



Keith Community Council

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

In attendance: Neil Kidd (as chair), Sadie Ogg, Susan Hutcheon, Marguerite Cruickshank, Sandy Dickson, Dave Carson, Councillor Stewart Cree, Esther Green, Mollie Moon

Apologies: Jane Martin.

1. **Welcome:** In the absence of Jane Martin, Neil took the chair and welcomed Mollie Moon from Cullen and Deskford Community Council, attending as an observer to see how other community councils operate.

2. **Police matters:** Sergeant Thomas Gorman was present and presented the police report (copy available). Issues raised by members were:

- KGS pupils congregating at the school gates – concern that pedestrians, often children, have to step on to the road to avoid them, and this is at a busy access point to both primary and secondary school so safety issues.
- Cars gathering in Tesco late at weekends, creating noise and shining lights towards Union Terrace houses. Main problem on a Saturday night, about 5-6 cars causing the problem.
- Broken beer bottles in Drum Road, School Road – council does clear this up but suggested police patrol the area at weekends as there may be a drinking den in the area.
- Members requested an update on Sgt Bayliss' plans for a fresh clampdown on Anti Social Behaviour – Sgt Gorman noted this and said that a report would be provided to the next KCC meeting. **Action TG**
- Responsible use of mobility scooters on roads – concern some users are putting themselves at risk by their positioning on the road.

3. **Minutes** – the minutes were approved for accuracy by Susan Hutcheon, seconded by Marguerite Cruickshank.

4. **Matters arising:**

- a) 79 Mid Street – stance taken by KCC explained to property owner.
- b) Moss St traffic management – analysing results of a survey.
- c) Bus Shelter Church Road – no action to be taken meantime.
- d) Holes in road surface at railway bridge – these now repaired.
- e) Keep Keith Bonnie – a fantastic response to these plans:
 - Banffshire-Kronach Association want to be involved

- Keith FC want to paint 5 Reidhaven Square pots in strip colours and plant and maintain them
- Strathisla Distillery want to create a pagoda style display with hanging baskets for the eastern access of the town; Rrrrallye would take on maintenance
- Keith Rotary Club to take on planters outside Longmore Hall
- Bandstand garden – David Ross, Neil Lewarne and Alan Mair willing to take on the maintenance of this area with Venture Scouts.
- KCC might wish to take responsibility for three tubs in the recess at the Institute on Mid Street? Confirm this in Spring. **Action – discuss at Feb meeting**
- Fife Keith Action Group – letter from Jane Sharp pointing out the work FKAG does . A similar letter was printed in the Banffshire Herald. It was unfortunate if press coverage of Keep Keith Bonnie had made FKAG feel that their work was not acknowledged. Both groups will be complementary and it is hoped that Keep Keith Bonnie and FKAG will work in tandem to brighten up the whole town for the good of the whole image of the area. Reply to be sent to JS. **Action EG/NK**

5. Correspondence :

- a. Community Payback – project included making planters for Keith Resource Centre – could be useful source of help for Keep Keith Bonnie
- b. Paths for All – Funding available for pathway work
- c. Beatrice Offshore drop in – this took place in November

6. **Treasurer's report** – KCC account - £892.36. Christmas lights - £4196.

7. Community Councillor Portfolios:

Street signs and furniture – the new town centre sign on A96 at Church Road is now facing the bowling club. **SC to action**

Roads and rights of way - Rattling drain cover outside A96 – continues to be annoyance. **SC to action**

- Surface water gathering at the corner of the A96 at Brig o Haughs. **SC to action**
- 64 Nelson Terrace – very dark at steps in this area, request for street light. **SC to action**

8. External Group Updates

- a. **CARS** – Real hope that work is to start on redevelopment of Greig's into retail units and flats in the New Year. This work will make a huge difference to the appearance of the top of the street, visible by bus passengers and drivers coming in from the Square.
- b. **Scots Toun** – KCC to act as a reference point for Scots Toun work, as a number of people have pulled out of the committee due to other pressures, A Doric Christmas light to be created for next year.

- c. **Doric Trail** – More thought needs to be given to this concept as there are questions around size, how many plaques, what material should be used, where they should be located, whether they go on their own posts or onto existing walls/buildings/posts, what permissions may be needed, maintenance. A project plan would be useful to outline the specific details such as aims, timescale, etc. Also discussed was the existing heritage finger post signs around the town which are in need of refurbishment. Could these gold and black signs be used as part of Doric Trail? **Action - agenda item for the next meeting.**
- d. **Christmas lights fayre and switch on** - Positive response to the new display, questions around why there were not lights in the left and right edges of the Mid Street lights; the colour sequence but just minor points. Also comments that the fayre should be held on Mid Street not the Longmore Hall. Issues with some of the A96 lampposts; those refurbished this year do not allow electricity supply to decorations. The Christmas Lights Committee will have a meeting to discuss all the issues that have arisen.

9. AOCB

- a. Gmail - Everyone present said they were able to access the Gmail account again so in future email correspondence will be kept to essential items so it does not take up too much meeting time.
- b. Moray Community Awards – Keith Community Council's name was prominent in the promotional materials for this award.
- c. Remembrance – The Keith parade was a real credit to the town. It was extremely well attended, both by the number of people including youth organisations that paraded, as well as by onlookers.
- d. Joint Community Council – noted there was no Keith representation at the last meeting.
- e. Dog mess – The pavements of Land Street, Broomhill Road, Cuthil Road and Chapel Street were noted as particularly bad with dog fouling, an issue which is worse in the dark nights when you might not spot it on pavements. **SC to action**

10. Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be on 2 February 2015 at 7pm.