

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF TAIN
MEETING HELD ON 25 MAY 15 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TAIN**

Present: Mr D Macdonald (Chair) Mr D Louden (Treasurer)
 Mr D MacIvor Mr A Mohan
 Mr G Amos Mr McAllister
 Mrs Mackenzie Ms Weir
 Mr N Munro (Vice-Chair)

In attendance: Mr Rhind/Mrs Robertson - Highland Councillor

1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – none
2.	POLICE REPORT - none
3.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES
3.1	The Minutes of the meeting held on 27 April 2015 were approved by Mr MacIvor, and seconded by Mr Amos.
4.	MATTERS ARISING
4.1	Item 4.2 ref the Old Cemetery. The Cemetery was visited by Highland Council (HC) officials and there is going to be an action plan, although some minor improvements have been carried out. Mr Rhind to pursue with Graham Mackenzie.
4.2	Item 7.2 ref meeting on the Common Good Fund assets. This meeting is happening in the near future.
4	Item 13.2 ref grant to Lunch Club. The Community Council (CC) received a thank you letter for the Beinn Tharsuinn grant.
5.	YOUTH ISSUES
5.1	It was noted that the current TRA reps have finished, but there is a possibility that new reps appointed may attend the next meeting.
6.	HIGHLAND COUNCILLOR’S REPORT
6.1	Mr Rhind’s report. Mr Rhind reported the information has been gathered for the meeting on the Common Good Fund assets. Any research solicitor’s carry out is paid out of Common Good Fund monies. It is disappointing that the road signs on the A9 are still lying on the ground – Mr Rhind to follow up with BEAR Scotland. There has been a litter pick up on St Vincent’s Road. The Alexandra Bridge repairs have started. Mr Rhind had a meeting with Scottish Water and they had a look at the damaged manholes and have indicated they will fix them. Grass cutting is to a good standard so far this year, with weedkilling being done. Re the wooden fence at St Vincent’s Road – Mr Rhind is waiting for BEAR Scotland to come back to him. There will be improvements to the road markings on the A9 on the

	<p>Morangie Road end.</p> <p>Questions asked – manhole cover in bad state at the Episipal Church – Mr Rhind to check whether this is Highland Council’s responsibility. Large amount of grass cuttings at the top of the Mansfield Estate – Mr Rhind to investigate. A drain on Morangie Road blocked – this lead to a discussion on soakaways on the A9 – it was agreed to contact BEAR Scotland and request that the soakaways on the hill side of the bye-pass are improved. Ms Weir commented on the improvements to the Duthac Centre Car Park. Noted signs still up for Nigg Ferry, which is temporarily stopped – after discussion it was agreed to write to Comarty Community Council regarding this issue. Taking away of the Zebra Crossing at Asda – it was noted it was taken away as it was an illegal crossing and the road is going to be adopted by Highland Council. Noted no dropped kerbs near the temporary classrooms – Mrs Robertson to investigate.</p> <p>Mr Rhind’s report. Mrs Robertson reported that the 3-18 year old campus stakeholders group will be set up soon – a member of the CC will be invited to join. Recruitment of Head Teachers is a problem, with a meeting recently to try and address this. There is a community resilience event on 10 June in Milton to look at the situation after the storm. The next District Partnership is in Tain on 5 June, which is open to the members of the public for healthcare issues. £150,000 is committed to Craighill Primary School to look at parking and accommodation from a Highland Council committee. There are ongoing reviews of facility management in Schools. It is recommended that the Area Committee covering Tain is split to the Ross & Comarty area and Skye area. There are discussions on participating budgeting, and a discussion ensued on HC staff. It was noted that there were 9 cars parked on the bend below Home Bargains, which could be a traffic calming method.</p>
<p>7.</p> <p>7.1</p>	<p>COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY</p> <p>Mr Maggs reported that he had purchased the old Morrison’s building and was proposing to build 24 flats for long term rents and holiday homes with the inclusion of a small sauna, swimming lane and gym. He wishes to retain the old building. He was asked about affordable housing and he indicated that sometimes he is asked for this and sometimes not. A community contribution may be part of the proposal. He indicated that he wished to do container homes. He indicated is anyone had an ideas for flats to be developed to contact him. The CC noted his proposal.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE – correspondence emailed round previously.</p>
<p>9.</p> <p>9.1</p>	<p>CHAIR’S REPORT</p> <p>Mr Macdonald reported that he had attended the presentation on a heating scheme – 7 people attended. There are 2 possibilities – a water source, or a mains gas extension. A survey is being sent out and Mr Macdonald circulated copies. Mr Macdonald reported that the Free Church are looking at sites for a bigger Church. HC are in talks with BT over the building. A reply has been forthcoming from the Post Office re the relocation. After discussion it was agreed to write to our MP</p>

	regarding the process of consultation, plus write to R S MacColl on the situation. Mr Macdonald indicated that the Highland Leader Programme wishes a CC representative on the Leader group. After discussion, it was agreed that Mr Macdonald would forward details to CC members. If they can think of someone in the community to let Mr Macdonald know.
10.	VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT - none
11.	FINANCE AND TREASURER'S REPORT
11.1	Mr Louden circulated an up to date financial report.
12.	LETTERS
12.1	Ross-shire Voluntary Action. Mr Macdonald has received a questionnaire. He agreed to fill it in and send off.
12.2	North Train line improvements. A letter has been received about north line improvements. There may be an opportunity for station funding, and in particular planting at the Station. The letter was passed to Mr McAllister.
13.	PLANNING MATTERS
	Installation of 12 metre high smart metering streetpole/mast at Carnegie Lodge Hotel. After discussion, it was agreed to object to this application due to visual impact within a residential area. New fascia and window signage at two Chemist shops. After discussion, it was agreed to object due to the planning and listed building consent applications for both sites due to their detrimental impact upon the Conservation Area.
14.	COMMON GOOD FUND – discussed previously
15.	UNEXHAUSTED REMITS
15.1	Beinn Tharsuinn/Alexandra Bridge/3-18 Campus/Cemetery – discussed previously. Mussel Fisheries – a couple of loads away. Website Development – any notices are put on. Trees and green environment – Mr McAllister still to draft letter to BEAR Scotland about the tree work.
16.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
16.1	Trees at Links. It was noted that the trees at the Links by the train station are in a poor state. It was noted it could be a community project linked to the flat development at the old Morrison building.

THE MEETING ENDED AT 10 PM

THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY 29 JUNE 2015