

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF TAIN  
MEETING HELD ON 28 AUGUST 2017 AT 7.30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,  
TAIN**

**Present:** Mr D Macdonald (Chair) Mr G Amos (Vice-Chair)  
Mrs C Mackenzie (Treasurer) Mr A Mohan  
Mr D McAllister

**In attendance:** Mr Louden - Highland Councillor  
Ms D Williams  
Mr W Sinclair

<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> – none.
<b>2.</b>	<b>POLICE REPORT</b> – no report.
<b>3.</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>
3.1	The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2017 were approved by Mr Amos, and seconded by Mrs Mackenzie.
<b>4.</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>
4.1	<b>Item 2.1 ref Police report.</b> Mr Louden indicated that the alleged incident involved a tourist being assaulted outside the Court house spoken about at the last meeting was not reported to the Police. There was another incident outside the Court 3 weeks ago. The Inspector has now insisted that enough resources are given during Court days for an effective presence. Court visitors will be told to stay inside and not to stand around outside in the street. It was agreed this was an encouraging comment and to watch and monitor the situation.
<b>5.</b>	<b>YOUTH ISSUES</b>
5.1	It was agreed that Mr Macdonald would contact TRA Head with a view to the inviting the School Captains to attending CC meetings.
<b>6.</b>	<b>HIGHLAND COUNCILLOR REPORT</b>
6.1	<b>Mr Louden’s report.</b> Mr Louden reported that he had contacted the Head of Graveyards for HC due to an unfortunate ‘find’ by a child in the Old Cemetery – they reacted quickly and met on site to discuss better ground management practices. The New Cemetery railings need painting and wire covers removed. He is pursuing getting the required improvements. The outside of the wall around the new cemetery extension remains in a poor state, the consequence of poor workmanship/design. Mr Louden is on the Corporate Resource/Audit & Scrutiny/Pensions Committees, plus on the Redesign Board, and subgroup Project Catalyst. A Commercial Board is being set up. Potholes at Moss Road/Camore Way junction, as well as the top of Hill Street were noted. It was acknowledged that the Jetpatcher is a fine resource but Mr Louden to enquire why the lease

	<p>agreement stopped. There are excessive weeds on Shore Road and at the Service Point. Re the 3 – 18 campus, he received confirmation from Scottish Ministers that it is up to HC what they use the land for at Craighill. Highland Council indicated the available funding is secure but that re-visiting site selection will take 2 years. This is to be clarified. Mr Macdonald to contact Scot Gov. Mr Macdonald suggested, following the success of the CC open day for the Campus planning application, the CC arranges similar events to run in tandem with the 3 – 18 campus Stakeholders Group meeting when they commence again, as a means of keeping the public informed and securing a better means of consultation overall. The Mussel Boat is not officially sold yet, but has gone to Buckie. It was noted the bollards are still on the Portmahomack Road, below the Woody Braes – Mr McAllister to follow this up. There will be a Hustings for the local by-election on 26 September. It was noted that there is more water than usual at the Railway Bridge at Kirksheaf – this could be a Network Rail problem – Mr Loudon to follow up.</p>
<b>7.</b>	<b>COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY</b>
7.1	<p><b>Keith Grant – HC wifi project.</b> Mr Grant reported that there was some money left from the Inverness City deal for free wifi in some rural towns, including Tain. There would be money provided for 3 years. It is hoped that the tender awarded for this project would be by October. The CC would like the free wifi from the top of Geanies Street to St Duthus hotel, and some of the side streets. Once up and running you would only need to log in once. Mr Macdonald indicated that the Tain Development Trust may be interested in this project as part of their business improvement and town centre regeneration plans and will pass Mr Grant’s details on to them. Any information about the free wifi can go on the Facebook page.</p>
7.2	<p><b>Ms Williams - Coach parking/disability parking.</b> Ms Williams has investigated coach parking/disability parking. She noted that disabled drivers feel they need more protection from other traffic, and longer disabled bays - Geanies Street/Market Street/King Steet and Bank Street were suggested. Ms Williams circulated maps of her proposals and suggested 4 spaces for coach parking. It was also suggested whether Manse Street could revert to coach parking between 10am and 5 pm.</p>
7.3	<p><b>Mr Sinclair</b> noted that Tain had significant projects on the go eg 3 – 18 campus and Picture House renovation and he wished them well.</p>
<b>8.</b>	<b>OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE</b> – correspondence emailed round previously.
<b>9.</b>	<b>CHAIR’S REPORT</b>
9.1	<p>Mr Macdonald reported that £500 was granted to the Duthac Centre from the Beinn Tharsuinn windfarm company for a defibrillator. The new Cemetery’s wall badly needs repair before the winter sets in. The web page bill with Spanglefish was £29.75. The Planning application for the old Procurator Fiscal office to change it from a business to a residence – as no change to the outside – was supported. Mr Macdonald had quotes for the path from the Alexandra Bridge to the Black Bridge,</p>

	<p>and for the Crickety Steps, which is hoped to be upgraded – these may be potential projects for funding and he will explore options. The Housing Land Audit Report Strategy – plenty land zoned for housing but few developers coming forward. Mr Macdonald had circulated comments to the CC and made a submission to HC. Mr Macdonald has resigned from Tain Initiative Group so he could comment on the Development Officer’s post funding application without causing a potential conflict of interest. It was agreed that Mr Mohan would take his place. Mr Macdonald had met with Tain Development Trust – they are putting a board together and there will be holding public events soon. It was agreed to explore with HC whether they might be permitted to hold their Board (not public) meetings in the Council Chamber until such time as they found their own premises. Mr Louden supported this decision. There have been amenity issues and parking issues at the new Aberlour Childrens Home – waiting for a meeting to discuss these with management. The family who own the Grove are keen to redevelop it. It was noted that existing trees on the Kirksheaf Road required to be removed to allow a new access and proper visibility but the best examples within the site would be retained. The owners are exploring a full planning application. All agreed that it would be in order to have the site redeveloped given its significance to the town centre. Play area at Seaforth Court – Albyn are considering applying a levy on houses (a service charge) – maintenance appears to be their problem – Mr Louden is pursuing discussions.</p>
<b>10.</b>	<b>VICE-CHAIR’S REPORT</b>
10.1	<p>Mr Amos reported that the barrier in the Rose Garden is in a poor state of repair. Mr Amos indicated that he has seen car racers on Burgage Drive and the Links – this is to be reported to the Police. The two road signs damaged on the A9 are still there – it is understood that Mrs Robertson is pursuing this. It was noted that the grasscutter breaks up litter on the verges which then blows over the place. It was also noted that the gullies require emptying at Morangie Road. It was agreed to have the next Senior Citizen’s Party on 13 January 2018.</p>
<b>11.</b>	<b>FINANCE AND TREASURER’S REPORT</b>
11.1	<p>Mrs Mackenzie circulated the up to date financial position. It was noted that the grant money of £1,953 has been received.</p>
<b>12.</b>	<b>LETTERS</b>
12.1	<b>Highland Small Communities Housing Trust AGM</b> – noted.
12.2	<b>Beach Clean.</b> Mr McAllister indicated that a beach clean had now been arranged by Glenmorangie Distillery staff.
12.3	<b>HC Community Awards</b> – any suggestions to be given to Mr Macdonald.
12.4	<b>Ward Paticipatory Budget</b> – Mr Louden indicated that this was a way of doubling the money available for community groups.

<b>13.</b>	<b>PLANNING MATTERS</b>
13.1	<b>Proposed flats at old Morrison building</b> - approval noted. <b>Small house next to Croft Roy, 1 Chapel Street</b> – support but asked Planning to look at CGF boundaries.
<b>14.</b>	<b>COMMON GOOD FUND</b> – no report.
<b>15.</b>	<b>UNEXHAUSTED REMITS</b>
15.1	<b>Cemeteries/3-18 campus/Facebook page</b> – discussed previously. <b>Alexandra Bridge</b> – it was noted that the decking has started to come up. <b>Website development</b> – Mr McAllister apologised for not updating the agenda on the website sooner. <b>Green Environment</b> – the fence is down at the Links, and the bark needs redone. <b>BT Windfarm Community Company</b> – discussed previously.
<b>16.</b>	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>
16.1	Mr Amos indicated that he got a call from the press on the 3 – 18 campus – but they didn't phone back.

**THE MEETING ENDED AT 10.45 PM**

**THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY 25<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017**