

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF TAIN  
MEETING HELD ON 26 FEBRUARY 2018 AT 7.30 PM IN THE COUNCIL  
CHAMBER, TAIN**

**Present:** Mr D Macdonald (Chair) Mr G Amos (Vice-Chair)  
Mr A Mohan Mr D McAllister  
Mr N Munro Ms K Melville

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

<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> – Mrs Mackenzie, Ms Mackenzie
<b>2.</b>	<b>POLICE REPORT</b>
2.1	An email from Police Scotland included domestic physical offence – 1 person charged, drug offences – 1 person charged, theft by shoplifting – 2 people charged, vandalism – 2 people charged, and road traffic offences – 7 people charged. It was noted that representatives from Aberlour Children’s Home are attending the next CC meeting, and that an invitation to the Police has also been sent.
<b>3.</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>
3.1	The Minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2018 were approved by Mr Amos, and seconded by Mr McAllister.
<b>4.</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>
4.1	<b>Item 10.1 ref Gritter.</b> Mr Amos indicated that in item 10.1 should read forklift JCB/front loader and not forklift loader.
4.2	<b>Item 4.2 ref Asda Path.</b> It was noted that Mr Macdonald had sent another reminder to Asda about their responsibility for the path and the water on it, but has had no reply. It was agreed that another reminder would be sent.
4.3	<b>Item 9.1 ref Glenmorangie Distillery planning application.</b> Mr Macdonald reported that he had sent a supporting email for the two planning applications.
4.4	<b>Item 9.1 ref Ester Place planning appeal.</b> Mr Macdonald confirmed the CC supporting letter re the planning appeal had been sent to Mr Parkes.
4.5	<b>Item 12.2 ref Tain Golf Club.</b> Mr Macdonald reported that he had contacted Tain Golf Club regarding their Beinn Tharsuinn funding application. He passed on some advice on where they might go for other funding and assistance.
<b>5.</b>	<b>YOUTH ISSUES</b> – Rector to be contacted to encourage attendance from TRA

<p><b>6.</b></p> <p>6.1</p>	<p><b>HIGHLAND COUNCILLOR REPORT</b></p> <p><b>Mr Louden’s report.</b> Mr Louden reported that the Community Cash event happened on Saturday with over 30 groups participating – with 11 groups receiving funding. In the HC revenue budget there was a cut to the CC annual grant, and Ward Discretionary budgets. At present it is difficult to do a snapshot of budgets during the year. Mr Louden hopes that a new school for Tain will be in the Capital Programme – this meeting to take place on 7 March. The budget leader Councillor Mackinnon gave assurances to the PTA at TRA that it would be in the Capital Plan. Mr Louden is still pursuing the improvements to the Rose Garden railings with Ingrid Jamieson. At the Ross &amp; Cromarty Committee the option to get more information on the proposed Tain Development Officer was selected. Mr Louden received an email from Fiona Robertson asking about the potential interest of the CC for a Ross &amp; Cromarty flag. After discussion it was agreed there is limited enthusiasm for a flag – concerns regarding costs given cuts by HC and the potential for division within the community. A discussion on HC staff vans took place – some good practice in areas, and not good practice in others. The taking away of play equipment was discussed. Mr Louden to remind Ingrid Jamieson of the responsibility of telling the community that this is happening. Play equipment at the Links and Glebe Crescent could be affected. It was noted that play equipment requires weekly and annual inspections by an external examiner to say if it is usable for the next year. Communities can fundraise but the inspection part could be a problem. It was noted a pothole on Morangie Road has metalwork sticking out of it – Mr McAllister to pass the photo of this to Mr Louden who will pursue this with HC. The stone field wall on Scotsburn Road has partly fallen into the verge and is in a bad state of repair – Mr Louden to follow up. It was noted that some felt the Community Cash event was a negative experience, especially for groups that did not get any money. It was suggested that maybe there should have been an event for Tain, and an event for the outlying areas.</p>
<p><b>7.</b></p> <p>7.1</p>	<p><b>COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY</b></p> <p>Ms Williams reported that the road at the junction of Scotsburn Road and Queen Street is in a bad condition. She passed over information about the residents consultation event on the 3-18 campus.</p>
<p><b>8.</b></p>	<p><b>OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE</b> – correspondence emailed round previously.</p>
<p><b>9.</b></p> <p>9.1</p>	<p><b>CHAIR’S REPORT</b></p> <p>Mr Macdonald reported that he had received a reply from Helen Ross on the Woody Braes. It is proposed to plant 300 plants with protective sleeves at a cost around £6,000. It was suggested the community could double the plants and have no sleeves at a reduced price of around £1,000 (provisional quote). However, HC advise volunteer planters would require appropriate insurance. It was agreed to respond expressing disappointment at the latter restriction which hampered community input, stressing the attempt to save funds in times of austerity but to concede it is HC’s responsibility and decision at the end of the day. Aberlour Children’s Home spoken about earlier. Mr Macdonald met with Wendy Hennen,</p>

	<p>chair of the Parents Council at TRA to discuss the 3-18 campus and he felt a shared perspective had been useful to both. Mr Macdonald indicated that he felt the 3-18 campus stakeholders group does not serve stakeholders at all well and the public engagement should best be led by a dedicated community group taking HC's information, disseminating it to the community and providing feedback as necessary. The strictly educational aspects such as classroom sizes/numbers/relationships should be for education to agree and the community should concern itself with the wider aspects such as parking, access, visual impact etc. HC are keen to dispense with the environmental garden as its upkeep is proving impossible. After discussion, it was agreed that this area be offered to the Highland Small Housing Communities Trust for a limited housing development but importantly retaining the north part as a publicly accessible garden area, which the HSHCT would maintain. Mr Louden to follow up. If this option is not feasible, putting it on the open market would be HC's next move. In that event the aforementioned considerations ought to be repeated at the relevant planning application stage. The Free Church has a planning application in for the former health centre – he encouraged the CC members to look at this online but the CC would be minded to support unless anyone had concerns. The new Burgh free wifi project has been delayed to the beginning of March. 20 mph speed limit – it was agreed that this scheme should be supported with comments being passed on to extending it beyond Knockbreck School at Ankerville Street, along Morangie Road and applied also to the Care Home/Health Centre access. The ditches at Hartfield Road have been neglected and need cleaning to avoid potential flooding of the cottage at the top of the Glenaldie Brae, a problem reported by the resident Mr Ian Macdonald. Mr Louden to pursue.</p>
<b>10.</b>	<b>VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT</b> – all items previously discussed
<b>11.</b>	<b>FINANCE AND TREASURER'S REPORT</b>
11.1	Mr Louden on behalf of Mrs Mackenzie circulated the up to date financial position. It was agreed to give the schools the normal prizegiving donations. It was noted that the Royal Bank of Scotland gave £200 towards the Christmas Lights repairs.
<b>12.</b>	<b>LETTERS</b>
12.1	<b>Community Empowerment.</b> Mr Macdonald reported, following a meeting with TERCT and Cllr Louden that he would be speaking with Community Empowerment Scotland for advice on the 3-18 campus project.
<b>13.</b>	<b>PLANNING MATTERS</b> – discussed previously
<b>14.</b>	<b>COMMON GOOD FUND</b> – no report
<b>15.</b>	<b>UNEXHAUSTED REMITS</b>

15.1	<p><b>Facebook/Website</b>– no report. <b>Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm</b> – Invergordon Academy wish to send pupils to Nepal, but had been advised any application has to demonstrate wide local community benefit. <b>Cemeteries</b> – Mr Louden to find out who is standing in for Hugh Gardiner whilst he is off. <b>Mussel Fisheries</b> –no update on the licence position. Mr Louden to continue pursuing the matter.</p> <p><b>Trees and green environment</b> – there is a spare seat from the Rose Garden and it was agreed to put it under the clock tower as the one presently there is in a poor state. The harling is falling off the Rose Garden wall – Mr Louden to follow up. <b>3-18 campus.</b> Ms Melville has started carrying out research on 3-18 campuses. She circulated information to CC members, to be discussed further.</p>
16.	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p>16.1 Mr Amos reported that he has still to finalise options for food sourcing for the next Senior Citizen’s Party.</p> <p>16.2 Mr Macdonald reported that the former Co-op building opposite the youth café has been offered on free lease terms to the community until it lapses in 2021. Tain Development Trust are to inspect its potential with the Co-op’s agent.</p>

**THE MEETING ENDED AT 10.10 PM**

**THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2018**