

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF TAIN
MEETING HELD ON 28 NOVEMBER 2016 AT 7.30 PM IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, TAIN**

Present: Mr D Macdonald (Chair) Mr D Louden (Treasurer)
Mr G Amos (Vice-Chair) Mrs Mackenzie
Mr N Munro Mr McAllister
Mr Mohan Mrs Matheson
Mr McIvor

In attendance: Mr Rhind - Highland Councillor
Mrs Roberston – Highland Councillor
Miss L Munro - TRA

1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Miss B Morrison
2.	NEW MEMBER – Mr Macdonald welcomed Mrs Matheson return to the Community Council as a co-opted Member. SECRETARY – Mr Macdonald reminded Members Mrs Mackay was unavailable and in her absence he and Mr Louden would do their best to record the Minutes
3. 3.1	POLICE REPORT – the Police representatives, Constable Lane and Constable Bremner, confirmed a monthly report of 12 Drug charges; 6 assaults reported; 11 road traffic charges; and 2 reports of damaged windows. Questions were asked and responded to on a number of the issues raised
4. 4.1	APPROVAL OF MINUTES The Minutes of the meeting held on 31 October 2016 were approved by Mr Amos and seconded by Mr Mohan.
5.0	MATTERS ARISING
5.1	Item 4.2 Tesco Bags for Help Mr Macdonald reported the Rose Garden Benches from Bags project was now included in the December funding opportunity and would compete in several Tesco stores, including Tain.
6.0	YOUTH ISSUES Miss Munro confirmed, due to lack of funding, problems with insurance and student commitments, the Malawi trip would not be taking place in 2017. As an alternative gesture of goodwill, TRA will look to fundraise in other directions to compensate the Malawi students they would have visited. The Halloween Ceilidh was successful and raised £360 for the Highland Hospice. A charity day held in October had raised £470 (£270 for Children in Need and £200 for the Highland Hospice). There had been a 3-day school inspection (a follow-up to the 2014 inspection) where inspectors met with groups of pupils, teachers and senior pupils. Mr Waldie, the new Depute Head had settled in well.

<p>7.0</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>7.2</p>	<p>HIGHLAND COUNCILLOR'S REPORT</p> <p>Mr Rhind's report. The yellow lines would be removed from Ankerville Street next week. The Heriot Watt University report on the Mussel Fishery had been received and it was not good with poor stocks. It proposed the fishery be rested or licensed under restriction. Officials were preparing a report to the January Area Committee recommending the mussel boat, currently lying in Helmsdale Harbour be sold off. Mr Macdonald mentioned he had written to the Ward Manager asking for clarification of the link between the boat and the fishing licence and was waiting a response. He reminded Members that without a licence to fish the Town's historical rights to extract mussels would be rendered meaningless. Mr Rhind advised the boat was in need of a lot of repair and confirmed the Stock Survey had cost the CGF £14000. Members considered the CC position was to keep the boat if at all possible. Given the level of concern it was resolved to arrange a Special Meeting of the Community Council on 15 December 2016 to discuss specifically the Mussel Fishery, inviting along Tony Usher, the Council's Harbours Manager and Helen Ross, the Ward Manager. Mr Rhind advised xmas light repair expenditure on materials this year would be in the region of £500 and £100 for a tree for the balcony of the Royal Hotel. The Rose Garden tree would be gifted to the community. Labour as usual would be at no cost.</p> <p>Mrs Robertson's report. The Director of Care and Learning was examining ways of reducing the workload of Headteachers. Scottish Government is running an online consultation on schools, until 6 January 2017. The Hub has opened at Mansfield Estate and it is hoped it can act as a contact point for residents and police, Council officers and Councillors. The new Tain website is progressing. There is a problem with vandalism at the public toilets and solutions are being looked at which may necessitate a lockable door and an entry charge.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY – Miss Denzil Williams offered suggestions on future uses for three buildings in the centre of the Royal Burgh.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE – all outgoing correspondence has been emailed around members.</p>
<p>10.</p> <p>10.1</p>	<p>CHAIR'S REPORT</p> <p>Mr Macdonald reported , along with Mr Louden and Mr Amos, he had attended a pre-meeting of the 9 November 3-18 campus meeting with Highland Council officials. He had aired his repeated concerns over design and layout but responses contained no assurances and it was confirmed there would be no looking at alternative greenfield sites nor very little opportunity to influence plans. Development funds were 'locked in' and would be at risk should the site change. Members agreed Mr Macdonald's suggestion this be tested with Scottish Government. Mr Macdonald expressed concern planning officials were recommending approval of the Council's own A9 roundabout advertising, despite several community councils objecting on road safety grounds. The switching on of the Xmas lights was conducted by Mr Duncan Mackay, retired Headteacher of Craighill Primary and there was an excellent crowd in attendance. Mr Macdonald confirmed receipt of a response from Steve Barron, Chief Executive Highland Council re the School Campus but unfortunately it didn't address the points raised. A response on the dreadful repair work to the cemetery wall was still awaited.</p>

11.	VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT
11.1	Mr Amos noted drains were blocked again with leaves at St Mary's Morangie Road
12.	FINANCE AND TREASURER'S REPORT
12.1	The monthly accounts were circulated and discussed.
12.2	It was agreed to give Tain Food Bank a £200 donation from our Charity Account
12.3	It was agreed we would claim £450 for repairs to the Christmas lights from the Ward Discretionary Fund
12.4	It was agreed we would claim £450 for the Old New Year Party. Mr Rhind indicated this would take place in the Duthac Centre Tain on Saturday 14 th January 2017 from 2:00pm to 5:00pm. No tickets would be required this year.
12.5	Mr Amos offered a generous donation towards the cost of this event.
13.	LETTERS - none
14.	PLANNING MATTERS
14.1	None
15.	COMMON GOOD FUND – discussed earlier
16.	UNEXHAUSTED REMITS
16.1	3-18 year old Campus/Alexandra Bridge/Cemetery/Mussels/Beinn Tharsuinn Mrs Matheson enquired of the Highland Councillors why the top field was the chosen site for the new school development in 2014 but was now the lower field. Which official had made that decision? Mr Rhind replied his understanding ground conditions had partly dictated the shift Website – none Trees and Green Environment – none.
17.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
17.1	Mr McIvor reported issues with the Top Tain hot food takeaway staff throwing floor cleaning water out onto the High Street. Mr Rhind to speak to the owners.
17.2	Mr McAllister mentioned bins were overflowing in the Links area. Mr Rhind to speak to the Council. Mr Amos to speak to Mr Ross the local foreman.

THE MEETING ENDED AT 9.40 PM

THE DATE OF THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS MONDAY 30 JANUARY 2017