

Tarbat Community Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 5th February 2014 (Not yet approved)

1. Present: Secretary Steve Carroll, Helen Fleming, Hamish MacKenzie, Jock Munro, Treasurer Janet Wilson, Chair Billie Wood. **In attendance:** Cllr. Fiona Robertson, George Terry, Muriel Vass, two Police Representatives **Apologies:** Cllr. Alastair Rhind, Neil Ross

2. Police Report The current crime situation in this area was described as "very quiet" with one RTA, one Theft and several renewals of licences.

3. Minutes of last Meeting The Minutes were proposed for acceptance by Jock Munro, and seconded by Helen Fleming.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes

4.1 Play park Steps. Steve reported on a recent Site Meeting Simon Young of TECS to assess the drainage in this area. Simon Young accepted responsibility on behalf of the Highland Council and stated that rectification of the problem would be put on the TECS list of jobs waiting to be started.

4.2 Road Repairs Steve confirmed that a letter had been sent to Campbell Stewart thanking him in advance for his plan to repair 600 metres of road from the New Geanies junction towards Portmahomack in February/March 2014 subject to availability of funds

4.3 Portmahomack Playing Field Billie Wood reported that the litter bin at the field is still not being emptied. Highland Councillors are frustrated that they are unable to make Council employees comply with such requests.

4.4 Jean Bridgeford Memorial and Well Renovation Project This project is currently on hold pending a fresh Planning Application.

4.5 Provision of activities for Young People

4.5.1 Possible Skatepark in Portmahomack We await feedback from Julie Cleghorn of HiLife

4.5.2 Portmahomack Youth Club We have asked Youth Worker Rob Parkes if he will organise further sessions this year. Rob has decided that there is insufficient interest at present but he has asked Meg Flowerby (shop?) and the Community Council to "keep a gauge on interest". Rob's feeling is that it could be worth another go in the spring/ summer when he will see what he can do.

4.6 The Fountain It has been decided to accept the Highland Council's offer to take paint samples from the Fountain, after which we shall decide whether to paint the Fountain in it's original colours or in it's present colour. **ACTION Billie**

4.7 Broadband Steve presented a survey form and explained that a survey of the Tarbat population will be necessary before any prospect of moving the matter forward. After a long discussion, it was decided to ask for a copy of the Electoral Roll to facilitate such a survey **ACTION Steve**

4.8 Proposed Wind Turbine at Drumancroy It was noted that this application has been withdrawn.

5 Councillor's Report Unfortunately, Cllr. Rhind was absent due to attendance at another meeting.

6 Treasurer's Report

Janet Wilson reported that there were no changes to the accounts since that last meeting

Current Account: Balance £4154.06 CR Project Account £154.51 CR

7 Tarbat Bequests It was decided that the best use of the funds this year would be to make a donation to Tarbat Old Primary School to help defray an Outing or some such extracurricular activity. **ACTION Janet**

8 Correspondence Steve Carroll reported on a number of items including:

- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service - request for consultation
- Minutes of East Ross District Partnership Community Forum at Invergordon Hospital 6th December
- Scottish Rural Parliament - invitation to register interest
- Scottish Rural Development Programme - notice of latest proposals
- Customer Forum - Strategic Review of Water Charges - request to comment
- Scottish Government - National Planning Framework 3 - notice of publication
- Moray Firth Partnership - notice of AGM Wednesday 19th February in Inverness
- SAC Consulting - offer of advice on Community owned Renewable energy generation
- Highland Council - notice of application to extend alcohol display at Local Store
- Post Office - invitation to comment on proposed changes at Portmahomack Post Office. It was noted that Opening hours will be extended but some services will be withdrawn.
- Highland Council - notice of Community Council Training on 11th March at Milton

9 Community Organisation of Domestic Heating Oil Purchase Steve stated that Highland Fuels can offer discounted prices for bulk delivery of heating oil to our locality. Cllr. Robertson stated that similar local schemes were already being run successfully and volunteered to arrange contact with the Organiser, with the prospect of the scheme being operated in the Portmahomack area. **ACTION Fiona and Steve**

10 AOCB It was reported that there had been recent incidents of flooding of front gardens at Rockfield due to high tides and onshore winds. Cllr. Robertson stated that Highland Council were sending a representative to inspect the situation.

The Meeting closed at 9.25 pm Next Meeting Wednesday 2nd April 2014 at 7.30pm at the Carnegie Hall, Portmahomack