

5.	MATTERS ARISING
5.1	<p>ASDA path – there were still flooding problems. Flooding also ran from the path onto Knockbreck Road. Health Centre Bus Stop The Chair had contacted James Mooney (Manager at Inverness). He would take up the matter of the lack of associated service with the commercial team. The major problem was the turn from Manse Street into St.Duthus Street which is too tight for a bus which had come down Craighill Terrace. We had suggested turning up Scotsburn Road and then turning to come back down. The Chair had had no response to phone call and e-mail today. Cllr. Louden would also take up this matter. Bins at the Clock Tower The Chair had spoken to the new Sheriff’s Clerk, Christina Phiri, discussion continue. She had checked the previous e-mail correspondence and discussed matters. They had the following reservations: unsuitable surface, no light and unclear who owns the land as they required permission from the landowner. They would also require an assessment from the Fire Service that was safe and not obstructing their access to the back of the building. We believe the Fire Service has already been consulted but that could be checked. Members also pointed out that the area that the Court Service were using for storage of their bins (the pavement) was not their land!</p>

<p>6.</p> <p>6.1</p>	<p>COMMUNITY FRIDGE</p> <p>Lyndsey Gilmore from the Community Fridge was present and the Chair invited her to speak now rather than under Item 10. • The idea had been introduced through discussion with Carrie Affrin (TDDT) • The Fridge operates out of the Tain Guide Hut on Sutherland Street. Lyndsey organises the group and they have 20 volunteers who help with staffing it. • Food is obtained at the moment from Morrisons, Alness and the Coop, Tain. Food is useable but unsaleable due to company policies e.g. multipacks which have been damaged but most of the items OK but not saleable as separate items. ASDA Tain had been approached but company policies made it difficult for local excess to be distributed. • Open five times per week. • Not about food poverty but waste reduction. However it can help in food poverty situations and both the Service Point and Health Centre are cooperating with the initiative. Important for community contact for some people. • In the longer term may develop community meals and they were interested in finding a Community Growing Space. The Chair thanked Lyndsey for her contribution and for the work they were doing for the community. There followed discussion of suitable land for a possible Community Growing Space. TCC offered to provide letters of support where needed and the Chair raised the possibility of a little financial support through the Ben Tharsuinn fund. Play Parks Lyndsey was also involved with the group which had been set up to oppose the removal of play equipment from local play parks without consultation. This had happened in a number of areas locally and there was considerable anger in the town about the removal of equipment from the Glebe Crescent park in the last week. There would be a meeting to discuss the situation in the Guide Hut on Thursday (28th March) at 11:00 am. Cllr. Louden would attend if the group felt that was appropriate. He explained that Play Ireland were the independent assessors for such equipment in the Highlands. If they deemed items to be unsafe they could remove them immediately without notification to the Council or the local community. There was considerable discussion of the situation. It was felt that it was very unlikely the Highland Council would replace equipment, as they did not have a statutory obligation to do this and in the present financial climate nonstatutory obligations were very low in priority. The legal situation regarding the developer's obligation to provide play parks was questioned. Cllr. Louden said that there were discussions regarding this in a number of the places where equipment had been removed.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>YOUTH ISSUES - none</p>

8.	TAIN & DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT TRUST
8.1	Sarah Mackenzie says, The Community Enterprise Hub will open officially to public first week in June. Staff have now joined the TDDT. Andrea Johnston as Community Development Manager, Maureen Ross as Engagement Officer and Caitlin Ubych as Administrator and have been brought onboard to help drive the Trust forward and offer Community Wide Support. Markets are up and running again, with a very successful market in April. We have placed along with our partners bids into the SSE Beatrice Windfarm Fund for Phase 1 Picture House and Promoting Tain and District

	and should know the results of this by July. Alan Jones Associates has been appointed to create a Business Plan and Feasibility Study for the Picture House Project. We continue to encourage partnership working with regards to development projects within the Tain and District (Ward 7) area.
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9. HIGHLAND COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

9.1 **Mr Louden's report.** 3 to 18 Campus, Gail Ross MSP is to visit the school and asked to give feedback. Capital budget would have been expected to be agreed, no capital budget as yet set. Scottish Future Trust is the only source of possible funding available; Highland Council have no money to build new schools at all. HC have put 11 projects forward to Scottish Future Trust and Tain 3 to 18 Campus is one of them. A study on the suitability of the site (Shovel ready) needs to be completed prior to any application being submitted within the next 12 months. Next month we will find out from HC what their commitment will be to get our project shovel ready. Chair suggested being pro-active and looking at options to fund the site study through CGF. Cllr. Derek Louden will go to Donna Manson, HC Chief Exec with a proposal to use the CGF for a Site Selection Study. Dave Macrae asked if it was a possibility that if we have a site selection study completed, could they still decide to go with another site? Cllr. Derek Louden said that this is a possibility that can't be ruled out. The CC were all in agreement of the Craighill Site through historic community opinion. Ban on landfill for waste end of 2020/21 and the Highland Council are currently looking at what other options are available. Sarah Mackenzie and Lachie Stewart had joined the Tain Heritage Trust board. The most urgent work at the Old Cinema was replacement of one of the pillars and work on the floor. • Post Office – there had been very positive discussions with David Duff (Area Network Change Manager). The PO would reopen under new management on 23rd April. In the interim there would be a PO Van available in Tain 2 days per week. • Play equipment removal – discussed above. Rose garden wall – HC had agreed that they were responsible for the wall. It would need to be stripped down and repointed but the stone was in very poor condition and some would need replaced, All three councillors were on the case. A price for the work had not been decided yet. • 3-18 Campus – This would come before the May Care & Learning Committee and they would rule on site selection. Members expressed concerns that the original TRA site was still in the mix despite the considerable local opposition. Capital Budget – this would be finalised in April – not yet agreed. • Croft Arthur – there were offers in under the Starter Farm scheme despite the fact that local councillors had been discussing other outcomes for the land with HC officers. • Education Changes – members expressed concerns about the proposed changes to the structuring of support for pupils with additional support needs designations. Cuts to additional support needs (ASNs) teachers and pupil support assistants (PSAs) seemed to be aiming cuts at the most vulnerable in the school population. Cllr Louden said that the Chief Executive, who had a background in education, had done a comparative study of support in Highland compared to other regions. We were paying more for poorer outcome. TCC expressed grave doubts about the possibility of improving all classroom teachers ability to support such pupils could be achieved in the 3 year time scale proposed. The Area Education Manager for Easter & Mid Ross was Derek Martin and concerned parents should contact him.

10.	COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY
10.1	Dealt with under item 6 above.
11.	CHAIR'S REPORT
11.1	Raised concerns over the condition of the weeding and spraying (over-use of pesticides) at various locations around play park, Industrial Estate and Schools within Tain. Question to HC with regards to the condition of the Old Cemetery – Cllr. Derek Louden to investigate this. A letter had been received from Kevin McKechnie (Strategic Road Safety Manager for BEAR Scotland) outlining the work to be carried out at the Tain A9 junctions and possible future works.
12.	VICE CHAIR'S REPORT
12.1	Ross-shire Editor had written about the Community feelings on money being wasted on signs and road markings on A9 junction for an accident to occur two days later. What is the cost to the Taxpayer? Chair suggests that the markings have made things a lot clearer and that speed limits are to be reviewed where they may need to reduce to 50mph. The Bench at the Clock Tower requires cleaning and maintenance. Granite Blocks missing, will they be replaced? Cllr. Derek Louden response to question – No.
13.	FINANCE AND TREASURER'S REPORT
13.1	Finance and Treasurer's Report – David Macrae to be appointed as Treasurer – Proposed David McAllister – Seconded by George Amos.
14.	LETTERS - Letters Already covered in various items above
15.	PLANNING MATTERS
15.1	Planning Matters – Miss Catrina Macrae, replacements to windows and doors 16 A Stafford Street. Was there planning for the large Lidl advertising board?
16.	COMMON GOOD FUND – no report.

<p>17.</p> <p>17.1</p>	<p>UNEXHAUSTED REMITS</p> <p>Website - ICO permission document has been updated on our Legal Page and Sarah MacKenzie has been added as admin. Beinn Tharsuinn Community Company Ltd - CC were all in agreement that Tain Tennis Club would be awarded £900 towards upgrading of signage at the Entrance of the Club. David McAllister has asked for an update on current funds available. Facebook - the agenda for this</p>
	<p>meeting had been posted on the Facebook page. This would be done in future. Mussel Fishery - Ward Forum discussed commissioning a survey. Trees and Green Environment - drying out nicely and trees surviving well and were well established at the end of the Summer. Clear up took place around the pond area. There is a missing element to the fence at the pond that has now been put back in place. Hanging baskets have all been put up, this was co-ordinated by Trisha Torrance.</p>
<p>18.</p> <p>18.1</p>	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>David Macrae suggested collection for Xmas Lights for Councillors to walk behind the Gala floats to collect money towards lights.</p>

THE MEETING ENDED AT 10.15 PM

THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY 25th MAY 2019