

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

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

In attendance: Mr Rhind/Mrs Robertson - Highland Councillor's
 Mr M Bremner – TRA
 Miss Williams – member of the public

1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – none
2.	POLICE REPORT
2.1	Since January Constable Wylie reported that there were 3 disorder calls, an offensive weapon incident, 5 assaults, 3 vandalisms, 2 positive drug searches, breach of bail, and 16 road traffic offences. The issues from the last meeting – vandalism at the Rose Garden toilets – there is a CCTV camera now permanently positioned to show the Rose Garden. There are increased speed checks at TRA. The investigations into the fire at The Grove are ongoing as it is unexplained. There was a discussion on cars parking on the zebra crossing when going into the Chip Shop. It was agreed to approach the Chip Shop with a view to putting up a poster advertising that if someone is caught parking on the zebra crossing it could cost them £100 and penalty points on their licence.
3.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES
3.1	The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 October 2014 were approved by Mr Amos, and seconded by Mr McAllister.
4.	MATTERS ARISING
4.1	Item 4.1 ref Language School. Mr Macdonald reported that he has contacted the Language School and hoped that a visit could be arranged on a Thursday in February. Mr Macdonald to circulate an email to members nearer the time to see if anyone is available.
4.2	Item 5.1 ref Trees on the A9. It was noted that there was 1 objection to BEAR's proposal to cut back the trees on the A9 near Chapel Road. However there was lots of positive feedback as well. The work has not commenced as yet.
4.3	Item 10.1 ref Tain Charette. It was noted that the consultation on the Charette will be happening in mid-February.
4.4	Item 13.1 ref the proposal to move the Post Office. It was noted that there was an email from Nigg Community Council supporting our stance that the proposed location to move the Post Office is unsuitable. Mr Macdonald encouraged them to contact the Post Office direct about this matter.
5.	YOUTH ISSUES

5.1	Mr Bremner from TRA reported on a philanthropic initiative to learn about Charities (2 nd year pupils) and give a presentation – the charity group chosen get around £2000. There were successful trips to see Wicked, a Maths Camp, a Biology trip. There is also a Rollerbowl trip as part of the buddy system. The Christmas dance was well attended. There was an awareness evening for parents for the new Curriculum for Excellence. There is planning for the Year Book. There was a parents evening for 3 rd years. There are upcoming trips to Belgium/Paris and Italy.
6.	<p>HIGHLAND COUNCILLOR’S REPORT</p> <p>6.1 Mrs Robertson’s report. Mrs Robertson reported that the TRA 3 – 18 year old report going to Committee is available and it can still be commented on. The TRA Rector’s post is being advertised in February. The Alexandra Bridge contract is not awarded as yet – a report is going to the Resource Committee in February. There is the quarterly report on the Common Good Fund going to the Area Committee meeting on 4 February. Can re-cycling is going to be phased out from Civic Amenity sites as people have individual bins for this waste. Questions were asked and answered about a cover broken on the road at the top of Shandwick Street, flooding at the Triangle, potholes on the road, portable classrooms, road signs blown over, gritting and gully emptying – Mr Amos wished noted that he is a trained lorry driver and could be trained to grit roads and he would be willing to do this, if needed. It was noted that the Asda path has constant streams of water running over it as is very icy and dangerous during cold periods. It was agreed to write to Adsa highlighting this problem and asking them to do something about it.</p> <p>6.2 Mrs Rhind’s report. Mr Rhind reported that the switching on of the Christmas lights was successful. The lights worked fairly well, but there were some concerns raised over dimness and there is a meeting due to take place about them. Expenditure for the lights will be minimal this year. Mr Rhind praised the volunteers that helped with the Senior Citizens Party. The timing of the Party will be considered for next year, possibly afternoon. A decorative corner stone fell off the Murray Monument – Highland Council are to inspect it – it will have to be repaired. Questions were asked and answered regarding the missing stones at the Old Academy wall on Shore Road, and a corrugated fence falling down on Duke Street.</p>
7.	<p>COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY</p> <p>7.1 Miss D. Williams spoke about the flooding in the road adjacent her house on Manse Street, which was due to blocked drains. Miss Williams gave Mr Macdonald a report on the flooding. It was noted that this item is being dealt with by Highland Council.</p>
8.	OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE – all correspondence copied by email.
9.	<p>CHAIR’S REPORT</p> <p>9.1 Mr Macdonald reported that he had attended the recent Ward Forum regarding the Police and Fire. He raised the issue of Court visitors hanging round the Court</p>

	<p>House making a nuisance and the Police had committed to keep an eye on matters. There is a new entrance sign at the Court House – not in the right location. It was noted that the Police initiative stop and search resulted in only a 20% success rate. If anyone, residential or business wishes a fire check to phone 01463 227000. Trees on A9/Charette – previously spoken about. Mr Macdonald apologised for not attending the Senior Citizen’s party due to a family commitment. An email from Mr Duffus, Gordon Highlanders has been received in connection with erecting a Cairn on Tain Links to commemorate 100 years since World War 1 and in particular the presence of the Gordon Highlanders on the Links. 2 locations on the Links were looked and it was thought the most appropriate one would be by the shore side of the pedestrian walkway. A planning application would be lodged and Army engineers would undertake the work. It was agreed to support this initiative and circulate the old army photos Mr Louden had received from the Museum.</p>
10.	VICE-CHAIR’S REPORT
10.1	Mr Munro reported that the Senior Citizen’s party was a good night, although the numbers were down considerably, owing most likely to the inclement weather.
11.	FINANCE AND TREASURER’S REPORT
11.1	Mr Louden circulated an up to date financial report. Highland Council has given the Community Council the Charitable Bequests cheque. The invoice is in for the Christmas Light material. The total amount in the Charitable Bequests account, and the Mussel account were noted.
12.	LETTERS
12.1	Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm Company. A request for funding for football activities from TRA has been received. Questions had been asked of the applicant and though answers had been received there remained some doubt over community benefit. Mr. Bremner confirmed volunteers would continue to take the activities forward and consequently the group were no longer seeking funding. After discussion, it was agreed to note the application considered withdrawn.
12.2	Tain Lunch Club. An invitation has been received to attend a Tain Lunch Club meetings Innis Mhor. It was agreed that Mr Louden would attend.
12.3	Scottish Rural Parliament. An invitation has been received to join the Scottish Rural Action Group. It was agreed that Mr Louden would be the Community Council representative on the group.
12.4	Sainsbury’s Community Fund. Information on a Community Fund based upon Sainsbury’s plastic bag levy income has been received. It was agreed to put the information on the website. Arising out of this matter was a discussion on School Breakfast Clubs. Mr Mohan thought that the Craighill Primary Breakfast Club may be re-instated, and he is to check and report back.
12.5	3-8 Campus. Mr Macdonald had previously circulated the report that is going to Committee. There was concern over the manner in which the Report had attempted

	to address the wide range of issues that had been raised amongst stakeholders and worries over the capability of the TRA site to accommodate the demands expected of it. There was little mention in the Report of the proposed sports facilities, specifically nothing regarding the swimming pool. Mr Macdonald asked the Highland Councillors to keep an eye on this vital component as plans progressed. Discussions again raised the question over the use of solar panels for renewable energy production and the desire to move away from flat roof design. The amenity of surrounding residents was of paramount consideration.
12.6	Crown Estate newsletter/Recycling of cans information – noted.
13.	PLANNING MATTERS
13.1	Erection of house and garage, North Morrich Lodge, Fendom/Demolition of existing extension and erection of extension to 17 Knockbreck Road/Erection of office and warehouse 9, Glenmorangie Distillery – noted.
14.	COMMON GOOD FUND
14.1	Mr Macdonald reported that a meeting is due to be arranged with Highland Council’s lawyers to discuss income from Blarliath land sales over the years following its original purchase with Common Good funds.
15.	UNEXHAUSTED REMITS
15.1	Beinn Tharsuinn – it was noted that Alex MacManus is taking over as Company Secretary of the Beinn Tharsuinn Community Wind Farm, from Phil Tomalin. There may be situations where applications come straight to the Community Council – this will have to be monitored carefully. Alexandra Bridge/3-8 Campus –discussed earlier. Mussel Fisheries – noted boat was fishing in December. Website Development – little development on website this month. Green environment – A number of Woody Braes trees damage in recent storms. Cemetery – a planting scheme has still to be decided upon.
16.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
16.1	Fire Brigade. Mr Macdonald reported from the Fire Brigade that there were 24 call outs – with 11 being automatic fire alarms.
16.2	Provost William Ross. The painting of Provost William Ross has now been re-instated on the wall of the Chamber after excellent repair work under the watchful eye of the Museum.

THE MEETING ENDED AT 22.05 PM

THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2015