

## Draft

### TARBAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

#### Minutes of meeting held on 5 April 2017 In the Golf Club, Portmahomack at 10:00am

**Present:** Hamish Mackenzie (Vice Chair), Martin Dane (Treasurer) Jackie Thornhill (Secretary)

**In Attendance:** Jock Munro, Neil Ross, Cllr. Fiona Robertson, Donna Mackay, Lisa Smith, Shirley Johnston

**Apologies:** Billie Wood, Helen Fleming, and Police Scotland.

1. **Police Report:** There were not officers in attendance but a report was sent for meeting.

**Incident Summary:**

A written report has been circulated to all members.

Recent concerns about excessive noise and antisocial behaviour from a dwelling at Chapelhill have been considered by the Local Authority and Police. This has been taken up by the Ross and Cromarty Antisocial Behaviour Partnership Group.

2. **Minutes of meeting held on 1 February 2017**

The minutes was then proposed by Hamish Mackenzie, seconded by Martin Dane and agreed.

3. **Matters Arising:**

**Road Repairs:** The warning sign for articulated lorries on the road to Rockfield has still not been erected. No update on this issue. **Update: Cllr Robertson has had confirmation that a sign is in production and will soon be erected.**

**Fountain:** Hamish Mackenzie has since spoken to Mr Stewart and the problem seem to be with the stone work on the steps which will need addressing. No update, **Hamish to action this item.**

**Access to Tarbat Primary School:** The school and parent council have been in touch with Allan Bryce with regards to this issue. As advised by Councilor Robertson, A travel plan is in progress of being developed by the school and parent council. Still Ongoing.

**Stand of trees behind the Carnegie Hall.** Cllr Rhind has ask for Nick Richards to come a review this. Still no update. Cllr. Robertson to follow up with Cllr Rhind.

4. **Financial Report:**

The Treasurer had submitted a report and the balances are General Account £2520.37.

5. **Councillor's Report:**

Council is currently in recess due to the upcoming election, therefore no reports to major decisions will be undertaken at this time.

Discussions over the recent completion of road repairs and the bumps have now been fixed, but concern was raised with regards to the deep verges that remain unfilled.

6. **Correspondence:** Offshore Wind Energy – Landscape sensitivity appraisal and Tarbat Ness. This would not be a good attraction and could affect our Tarbat Ness tourism. Hamish Mackenzie to express our concerns by online response and ask that this area be excluded from the appraisal. This action has been taken by Mr. Mackenzie.

Democracy of Community Councils – During the meeting, councillors and members of public filled out a survey regarding the democracy. Hamish Mackenzie has responded via online to this survey.

The future of Scottish planning system. Statutory duty on community to develop a plan scheme. Hamish Mackenzie has sent in online response asking that the community to be consulted more often with regards to planning.

**Community Pub buy out:** There has been interest brought to the Tarbat Community Council with regards to a community buy out of the pub in the Village. The Community Council would welcome and support any initiative taken upon a group of people to oversee the next steps that would involve what the costs, level of interest in funding and plans for management. Any such person/group wanting to get involved please come to next meeting and we can have it added to the next agenda for discussion.

7. **AOCB:**

It was noted that the verges had not been cut at Seaford Hill and Bankhead corner affecting sight lines of traffic. This is still an outstanding issue Action: **Cllr Rhind**

Cllr Rhind had agreed to look into the state of the cemetery as the paths were slippery and rabbits had returned. This is still an outstanding issue to be addressed. Cllr. Robertson has agreed that both cemeteries are needing to be addressed but old cemetery will have top priority. **Cllr. Robertson to follow up.**

**War Memorial:** The work has now been completed with regards to the railing, but there was some concern raised that the railing is not fitting properly due to the existing cemented structure. **Cllr Robertson to follow up.**

Tarbat Community council has agreed to donate £100 Erskine Rehabilitation. This has been paid and will place receipt in notice board when received. Certificate has now been received and will be posted in the Bulletin board.

Martin Dane gave an update on the Ship to Ship Transfer plans by the Cromarty Firth Port Authority. The matter is still with the MCA for decision and further actions are required. The reason for the request for a license for ship to ship transfers outside the Sutors is that following the closing of the Beatrice Terminal and pipeline at Nigg, the CFPA are noting a shortfall in funds being paid for tankers using the Nigg facility. This gives them a funding gap to meet their plans to extend the facilities for cruise liners berthing at Invergordon.

**Martin gave an update on this topic and new application to be submitted later this year.**

**The SSEN Resilient Communities Fund:**

If customers experience a power cut this winter, they should contact SSEN on the recently launched, free-to-dial number, 105. To find out more about SSEN's Priority Services Register, register themselves, family members or friends they should contact the dedicated team on 0800 294 3259 or visit [ssen.co.uk/PriorityServices/](https://ssen.co.uk/PriorityServices/) for more details.

It was agreed that Martin would forward details of funding to the Hall Committee to investigate the possibilities of setting up a community resilient program or ie. a generator for the hall. **Martin to action.** SSE have an emergency service in place which deals with emergencies on a priority basis. Therefore, vulnerable people communities are dealt with on a risk based basis – i.e. those most at risk will be dealt with first. Particularly vulnerable people can be put on SSE's list.

In the case of communities such as ours, we can call 01463 728 285 (the Inverness Centre) and they can provide emergency generation and a hot food van etc. to deal with those who have lost power in the event of a catastrophic occurrence.

This seems to be a better and more flexible solution than putting an emergency generator in Tarbat School or in the Carnegie Hall and having to cover routine maintenance and check start-ups etc. the cost of which we would likely have to bear.

**Land in front of Dolphin View chalets.** Hamish Mackenzie reported on further correspondence with the office of the Keeper of the Registers of Scotland. They were concentrating on the validity of the title which Candho One purported to pass to Mr and Mrs Joyce. The Joyce's' solicitor had failed to provide map evidence that the Macleods of Cadboll owned the part of the land that had been foreshore in 1919 and the Keeper's office had passed to them for comment the Keeper's thoughts on the ownership of the foreshore. As to the part of the land that had been roadway since the 19th century the Keeper's office had advised that Barbara Johnston had a servitude right of access over it. They will advise us on any decision as to the ownership of the land."

4. Dates for 2017.

Concerns raised about the Brightness of the harbour lights shining in on residential property. 2 of current lights are not working. The contact you require for the harbour lights is Tony Usher. His email address is [tony.usher@highland.gov.uk](mailto:tony.usher@highland.gov.uk).

TCC has concerns about a recent new paper article regarding Car parks and was wondering if our 3 front car parks would come under a certain category regarding overnight parking and then rubbish being left behind. Cllr. Robertson will look into it but no large rubbish bins will be allocated as it allows for unwanted household dumping. There has been no new development on this topic.

Bins at football pitch and top play park are not being emptied. Cllr Robertson to action. They have since been emptied but need to assure this is an ongoing thing. See email response from Highland council. To keep a follow up on this situation.

Discussion took place with regards to the new proposed plans for the TRA school. There were a lot of concerns and issues discussed and it was agreed that Jackie Thornhill would draft a letter highlighting these issues and to be submitted to Care and Learning, Highland Council. Letter was sent in but no acknowledgment received from highland council. We as a Community Council very much do welcome the £52 Million budget that has been allocated for the new TRA school, but due feel that the existing site has had many concerns raised, and regret that no other considerations are being given to other possible sites. If possible, alternative sites should be given consideration providing that it wouldn't affect the current £52 million budget.

Poster Contest for the Primary school children has been judged and we are pleased to announce the winners. Rachel Smith (P7), Grace Mackay (P6), Shaelynn Pettigrew (P3), Nieve Pettigrew (P2). We would like to thanks all the children who participated as they to did a fabulous job with their creations.

Question was raised with regards to closure of some Public toilets across the Highlands and would Portmahomack be at risk of losing this facility. Cllr Robertson assured that this would not happen in this area.

Dates for **2017** meeting are: 1st Wednesday of the below months:

June 7th,  
August 2nd,  
October 4th  
December 6th.

The meeting closed at 11:45am.

Next meeting, Carnegie Hall at 7:30pm June 7, 2017. The AGM meeting will also take place at same location and time.