay: This event was a tremendous success in the community, and the associated KGS Keith Caper on the same day was also encouraging, with plans for a repeat event in the future.
- e) Scots Toun: the award presentation was a superb day and a meeting will be held in the months ahead to agree how to maximise the benefit of this status, and agree spending the £6,000 of funding that comes with it. Ideas mooted include a concert, signage, educational pack, KGS writing award, and a link to the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Charles Murray. It is hoped to reapply for Scots Toun accreditation next year to build the momentum.

### Correspondence

- a) Leaflets on low flying activity, RAF Lossiemouth
- b) Uncashed cheque – A query has been raised as to how a Moray Council cheque for £421.86 was uncashed for six months. This was due to the treasurer being unwell but it was the treasurer's memory that this cheque had been banked in May. The matter is to be further investigated for clarity **(MC and JM to action)**
- c) Edintore Windfarm – KCC to be one of the organisations involved in the community engagement process for this development.
- d) Joint Community Council – A meeting of Moray JCC will take place on August 14.
- e) Volunteers available for projects – An appeal has been made for any projects that may benefit from volunteer time from staff of Scottish Water, with tasks that can be carried out between Monday-Fridays preferred. Members to give consideration to any local cause that could benefit. **(Action – ALL)**
- f) Priorities for the area – Members asked to complete an online questionnaire called Have Your Say in Moray as soon as possible. **(Action – ALL)**
- g) The Institute – Jane Martin, Gary Coull and Stewart Cree were among those who attended a site meeting at the Institute. It will take a substantial sum of money to carry out necessary repairs and the building has now been declared surplus to council requirements. KCC was invited by Moray Council's community support unit to make a note of interest in the property by 12 noon on 4 July. Although this deadline had expired, members agreed to make the note of interest in order to be kept informed of future discussions and plans as the Institute is a key building in Mid Street, part of the history of the town and could make an ideal centre for heritage or other uses associated with Keith being a gateway to Moray. **(Action – JM; all to consider potential ideas for building)**

**Treasurer's report** - £737 in KCC account; £9190 in Christmas Lights Account. Request made that Treasurer's report added to monthly agenda of KCC. **(JM to action)**

### External group reports

- a) **Christmas Lights** – SH reported that discussions are continuing regarding the new cross-street Christmas Lights. JM asked if it would be helpful if KCC approached Chivas for funding support because of the magnitude of the project, and the amount of funding required, and this was agreed **(EG to action)**.

- b) **KSRP** – Members meeting takes place on Wednesday, July 9, all invited to attend.
- c) **CARS** – CARS work on Mid Street continues and the pop-up shop has opened at a new location with Laura Westville currently in situ.

#### **AOCB**

**Associate member** –Stuart McLaughlin, the new deputy head at KGS is interested in coming to KCC with the view to becoming associate member. KCC keen to build links with the school and will consider sponsoring one of the annual awards, perhaps for volunteering or civic pride. **(JM to action)**

**Keys for noticeboard** – Lorna Mulligan now has a set of keys for the noticeboard in Reidhaven Square.

**Date of next meeting** – Monday, September 1 at 7.30pm. If there is any important business in connection with the Institute, a special meeting will be called.