

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF TAIN
MEETING HELD ON 27 JUNE 2016 AT 7.30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
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Present: Mr D Macdonald (Chair) Mr D Louden (Treasurer)
Mr G Amos (Vice-Chair) Mr MacAngus
Mr Mohan Mr Macivor
Mr McAllister

In attendance: Mr Rhind - Highland Councillor
Constable Murray – Police Scotland

1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Mrs Mackenzie and Mrs Robertson.
2.	POLICE REPORT
2.1	Constable Murray reported that since last month there had been 1 domestic incident, 6 neighbourly complaints, some youth issues, 3 incidences of theft including from the Re-cycling Centre, 3 incidences of vandalism, various road traffic offences. There will be a lot of Police presence at the Gala, especially at night time. Questions were asked and answered on speeding traffic due to NC500 route, cars doing do-nuts at the Links, parking on the zebra crossing, and damage to seats in the Rose Garden, which has been reported to the Police.
3.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES
3.1	The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2016 were approved by Mr Amos, and seconded by Mr Mohan.
4.	MATTERS ARISING
4.1	Item 16.1 ref CC laptop. It was confirmed that £300 would be a suitable amount for a new laptop for the Minute Secretary.
4.2	Item 6.2 ref wall at A9 entrance. Mr Rhind indicated that he was going to pass the details of the damaged wall to the insurance section of Highland Council
5.	YOUTH ISSUES - none
6.	HIGHLAND COUNCILLOR’S REPORT
6.1	Mr Rhind’s report. Mr Rhind reported that there had been a slight improvement in the grass cutting. Mr Rhind has contacted the officials from the Clydesdale Bank to see if they would consider community recompense for the closing down of the Bank. There is a telephone meeting with Post Office officials soon and it is hoped reps from R S MacColl will take part. There has been some vandalism to the gate on the Alexandra Bridge – it will be repaired this time but long-term it may not be viable. Mr Macdonald observed the wood used in the panel base fixings will

	<p>need to be monitored as it doesn't look substantial enough. The formal Royal opening of the Bridge is on 21 July. Mr Macdonald drew attention to the children's fenced playpark needing attention : new bark as the surface is hard and dirty; missing sections of fence; and protruding nails. Also, much weeds present around the entrance car park. The Nigg Ferry is now running a service again. An interested party sought to buy some mussels but due to circumstances this did not happen, apparently due to misunderstanding over certain management issues. After discussion, it was agreed to contact Helen Ross/Alan Maguire and Margaret Patterson to clarify the situation and find out why the order could not be processed and seek assurances the problems would be rectified. The broken piece from the Murray Monument has already been replaced and can't be again, apparently – Mr Rhind getting an update on the situation from Graham Mackenzie. The Jetpatcher has repaired some potholes. Mr Rhind looked at the problems reported previously at the Geanies/Stafford/Hartfield Street junction and will keep an eye on it. The floral displays are looking good. The Gala starts 28 June. Questions were asked and answered regarding the poor state of the Old Cemetery, once again looking neglected despite some work by the Council over the Winter (Mr Rhind to discuss with Graham Mackenzie); repairs required to the Scotsburn end of Quebec Bridge – 3 coping stones have come away (Mr Rhind to speak to John Mackay); Council policy on the introduction of borders and gravel to individual plots by families; out of date information at the noticeboard at the Train station; public bench by the Tolbooth Tower in a poor state; the poor condition of Duthac House as a damp patch has appeared on the outside wall.</p>
7.	COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY - none
8.	OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE – correspondence emailed round previously.
9.	CHAIR'S REPORT
9.1	Mr Macdonald reported that there was a presentation on the 3-18 year old campus from the architect along with conceptual diagrams. Cost has risen from £40 million to £45 million. It is hoped to have more information on the actual design and location of the build at the September meeting. Mr Macdonald and Mr Louden met with officials from HIE – they advised they didn't fund Development Officers anymore but they would be prepared to offer assistance with individual projects which could include funding for Project Officers tasked with the specific development. They offered some advice on the Community Land Act. They suggested meeting again and would be happy to meet also with Tain Initiative Group and were keen to help liaise with Dornoch to see how they have managed to turn around their outlook on community development. The Empowering Planning report to Scottish Government had been published and Mr Macdonald gave a run down on its content which, if implemented would bring some significant and welcome changes to the planning system as currently operated. This might all include new responsibilities for Community Councils.
10.	VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT
10.1	Mr Amos reported that he attended the TRA prize-giving ceremony.
11.	FINANCE AND TREASURER'S REPORT

11.1	The financial statement was circulated to the meeting. It was agreed to explore and source the most appropriate software for the Secretary's laptop. Mr Louden indicated that HIE get European funding, but due to the result of the EU referendum, it is not clear how long this will continue. Mr Macdonald noted that some HC European funding was part of a 2014-2020 programme but, again, there must be questions as to how much of this will be fulfilled and how it might be replaced from other sources.
12.	LETTERS
12.1	Royal Visit. It was noted the Princess Royal will officially open the re-furbished Alexandra Bridge. Mr Amos, Mr MacAngus and Mr Munro will represent the CC.
12.2	Scottish Women's Convention. This organisation is holding an event in Dingwall on 27 July - noted
13.	PLANNING MATTERS
13.1	Erection of 2 no. houses and formation of 2 private access, land 35m NE of Graham Villa, Station Road – Mr Macdonald has asked for the CC to be formally consulted on the application and has asked for clarification of the building height in relation to the Cat B Listed Station and the Railway Cottages. He will consult back with members. Erection of extension, 3 Juniper Drive – noted.
14.	COMMON GOOD FUND – discussed earlier
15.	UNEXHAUSTED REMITS
15.1	3-18 year old Campus/Alexandra Bridge/Cemetery/Mussels – discussed previously. Website development – Mr McAllister has done some updates. Trees and Green Environment – the floral displays were put out and suffered a windy first night but survived. Beinn Tharsuinn – some funding has arrived and the current balance is £2,387.
16.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
16.1	none

THE MEETING ENDED AT 9.25 PM

THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY 29th AUGUST 2016