

Tarbat Community Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd April 2014

1. Present: Secretary Steve Carroll, Hamish MacKenzie, Jock Munro, Neil Ross, Chair Billie Wood. **In attendance:** Cllr. Alastair Rhind, George Terry, Muriel Vass.

Apologies: Treasurer Janet Wilson

2. Police Report There were no Police representatives present.

3. Minutes of last Meeting Hamish MacKenzie pointed out an omission in the Minutes relating to the state of the footpath to Tarbat Ness just North East of Portmahomack. The Minutes were proposed for acceptance (with amendment) by Jock Munro, and seconded by Billie Wood.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes

4.1 Play Park Steps. It was noted that the repair work agreed to by Simon Young of Highland Council had not yet been implemented. It was agreed that Simon Young should be contacted for an progress report on this matter. **ACTION Steve**

4.2 Road Repairs It was noted that the repair 600 metres of road from the New Geanies junction towards Portmahomack in February/March 2014 has not taken place. Cllr. Rhind agreed to talk to the Roads Dept. about this matter. **ACTION Alastair**

4.3 Portmahomack Playing Field Billie Wood reported that the litter bin at the has been emptied.

4.4 Jean Bridgeford Memorial and Well Renovation Project Steve reported that new plans had been drawn up and would be submitted shortly to the Planning Dept.

4.5 Provision of activities for Young People

4.5.1 Possible Skatepark in Portmahomack We await feedback from Julie Cleghorn of HiLife. Cllr. Rhind agreed to talk to the Julie Cleghorn about this matter. **ACTION Alastair** It was agreed to send a representative to a Seminar about the Active Communities Fund in Invergordon on Wednesday 3rd April. **ACTION Steve**

4.5.2 Portmahomack Youth Club It was agreed to ask Rob Parkes after the summer if he would attempt to start up a Youth Club again

4.6 The Fountain Billie Wood explained the impasse about painting the Fountain in its original colours, due to the problem of obtaining paint samples from the Fountain. Cllr. Rhind agreed to talk to the Conservation Architect about this matter. **ACTION Alastair** Hamish MacKenzie volunteered to talk to Lachie Stewart for advice about this matter. **ACTION Hamish**

4.7 Broadband Steve stated that he now had a copy of the Electoral Roll to facilitate a survey. There are 581 voters and 254 households in our constituency. Billie Wood felt that we should have a letter of explanation about the survey for people who may not be at home when surveyed **ACTION Steve** (No action was agreed at this time for the survey.)

5 Councillor's Report Cllr. Rhind stated that reports were being prepared about flood protection at Balnabruach and Rockfield. It was anticipated that Balnabruach would receive priority. Neil Ross asked about the timescale for action on flood protection but it was difficult to say at this stage. Cllr. Rhind stated that the recent Service Review, which involved closing of Service Points, has been postponed pending consultation. Hamish MacKenzie asked whether action can be taken to prevent further erosion of coastal

Core Footpaths. Hamish agreed to send details to Alastair for action **ACTION Hamish**. Discussion continued regarding dumping of builder's rubble on the foreshore at Balnabruach. Steve asked Cllr. Rhind about the expense of ca. £1000 of repairing the slipway at Rockfield. Cllr. Rhind indicated that Tarbat Community Council should make a contribution from its own funds, and an application for the balance to the Councillor's Discretionary Budget. **ACTION Steve**

6 Treasurer's Report

Janet Wilson submitted the following report: The project account remains the same at £154.51 CR

There have been two payments from the current account - £49.00 to Tarbat Old Primary School for the Tarbat Bequest money and £21.50 to the Highland Council for a copy of the electoral roll.

This leaves a balance of £2476.83 at credit of the account.

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

- Scottish Government - Forthcoming Review of Boundaries and Electoral Arrangements
- It's Your Neighbourhood - invitation to participate in a national scheme to improve our local environment through community action
- Cllr. Carolyn Wilson - letter of thanks for opposing the recent Service Review
- Cllr. Dave Fallows - letter detailing what the Service Review entails.
- David McKechnie, Highland Council - consultation on Draft Green Transport Policy
- Gillian Gunn, Violence Against Women Partnership - letter giving notice of a new service for survivors of sexual violence, planned to be implemented in the next 12 months

8 AOCB 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

Muriel Vass asked what could be done about the weeds growing in the Children's Playpark. **ACTION Alastair**

Hamish MacKenzie stated that the Tarbat Discovery Centre was doing a fine job in difficult financial circumstances. Hamish volunteered to assist TDC with publicity **ACTION Hamish**

Concern was expressed about the bin at the harbour. This bin has been removed but not replaced in its holder and is now in the harbour. A request was made for a larger bin. Cllr. Rhind agreed to talk to the Refuse Collection Dept. about this matter. **ACTION Alastair**

Muriel Vass expressed concern that the Pavilion at the Playing Field was underused or misused.

The Meeting closed at 8.55 pm Next Meeting Wednesday 4th June 2014 at 7.30pm at the Carnegie Hall, Portmahomack. This will be the AGM, with a Chairman's Report and Financial Report for the preceding year