

TARBAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 11th April 2012 (not yet approved)

1 Those present and Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 Present:** Steve Carroll, Hamish MacKenzie, Jock Munro, Neil Ross, Janet Wilson.
- 1.2 In Attendance:** Kenny Aitken, George Terry, Muriel Vass
- 1.3 Apologies for Absence:** Helen Fleming, Cllr. Fiona Robertson.

2 Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st February 2012 The Minutes of the last Meeting were accepted as correct. Proposed Hamish Mackenzie seconded Neil Ross

3 Matters Arising from Minutes

3.1 Fencing of Childrens' Playpark.

3.1.1 It was reported that most of the furniture in the Children's Playpark was removed in March. Whereas it is possible to speculate on the reasons for this, the Community Council are unaware of any official explanation.

3.1.2 It was agreed to write to the Chief Executive to ask for an explanation, and to ask whether the balance of the budget for upgrading the Playpark (est. £5000) is still available). **ACTION Steve**

3.2 Gorse Removal at Tarbat Ness. After a discussion about the non-removal of gorse, it was agreed to ask Martin Hind, Countryside Ranger if he could throw any light on the situation. **ACTION Steve**

3.3 Footpaths in Portmahomack

3.3.1 Janet Wilson reported that she had recently met with Steve Carroll and Cllr. Fiona Robertson and carried out a tour of footpaths within Portmahomack requiring attention/improvement. Cllr. Fiona Robertson stated that the Highland Council has no responsibility for the footpaths

3.3.2 A discussion ensued concerning the possibility of employing a local person to do village maintenance. It was agreed to speak to Cllr. Fiona Robertson to discuss the possibility of funding **ACTION Janet**

3.4 Well Steps It was reported that the improvement at the Well Steps has been completed satisfactorily at a cost of £200.

3.5 Roads

3.5.1 Yet again there was a discussion about the bad state of the Portmahomack/Tain road at Arboll

3.5.2 It was decided to speak to Cllr. Fiona Robertson about the matter. **ACTION Janet**

3.5.3 It was agreed to write a letter to the Chief Executive to ask why the improvement stated at the Ward Forum of 9th November 2012 has not been carried out. **ACTION Steve**

- 3.6 Portmahomack Fountain Steps** It was agreed to ask David Appleton for his quotation for remedial work at the Fountain **ACTION Steve**
- 3.7 Guest Speaker at AGM** Steve Carroll reported that John Thurso MP has not yet confirmed acceptance of our invitation to speak at the AGM. Steve to contact John Thurso. **ACTION Steve**
- 3.8 Caledonian House Development** It was reported that the planning application from Mr Paul Hart has been successful, subject to certain qualifications including build height of house.
- 3.9 New bench for car park.** Hamish Mackenzie to pursue **ACTION Hamish**
- 3.10 Removal of derelict boat from harbour.** Janet to pursue **ACTION Janet**

4 Councillors Report (none)

- 5 Financial Report** In the absence of Billie Wood, Janet stated that the only expenditure since the last meeting was £200, probably leaving a balance of £1611 in the current account and £1653 in the Project account.

6 Correspondence

- 6.1** Letter and Poster from John Boocock about the Ward 8 Election Hustings to be held at TRA on Tuesday 1st may at 7.30pm
- 6.2** Inner Moray Firth Development Plan. A large set of documents requiring study, copies available at local libraries and planning offices or on the web. Public exhibition at Carnegie Hall 2-6.30pm on Thursday 21st June. A response is required by Thursday 28th June. Janet undertook to make photocopies of relevant pages for distribution to Members for consideration. **ACTION Janet**
- 6.3** Invitation from ASCC to a winding up conference at Dunblane on 18th April 2012
- 6.4** Moray Firth Partnership March Newsletter
- 6.5** NHS Highland February Newsletter on Planning for Integration with Highland Council.

7 AOCB

- 7.1** Helen Fleming expressed her concern about the following issues: The possibility of Radon Gas appearing in houses in the Port, The encroachment of Buckthorn bushes between the Free Kirk and the 1st Car Park, the deterioration in the Well and the need for action, the gap in the Castle Street wall above the Carnegie Hall.
- 7.2** Neil Ross expressed concern about a dangerously deep ditch on the Rockfield Road.

Meeting Closed at 9.28 pm

Date of Next Meeting AGM Friday 1st June 2012 at 7.30 pm in Carnegie Hall