



Keith Community Council

Minute of meeting held on Monday, September 1, 2014 at Keith Community Centre

In attendance: Jane Martin, Charlie Lawson, Sandy Dickson, Marguerite Cruickshank, Susan Hutcheon, Lorna Mulligan, Neil Kidd, Sadie Ogg, Esther Green (minutes secretary), Councillor Stewart Cree, David Carson, Shelley Nicol and Chris Saunderson (Banffshire Herald) and Sgt Mark Bayliss (Police Scotland).

Apologies: Councillors Gary Coull and Ron Shepherd.

Minutes: Minutes of the July meeting were approved by Jane Martin, seconded by Susan Hutcheon.

Police matters: New sergeant Mark Bayliss was welcomed to the community council and he presented the monthly report to members (copy available) which showed an increase in anti-social behaviour in the town centre. In response, there have been increased officer patrols and licensed premises checks. Anti-social driving in Keith will be an ongoing target of police attention, as opposed to holding one off events.

The speed of traffic entering the town in Moss Street was raised, with the suggestion that a smiley face speed sign may help combat the problem.

Matters arising

Wood carving – A meeting has still to be held with the wood sculptor to discuss the design detail of the new town entrance signs, but it was noted the desire to include the inKeith.com web address.

Correspondence

- **Wind development** - A representative of the Edintore windfarm to be invited to attend the the October/November meeting, as part of the community engagement process.
- **Review of sport and leisure in Moray** – Jane Martin and Neil Kidd to represent the community council at the Keith meeting on the 10th September.
- **JCC Community Recognition Awards** – No guideline issued on how much funding required but supportive of the proposal and pledged to give £50.

Community councillor updates

Planning - Concerns to be noted at change of use from shop to residential at 79 Mid Street (**EG to write letter**)

Signs and street furniture – New A96 road signs have now been put in place in Keith giving improved direction to the town centre shops.

Environmental and cleansing – The state of pigeon mess on the pavements in areas of Mid Street was noted, which as well as being unpleasant can make it slippery underfoot, especially after heavy downpours.

Planters - Tubs in Reidhaven square are full of weeds. Agreed that members have a look at them and consider a project in association with REAP, as a matter for the next meeting. **(Agenda item next meeting)**.

Roads and rights of way –

- **Issues on A96** - A number of issues, including the need for weed clearing along the A9 and the continuing problem of dirt on the pavement at the foot of Mid Street are to be raised with BEAR/Transport Scotland **(SC sending email)**
- **Hotline** - Public reminded of the phone number to call to report defective street lights being 01343 557309.
- **Auld Brig** - Stewart Cree and Jane Martin to meet with a council representative to discuss the funding of repair work to the Auld Brig.
- **Hospital steps** – these were due to be upgraded but as yet work has not begun. **(SC to investigate)**.

External group updates

REAP - Holding a herby day at the Bandstand Gardens on 17th September from 10am-12 noon, with advice on how to cut, dry and use the herbs planted in the garden. £75 surplus in the plant fund will be used for winter veg, although solar powered lights was also mentioned as an option.

Christmas Lights – Work well underway on arrangements for the new Christmas lights for Mid Street and every lamp post on the A96, from the Royal Oak to the Shell Garage, is to have a light this year. The Christmas Extravaganza will take place on Saturday November 29 in the Longmore Halls from 1-4pm with Santa, stalls, entertainment and teas.

Scots Toun – A special meeting dedicated to the topic of how to mark Keith's success in being named the first Scots toun, and to best use the funding available, is to take place on Monday 8 September at 8pm in the round meeting room, immediately after the Christmas lights meeting. All encouraged to think of ideas and share them at meeting.

AOCB

New member - David Carson was welcomed on board as a new member and the due process for his co-option will be carried out.