

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF TAIN
MEETING HELD ON 26 OCTOBER 2015 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TAIN**

Present: Mr D Macdonald (Chair) Mr D Louden (Treasurer)
Mr A Mohan Mr G Amos
Mrs C Mackenzie Mr Macivor

In attendance: Mr Rhind - Highland Councillor
Miss Allan/Miss Macleod – Tain Royal Academy
PCs Campbell and Hunter – Police Scotland

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| 1. | APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Mrs Robertson, Ms Weir, Mr Torrance and Mr McAllister. |
| 2. | POLICE REPORT |
| 2.1 | PC Campbell reported that since last month’s meeting vandalism has increased recently, particularly in the Mansfield Estate and Scotsburn Road area. The Police are following a positive line of enquiry on the vandalism. An illegal vehicle has been seized, and there have been a number of noisy parties. 5 incidences of theft, 2 assaults, and the recovery of an offensive weapon (an individual has been charged with this offence). Questions were asked and answered on the vandalism, and the Police asked that if the public had information on the vandalism to report it. |
| 3. | APPROVAL OF MINUTES |
| 3.1 | The Minutes of the meeting held on 28 September 2015 were approved by Mrs Mackenzie, and seconded by Mr Amos. |
| 4. | MATTERS ARISING |
| 4.1 | Item 2.1 ref vandalism. It was noted that vandalism was also a concern from the Police report from last month. |
| 4.2 | Item 4.1 ref Cemetery. Mr Macdonald indicated that Tesco had been in touch about clearing the Old Cemetery, and this task would be carried out by the staff in Tain – they might also wish to become involved with the Wildlife Garden. After discussion, it was agreed that Mr Macdonald and Mr MacIvor would continue to liaise with Tesco. |
| 4.3 | Item 6.1 ref Blarliath. Mr Macdonald indicated that he had carried out some research of Common Good Law. Apparently if Common Good land is in public use it can’t be sold on without Court approval. However, the question of public use has to be raised at the time of any development or sale and hadn’t been at the time of transfer of the Blarliath land from RCDC to HRC. |
| 5. | YOUTH ISSUES |

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| 5.1 | Miss Macleod/Miss Allan reported that the last term had been a success. They had been involved in the Parent Forum which provides a link between the parents and the pupils. The Autumn Ceilidh was a great success and raised over £200 for charity. The Charity day was also raised £557, with more money due from the rice challenge. This term there are preparations in place for the social dances at Christmas. They paid tribute to Mr Chalmet as Acting Rector and welcomed Mark Jones back to the school as the new Rector. There is a Malawi group in TRA and hope to have a meeting soon. |
| 6. | HIGHLAND COUNCILLOR'S REPORT |
| 6.1 | Mr Rhind's report. Mr Rhind reported that he was meeting HC officials soon about the state of the Old Cemetery. A meeting had taken place re Nigg Ferry - the tender documents are being drawn up and should be sent out in December, and the contract may be awarded in February. There will be some flexibility in the contract. The Alexandra Bridge works are near completion. There may be a formal opening of the Bridge, but nothing is confirmed at the moment. Mr Rhind has spoken to Network Rail about the fallen trees at the Links, and they are going to deal with it. The manhole cover on Knockbreck Road has been repaired. The Cunarder Lane works need following up. The All-weather pitch works are nearly completed. The fence on the side of the football field is going to be repaired. |
| 7. | COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY – none |
| 8. | OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE – correspondence emailed round previously. |
| 9. | CHAIR'S REPORT |
| 9.1 | Mr Macdonald reported that he had received a letter from the Nursery school about play equipment not being transferred to the new location. After discussion, it was noted that all the portable equipment has now been moved to the new location. He reported that he got an email from the Mayor of Tain-l'Hermitage in France seeking to re-establishing community links again. There is a HC protocol in place for establishing links with other communities. After discussion, it was agreed to explore tangible reasons for twinning, and to keep in contact with the Mayor and ask what benefits he might hope to achieve by opening a formal exchange between the two communities. |
| 10. | VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT – no report |
| 11. | FINANCE AND TREASURER'S REPORT |
| 11.1 | Mr Louden circulated an up to date financial report. A set of accounts until the end of October may have to be done as the current Community Council steps down, and a new one is formed in November. Mr Macdonald suggested this would be ,a waste of resources and that there would appear little reason the accounts should not simply transfer from the outgoing CC to the incoming. After discussion, Mr Louden is to contact Helen Ross for clarification on this matter. |

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| <p>12.</p> <p>12.1</p> <p>12.2</p> <p>12.3</p> <p>12.4</p> <p>12.5</p> <p>12.6</p> | <p>LETTERS</p> <p>Decriminalised parking enforcement. HC are reviewing traffic restrictions as responsibility for parking enforcement has moved over from Police Scotland. Mr Rhind indicated that he would like to see some traffic order amendments. The CC will be consulted on any traffic restrictions in Tain. As an aside, it was noted that the 20 mph speed limit sign outside Knockbreck School was switched on during the October break when the children were not at school. Mr Rhind to take a note of this and pass it on.</p> <p>NHS questionnaire. A questionnaire has been received on living in Easter Ross – have your say. It was agreed that Mr Macdonald would forward the link to this questionnaire to CC members.</p> <p>Highland Council Transport Services. Information has come in about a transport public consultation. The closest venue is Milton. Mr Macdonald to pass the link on.</p> <p>Local Government Boundary Commission consultation – no impact upon the local area – noted..</p> <p>Stagecoach bus changes. Stagecoach are planning some amendments to the bus timetable. Some of the changes require more clarification. Mr Macdonald to seek contact Stagecoach.</p> <p>Resignation. It was noted that Mr Torrance has tendered his resignation. Mr Macdonald sent him an email thanking him for his service.</p> |
| <p>13.</p> | <p>PLANNING MATTERS - none</p> |
| <p>14.</p> | <p>COMMON GOOD FUND – none</p> |
| <p>15.</p> <p>15.1</p> | <p>UNEXHAUSTED REMITS</p> <p>Beinn Tharsuinn – no report. Alexandra Bridge/3-18 Campus/Cemetery/Mussel Fisheries – discussed previously. Website/Trees and green environment – no report.</p> |
| <p>16.</p> <p>16.1</p> | <p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Remembrance Sunday. Mr Macdonald mentioned that it was Remembrance Sunday on 8th November. Mr Rhind indicated that CC members should be seated by 10.45 am. An email will be sent out nearer the time reminding members. Families welcome.</p> |

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THE MEETING ENDED AT 8.40 PM

THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2015