

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF TAIN  
MEETING HELD ON 26 MAY 2014 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TAIN**

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

**In attendance:** Mrs Robertson/Mr Rhind - Highland Councillors  
Sergeant Sutherland – Police Service of Scotland

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Mackenzie.

**2. POLICE REPORT**

2.1 Sergeant Sutherland reported that there had been no more vandalism at The Grove, but that there had been more incidents at the bridal path. Since last month there had been 15 fixed penalties, a car theft, vandalism of a bench at the Rose Garden, reported robbery at Jubilee Drive (subjects identified), 4 reports of drunk persons, 2 reports of drugs, 7 noisy neighbour reports and a fatal accident. Questions were asked and answered regarding 2 fires at the Links, and CCTV cameras at the Post Office.

**3. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

3.1 Mrs Robertson took the Chair at this point in the meeting until a Chair was appointed. Mr Amos proposed Mr Macdonald as Chair, seconded by Mr Louden. As there were no other nominations, Mr Macdonald was re-elected as Chair.

**4. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR**

4.1 Ms Weir proposed Mr Munro as Vice-Chair, seconded by Mr McAllister. As there were no other nominations, Mr Munro was re-elected as Vice-Chair.

**5. APPOINTMENT OF TREASURER**

5.1 Mr MacIvor proposed Mr Louden as Treasurer, seconded by Mr Amos. As there were no other nominations, Mr Louden was re-elected as Treasurer.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

6.1 The Minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2014 were approved by Mr Amos, and seconded by Mr Munro.

**7. MATTERS ARISING**

7.1 **Item 6.1 ref TRA Rector.** It was noted that the post of Rector was being re-advertised.

**7.2 Item 7 ref Community Opportunity.** It was noted that the Glenmorangie representative may have been attending this monthly meeting.

## **8. HIGHLAND COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS**

**Mr Rhind's report.** Mr Rhind reported that the Cemetery extension has started (for 720 lairs), and so far it was an excellent job – there may be some displays, which would be maintenance free. He is going to push for a future extension. There will be a service of consecration – the CC will be notified of this event. The overgrown trees issue at Hartfield Gardens is still ongoing. Still waiting to hear re funding applications for Alexandra Bridge. Still pursuing bus links for the new Health Centre. Still pursuing improving grass cutting/weeds in the Burgh. Meeting on the Queen's Baton taking place tomorrow night. Questions were asked and answered on Cemetery lairs, and the poor state of the Duthac Centre car park.

**Mrs Robertson's report.** Mrs Robertson indicated that although still waiting for the planning application to be lodged, it is hoped to have St Duthus school cabins ready by October. Mansfield Residents Group have got quotes for the play park and matting. A foodbank is being set up, and will be done through CCAST – it is a referral scheme, and food is donated. Tain Task Force have an open day in the Polytunnel on 7 June. On 17 June the baskets are going out – volunteers required to help.

## **9. COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY – none**

## **10. YOUTH ISSUES**

**10.1 Tain Royal Academy (TRA).** Mrs Weir reported that the SQA exams are nearly over. Induction days are happening on 5/6 June. The TRA awards are on 5 June and Community Councillor's are welcome. It is hoped that the new Captain's will come along to the CC meetings once the new school year starts. There have been health and wellbeing days for S1. The school is looking to develop partnerships with businesses. The school is planning to hold a mock referendum in June – Mr Louden/Mrs Robertson/Mr Rhind offered to assist.

## **11. OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE - none**

## **12. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mr Macdonald reported the Fire Brigade statistics for the month and to add the Fire Brigade to Unexhausted Remits. It was agreed to raise concern about the A9 junctions on both entrances, and the Glenmorangie one, and it was agreed to write to Transport Scotland to express the concern. The town Charrette was a pooling of thoughts from a wide ranging of stakeholders over 2 days. It was noted that business representation was low, so Mr Macdonald prepared a draft questionnaire to give to them. After some amendments, it was agreed to put out the questionnaire. Mr Macdonald attended the budget consultation – Highland Council are looking for ideas on how they can make savings. It was agreed to put the budget consultation on the agenda for the next meeting. David Bremner has completed 42 years' service as a Teacher for 42 years – it was agreed to mark this by gifting him a Tain pottery plate – Mr Rhind to arrange. It was noted that some skip charges had increased. A discussion on de-listing the Alexander Bridge took place. Queens Baton meeting on 27 May. Beinn Tharsuinn meeting on 27 May – 1<sup>st</sup> choice status quo re moving from Highland Council administrating the Community Fund, to CC administrating it – 2<sup>nd</sup> choice those wishing to stay together.

## **13. VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT - none**

## **14. FINANCE AND TREASURER'S REPORT**

14.1 Mr Louden circulated an up to date financial report. It was noted that the annual grant will be approximately the same as last year.

## **15. LETTERS**

15.1 **Scout trip** A letter has been received regarding 2 Scouts raising money for a trip to a Jamboree in Japan. After discussion it was agreed to note the letter.

16.1 **Queens Baton Relay** – discussed earlier/**Network Rail improvements to Nigg crossing** – noted/**Scottish Rural Parliament website now live** – noted/**Cashback Funding from crime** – noted/**Highland Council website – improvements to CC page** – Mr Hass to discuss with colleagues.

## **17. PLANNING MATTERS**

17.1 **Former railway station planning application** – approved. **Demolition, and erection of extension, conversion of garage to bedroom, replacement of flat room and formation of new access** – discussed by email.

18. **COMMON GOOD FUND** – money frozen this year, and mussels fairly steady.

## **19. UNEXHAUSTED REMITS**

19.1 **Cemetery/Beinn Tharsuinn Community Company/Alexandra Bridge** – discussed earlier. **Website development** – Mr Macdonald to send Mr McAllister his Chair's remarks for the website. It was noted that the Tain Community website had got funding and was being developed including photographs. **3 – 18 School Campus** – Mr Macdonald and Mr Louden declared an interest in this item. There are 3 potential sites for the new Campus (TRA, Kirksheaf, and Craighill), and this is out for consultation now. CC members to consider the sites and will provide feedback at the next meeting.

## **20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

20.1 **Display on Tain Sporting Heroes.** Ms Weir indicated that there is going to be a display on Tain Sporting Heroes and she is looking for information on local sporting heroes for the display.

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 10 PM**

**THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY 30 JUNE 2014**