

Strathisla Community Council

Minutes of meeting – 1st October, 2014 in Keith Community Centre

- 1. In attendance** - Keith Comrie, Ian Ross, Priscilla Gordon-Duff, John Gelling, Jacob Gelling, Councillor Gary Coull, Councillor Stewart Cree, and minutes secretary Esther Green.
- 2. Apologies** – James Mark and Innes Macpherson.
- 3. Minutes** – Minutes of the September meeting were approved as accurate by Ian Ross, seconded by Priscilla Gordon-Duff.
- 4. Police Matters** - No police representative present but the monthly report for September had been emailed, showing that there had been 37 reported crimes in September, an increase on previous months but a number are for fixed penalty tickets being issued for anti-social behaviour and vehicles being stopped for speeding. Moves are underway to set up a Pubwatch and there is an increased number of visits by police officers in uniform around the pubs, chatting with customers, at the weekends. This will continue to keep nights out safe.
- 5. Treasurer's Report** - The treasurer's paperwork had been submitted, showing that the current balance is £2442.28. Dr David McWilliam to be asked to audit the accounts. Queried whether the sum required for administration is factored into the SCC budget, as the council provides funds towards the running costs, such as secretary's honorarium, advertising, printing, remembrance wreaths and IT expenses. Office bearers felt they were clear on how funds can be spent, eg projects which give the community council recognition, but not donations to other groups, and aside from the Moray Council grant, SCC has no other income. With just six outgoings in the last year, it was not felt necessary to set a budget.
- 6. Youth Issues** – Councillors were able to scotch rumours that the Keith Community Centre gym is to close. The current review of services is seeking to increase usership to make facilities more sustainable.
- 7. Planning** – Updated plans for Corniehaugh, Rothiemay – SCC previously objected to this application for a starter farm and forestry development on behalf of residents from the area. No other action to be taken meantime.
- 8. Newmill** – People are failing to use the passing places on the B9017 road from Smallburn, Newmill, to the A95 Banff Road junction. Suggested the best solution may be signs stating, 'Please Use Passing Places' or 'Please Give Way'. (**SC to action**)

9. **Boharm** – Railway line maintenance continuing; fireworks display on 9th of November; work on playpark funded by Hill of Towie windfarm community fund to start on 20th October; and fundraising dance with a band taking place in the hall on 1st November.

10. **Botriphnie** – Drummuir Community Association discussed the Community Action Fund fly tipping fund at its meeting but felt there was not enough time to put together a funding bid. Stewart Cree to email Andy Jamieson, Moray Council's anti-social behaviour officer, to see if surveillance equipment can be installed in the layby above Loch Park off the B9104 Keith-Dufftown Road. **(Action - SC)**

11. **Grange** – Successful Scottish music nights have been helped and other events are to be planned in the hall, but no firm plans of these yet.

12. **Rothiemay** – The chair is to contact Jenny Anderson to find out if she knows of someone to represent Rothiemay on SCC. If not, SCC to look at doing a promotional drive in the village to find a substitute. **(Action – KC)**

13. Correspondence

- **Review of polling places** – No comments made about existing polling places.
- **Website:** Members asked to co-operate in providing information to help keep the SCC website up to date. The website to contain details of the members, each of the areas within Strathisla and other relevant details, a link to the minutes which appear on the Moray Council website and a link to inKeith.com as well as an appeal for new members to join SCC. **(Action – all members to provide relevant information to Jacob Gelling)**
- **Constitution** - This has now been completed and returned to Moray Council. As the community council does not have an AGM any changes to the constitution should be made at a regular meeting, with proper advance notice being given.
- **Joint Community Councils survey** – This is to be completed by the chair. **(Action – KC)**

14. AOCB

KSRP Flower Money - There has been no response from the chair of KSRP regarding the £500 for summer flower planting that SCC had expected on behalf of its communities, but has not received. If paid now, this money could go towards next year's displays. **(Action – KC to contact Valery Dickson).**

Community Plan – Members still debating the way forward for a community plan for the area and after discussion, agreed to ask Dawn Brodie if one or more of the community plans she shared from Aberdeenshire could feature on

the SCC website as an example of what these plans look like and to stimulate discussion. (**KC to contact Dawn Brodie**)

Rural Parliament – PGD attended the meeting of the Scottish Rural Parliament in Elgin. Around 20 people were there and members were told of the themes that the Parly would be covering; it does not have the status of a Parliament but is more of a gathering/lobbying point for rural issues. Gordon Methven is the Moray JCC rep on the Rural Parliament

Next meeting – the date of the next meeting will be November 5. Ian Ross gave his apologies and asked minutes secretary to prepare agenda in his absence.

DRAFT