

Draft

TARBAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on 1 February 2017 In the Carnegie Hall, Portmahomack at 7.30pm

Present: Billie Wood (Chair), Hamish Mackenzie (Vice Chair), Helen Fleming, Francis O'Connor Martin Dane (Treasurer) Jackie Thornhill (Secretary)

In Attendance: Jock Munro, Neil Ross, Steve Carroll, Muriel Vass, 2 Police officers

Apologies: Fiona Robertson.

1. **Police Report:**

Incident Summary

A number of calls to the area, with incidents ranging from neighbour disputes, noise and low level disorder.

Antisocial Behaviour

Concerns expressed about inconsiderate noise from occupant of a rented property. Two calls over three days received. The occupier of the problem property was spoken to and the situation monitored. No further complaints have been received.

More recently, calls have been received about excessive noise from another dwelling in Portmahomack. A more robust response is being adopted, with the Local Authority and Police are working together at identifying longer term solutions.

An on-line report was received highlighting the behaviour of some youths and the damaging of property. Aspects of this had been promoted on a local social media page and caused ill feeling and tension in the community. Enquiries continue but no criminality has been established.

Any concerns, incidents or sightings should be reported to Police Scotland using the 101 non-emergency phone number.

Any information (drugs) can also be reported to any Police Officer or anonymously using Crime stoppers on – 0800-555-111.

2. **Minutes of meeting held on 7 December 2016**

The minutes was then proposed by Billie Wood, seconded by Jackie Thornhill 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. **Action: Councillor Rhind / Fiona Robertson Martin Dane has submitted a road maintenance form with case reference number FS12557006.**

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.

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

4. Financial Report:

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

5. Councillor's Report:

No Councillors present at meeting.

6. AOCB:

It was noted that the verges had not been cut at Seafield 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 to check with Cllr Rhind about this outstanding issue.

Large potholes on Rockfield road and near post box have been repaired but new ones have since developed.

Cllr Rhind had stated that there was no point in taking any action with the planting at the war memorial as the result of an application to the War Memorial Trust should be advised on Tuesday 9 August which may provide funding to replace the railings. Cllr. Robertson has confirmed that £6000 has been allocated for the repairs and work should commence by the end of January. The lettering is also to be addressed but require more funding. Work has now been allocated to a contracted for the railing and concrete.

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

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 licence 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. **No decision has been made to this date.**

The SSEN Resilient Communities Fund is supporting 27 community groups across its network area in the north of Scotland with awards of up to £20,000 for projects that will protect the welfare of those most vulnerable, enhance community facilities or improve communication during an emergency weather event. SSEN's Resilient Communities Fund will re-open for applications in February 2017. To find out more about the fund, please visit the website: ssen.co.uk/Resiliencefund/

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/ 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.**

Land in front of Dolphin View chalets. It was reported that Mr and Mrs Joyce are seeking to register title to land extending from the end of the tarred road up to their own garden. Neighbouring property owners reported on challenges recently made to their access rights and fishing related activities. Discussion then took place on the extensive use made of this area by members of the local community and by tourists, who walk and park there for the attractive views and as a starting point for walks along the Braes and on the Core Path to Tarbat Ness. It was noted that part of the area has been a road used by the public since at least the 1870s, and that the other part has always been regarded since its creation from 1964 onwards as dedicated to public use. Fears were expressed about the continuation of the public's rights if the proposed title is granted, and also about the effect on emergency services. It was agreed that a letter should be written to the Keeper of the Registers of Scotland challenging the validity of the proposed title and requesting that even if the title were to be granted existing public rights should be preserved and not impeded by any fences, walls or gates. **(Hamish Mackenzie). We have received an acknowledgement and our concerns are being investigated. We have requested that we be advised of the outcome. An interim reply has been received. The keeper has asked for further evidence ie maps to prove in 1919 the MacLeod's of Cadboll had a valid title that was pass onto Candho one. The Joyce's have 42 days to provide a plan before a decision is made.**

Concerns raised about the Brightness of the harbour lights shining in on residential property. 2 of current lights are not working. Cllr. Robertson to pass on contact details of who is in charge of harbour authority

Concerns raised about large stones near Free Church manse. Mr Macleod has responded to this concern and it was then agreed that Hamish Mackenzie would address this. **A letter was sent but no response or action taken on this issue.**

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.

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.

We did speak about this today at our team meeting and as mentioned it seems a tick sheet probably would not be effective and also costly in time and resources to all of us. What we have decided to do is carry out random checks on litter bins as part of our usual out and about and we also do operations monitoring on crews and street sweepers and will add a box on for all litter bins in the area having been serviced. I will also do another letter to each crew on the importance of making sure this is done. I am happy to revisit the issue if we still find problems.

The polling station is now being held at the school to cut cost. This will not affect the kids as Highland council have moved the June in service day to the day of election will be held on.

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.

Democracy of Community Councils – During the meeting, councillors and members of public filled out a survey regarding the democracy. Hamish Mackenzie to reply via online and send along with survey.

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

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.

Poster Contest for the Primary school children is to take place again this year to address and bring awareness about cleaning up after your dog. Posters to be submitted for judging at next meeting.

It was discussed that we would hold the next meeting during daytime hours to allow and parents etc that would find it more convenient to attend.

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

Feb 1st
April 5th,
June 7th,
August 2nd,
October 4th
December 6th.

The meeting closed at 9:21 pm.

Next meeting, Golf Club, Portmahomack at 10:00am April 5, 2017