

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF TAIN  
MEETING HELD ON 25 SEPTEMBER 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 Mr D MacIvor  
Mr N Munro

**In attendance:** Mr Louden - Highland Councillor

1.	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> – none.
2.	<b>POLICE REPORT</b>
2.1	Mr Macdonald read out an email from Inspector Anna Johnston on this month statistics, which included 1 person charged with disorder offences, 1 person charged with drug offences, 24 people charged with road traffic offences, 1 person charged with drink driving and 1 person charged with theft/fraud.
3.	<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>
3.1	The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2017 were approved by Mr McAllister, and seconded by Mr Amos, subject to 7.2, second sentence should read -“....Geanies Street/Market Street, Royal Hotel car park and Bank Street....”
4.	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>
4.1	<b>Item 6.1 ref Mussel boat.</b> Mr Louden reported that the Mussel boat has now been sold. It has been agreed that the money has been ring-fenced in the Common Good Fund accounts for Mussel associated activity. It was suggested that when the oysters in the firth were being looked at the Mussels stock could be monitored too. Councillors are considering advertising the license (Mr Louden to pursue). Mr Louden reported that he has not received any cost centre reports for the Common Good Fund, as yet. Mr Macdonald indicated that there may be a Common Good Fund paper going to the Audit & Scrutiny Committee.
4.2	<b>Item 7.1 ref town centre wifi.</b> It was noted that the town centre wifi project will be moving ahead in November.
4.3	<b>Item 9.1 ref The Grove.</b> Mr Macdonald reported that Helen Ross had indicated that if he ever needed help with securing information from officials in Highland Council she will try and assist. Mr Macdonald will contact Helen Ross re the standards Planning would require for the draft re-development at The Grove.
4.4	<b>Item 9.1 ref Tain Initiative Group.</b> Mr Mohan reported he attended the recent meeting of Tain Initiative Group.

<b>5.</b>	<b>CO-OPTION – SARAH MACKENZIE</b>
5.1	Mr Macdonald reported that Sarah Mackenzie (a board member of Tain Development Trust) has shown interest in becoming a co-opted Community Councillor. The CC has 3 vacancies currently, and his priority would be to enlist some new and preferably young expertise to contribute particularly with regard to the 3-18 campus revised plans. It was agreed that Sarah Mackenzie would be co-opted on to the CC.
<b>6.</b>	<b>YOUTH ISSUES - none</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>HIGHLAND COUNCILLOR REPORT</b>
7.1	<b>Mr Louden's report.</b> Mr Louden reported that he had been raising concerns on the bad state of the cemeteries. He went round the cemeteries with officials, and some vandalism was noticed. He has asked for the railings to be painted in the new cemetery and the gate fixed in the old cemetery. Mr Louden reported that last weekend 2 cars had been set on fire at Mansefield Estate. The Craighill After-School Club path had not had the dog mess lifted (DL to follow up), but the nettles have been cut back. Mr Louden indicated that Nigg may be on the upturn. There is a meeting with Global Energy on 4 October. The next meeting of the 3-18 campus in 24 October. Brian Porter has been encouraged to speak to Transport Scotland about bus access from the A9 to the Craighill site, if that site is selected. The length of the consultation process is not been determined yet. There was a query over how much of the campus budget has been spend as yet (DL to follow up). It is not known as yet who will be the Chair of the Stakeholders Group. The bollards are still at the Woody Braes – planting has been suggested in Spring, and Mr McAllister will contact Nick Richards to discuss. Concerns were discussed about the middle section and drainage. Mr Louden reported that the trees had been cut back on Morangie Road and some of the potholes had been filled. There are a couple of holes in the old toilet door at Cunarder Lane, as well as some stones out of the wall – he has asked for this to be fixed. The Old Academy rones require emptying – Mr Louden to follow up. The Old Academy wall along Shore Road is in a poor state. Mr Macdonald confirmed he had raised this as an issue a number of year ago. Trees require cutting back by the Railway Station – Mr Louden to follow up.
<b>8.</b>	<b>COMMON GOOD FUND APPLICATION FROM TAIN INTIATIVE GROUP</b>
8.1	A Common Good Fund application has been received from Tain Initiative Group for a Project Officer. It was noted that Mr Rhind signed the application. Mr Macdonald had sought advice from the Elections Officer and was advised that, in view of Mr Rhind's candidacy at the forthcoming election, it would be better to make any decision on the application after that point. In addition there is some detail in need of clarification which can be put to members of the CC for consideration and requested of the applicants via the Ward Manager during the month so the application possibly can be discussed at the next meeting.

<b>9.</b>	<b>COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY</b>
9.1	Ms Williams indicated that the maintenance of weeds in the Burgh is poor, and is not pleasant viewing for visitors. It was noted that Cadboll Place is in need of some attention.
9.2	Ms Skinner, in a personal capacity, indicated that it would be good for the Seaboard CC to have an invitation to the 3-18 campus stakeholders meetings. It was agreed by all a public meeting to start off the consultation on the location of the school would be beneficial to the community and Highland Council. Ms Skinner asked for an updated on the Development Trust. It was noted that there may be a public meeting in October.
<b>10.</b>	<b>OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE</b> – correspondence emailed round previously.
<b>11.</b>	<b>CHAIR'S REPORT</b>
11.1	Mr Macdonald reported that he had approached the TRA parents committee to explore whether they might wish to take up one of the co-option places on the CC could go to them. It was considered such a link between the two interests would be useful for the duration of the 3-18 Campus consultation period. The offer was not taken up. Re the environmental garden land – as there is no sign of maintenance, maybe it would be worthwhile moving ahead to a compromise to explore a partial development for housing with the likes of the Highland Small Communities Housing Trust, but one designed to ensure the greater part of the land would be maintained in perpetuity by the developer. St Duthus Football Club wish to develop the playing surface of the football pitch and the changing room – but to attract funding require a 25 year lease from the Common Good land. The CC agreed to arrangement was acceptable in principle and by way of assurance Mr Macdonald undertook to send Helen Ross's confirmation of the details/safeguards around members. The Hustings in on 26 September and will be Chaired by Katie Melville of Mackenzie & Cormack, Solicitors.
<b>12.</b>	<b>VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT</b>
12.1	Mr Amos reported that the barrier in the Rose Garden has not been repaired as yet. The 2 road signs lying flat on the A9 have not been collected. Mr Louden to follow up. One end of the Hartmount Holdings road has been repaired, but the bottom end needs attention also. Mr Louden to follow up. Mr Amos noted that Tain does not have a mechanical street sweeper, and there is a noticeable increase in litter of late.
<b>13.</b>	<b>FINANCE AND TREASURER'S REPORT</b>
13.1	Mrs Mackenzie circulated the up to date financial position. It was noted that the cheque written to Tain Task Force for the new benches has not been cashed as yet. Mr McAllister to follow up.
<b>14.</b>	<b>LETTERS</b>

14.1	<b>Road surfaces.</b> The CC was approached by a Highland Council official to put forward suggestions for road surface improvements. This information was put on Facebook for the community to contribute ideas. The top suggestion was Morangie Road and it was agreed to put this forward.
14.2	<b>Easter Ross Community Partnership 4/10/Lord Lieutenant's Youth Award – noted.</b>
14.3	<b>SCVO Community Capacity and Resilience fund round 3</b> – it was agreed to send to Sandra Skinner at Seaboard CC and also the Lunch Club.
<b>15.</b>	<b>PLANNING MATTERS</b>
15.1	<b>10a Moss Road</b> – erection of house <b>Fendom</b> – agricultural building <b>Glenmorangie Distillery</b> 2 applications internal infrastructure and hazardous substances  The CC resolved to offer its support to all.
<b>16.</b>	<b>COMMON GOOD FUND</b> – spoke about previously.
<b>17.</b>	<b>UNEXHAUSTED REMITS</b>
17.1	<b>Cemeteries/3-18 campus</b> – discussed previously. <b>Alexandra Bridge</b> – it was noted that the decking has started to come up. Mr Louden to follow up with officials. <b>Website development/Green Environment</b> – no report. <b>Windfarm Community Company</b> –Mr Amos's details (as Alternate Director) have been passed to Alex Macmanus, Company Secretary of Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm Community Company.
<b>18.</b>	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>
18.1	It was noted again that the A9 road sign at Rosskeen is too bright announcing the crossroad, and a potential hazard in its own right. It was also noted that illegal parking on the zigzag zebra crossing is still commonplace – Police to be informed.

**THE MEETING ENDED AT 10.05 PM**

**THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY 30<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2017**