NIGG & SHANDWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL
GENERAL MEETING at NIGG COMMUNITY HALL - 9th October 2019
MINUTES (DRAFT)

**Attendees:** Peter Grant, Christine Asher, Tony Ross, Helen Campbell, Veronica Morrison, Stuart McLean

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<th>Agenda item</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Apologies – Alasdair Rhind (Highland Council), Derek Louden (Highland Council), Fiona Robertson (Highland Council), Police Scotland</td>
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<td><strong>Police Report:</strong> Police were unable to attend and, despite contacting them on several occasions, no report was forthcoming.</td>
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| 3 | **Chair Report:** Ferry Slipway Project  
It was suggested by the awarding body that Cromarty had not fulfilled certain requirements necessary for the Rural Infrastructure Funding award to go ahead, and from information given to the Community Council, it appeared that the project was being halted to allow more information to be gathered.  
**UPDATE** - Information from a number of Highland Councillors has been received. It would appear that a detailed investigation is underway as to the exact reasons behind the stalling of this project. We have been assured by these councillors that, as soon as they have further information, that they will share it with us immediately. We understand that there has now been a reconsideration of the factors which were beyond the control of CCDT and meetings are ongoing to try and push the project forward.  
If the project does not get back on track soon, it is a distinct possibility that there will be no ferry service between Nigg and Cromarty in 2020, as the Nigg slipway is in such a state of disrepair, that it could be considered too dangerous to be used.  
VM indicated that the minutes should reflect the gratitude and appreciation from the Community for the incredible effort and attention Chris Asher has given to this project. The project would not have gotten off the ground and to the stage which Nigg and Shandwick’s participation is at. | |
**Community Council Members**

Three current members will be leaving the Community Council. Helen Campbell has been a member for over 25 years. Helen’s principal achievement in my time has been the funding and management of Bishops Walk. Chris Asher has, in addition to her Treasurer duties, raised funding for two quality notice boards, as well as raising funds for the slipways, which might be negated as set out earlier. Tony Ross has established and operated the Community Council website, newsletter, and internal email systems, as well as his general secretarial duties.

4 **Minutes:** The minutes from the last meeting on 15th August 2019 were approved. VM proposed; HC seconded.

5 **Matters Arising:**

None.

6 **Treasurer’s Financial Report (CA)**

This is the last financial report from this 2019/20 session of Nigg and Shandwick Community Council as from the end of this month Nigg and Shandwick Community Council is dissolved, pending the formation of a new committee.

The Highland Council grant for 2019/20 of £399.65 was paid into the Nigg and Shandwick Community Council account on 16 August 2019.

Nothing has been paid out of the account since the last meeting in August when the account stood at £667.72.

So that together with the Highland Council grant gives a current balance of £1067.37.

This figure is inclusive of £399.04 from two historic Photograph events.

When the project money is deducted this leaves the Community Council with an operating figure of £668.33.

At this juncture I would like to say that as the Highland Council Grant has been so much reduced, the volunteer Community Council officers have financed and supported the Community Council from their own pockets, not having spent any Community Council money at all this year on allowable expenses of IT, postage, stationery, travel expenses or any type of honorarium.

I have served on this committee for four years and found the position of Treasurer, interesting and at times challenging. However, I now
feel it is time to let someone else fill the office of Treasurer and will be standing down at the end of this month. I thank the members of the committee for their friendship and support over the years and wish the committee members who are to serve another term all the very best.

7 Secretary report (TR)
TR explained the extension to the nominations process for the Community Council elections. The new timetable is:

12 noon, Tuesday 29 October – close of nominations
12 noon, Friday 1 November close of withdrawal period
If more than seven nominations are received for our Community Council, a postal ballot will be required, and therefore Wednesday 4 December will be the Community Council election.

Full details available from:
https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/799/elections_and_voting/643/community_council_elections

Where there are sufficient candidates to form a new Community Council (four as a minimum), but not more candidates than seats available (seven for us), then the current Community Council will dissolve, and the new Community Council will form 12 noon Friday 1 November
Where there are more candidates than seats available, then an election will take place on Wednesday 4 December. The current Community Council will dissolve 11:59pm Tuesday 3 December and the new Community Council will form after the results are declared on Thursday 5 or Friday 6 December.

8 Community Update Reports:
8a: Planning (PG)
Local Plan
Highland Council is in the process of updating the Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan and as usual made a call for potential development sites to landowners. I reported at the last meeting on Ian Gallie’s plans to develop some two acres of land within Shandwick.
| Initial submissions within Nigg were reported by HC, identifying 3 development sites.  
1. Housing between Cameron Place and the football pitch. As this is owned by HC perhaps one of our Councillors can enlighten us on this.  
2. James Campbell's development at Chapelhill. I imagine this is only to confirm that he still has houses to build from his original outline planning permission for the site.  
3. Robert McKenzie- Pitcalzean Farm Mixed use – Industry, Tourism (recreational activities) e.g. Golf Course and holiday accommodation. Business & retail – Cafe & Shop & Renewable Energy generation - approximately 321 acres. This could be an exciting development for Nigg.  
   If Robert McKenzie does go ahead with this development, hopefully he will consult the community, prior to submitting planning applications.  
The Frasers at Culnaha have told me that they are quite happy to share with the community that they will shortly be submitting a planning application for three houses in the field on the left at the bottom of the hill.  
**NEP**  
Nigg Skills Academy intend extending their premises with the creation of a new building to house various forms of training required by businesses and the wider renewables industry.  
Planning permission was granted for the New Quay Work, however, will not start until the Spring of 2020. 2 Rigs are currently being refurbished at the Yard. Work on the jackets for the Moray East Offshore Wind Farm will commence in the 2nd quarter of 2020.  

| 8b: Various Matters (VM)  
**Tain 3-18 Campus**  
We have yet to find out the funding package available from the Scottish government, so we can’t move in to details of the project until we know our budget. However, officers in Highland Council have been doing work on the site in the meantime.  
We also haven’t set a date for a stakeholder meeting as no point in meeting until we can give everyone details of the budget and what we can build within that. I very much hope this can be arranged soon. |
Highland council plan to write to all parents shortly just with a general outline and telling them that the chief executive will meet with them as soon as we have more information to share.

**Shandwick path**

At a recent Balintore Community Council meeting it was mentioned the Shandwick path was overgrown and needed to be strimmed. PR stated at last night meeting it’s a wild path and therefore no need to be maintained.

**Dog fouling**

Issue with the increase in DF around the village and along the paths as well as on the beach.

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<td>Ward matters (FR)</td>
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<td>Although not present at the meeting, FR had asked TR to convey the following:</td>
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<td><em>Please will you pass on my thanks to all the members for their hard work for their communities and for working with highland council and the highland councillors in a productive and helpful partnership. I really value the work of your community council and always find each of you so hard working, dedicated, and willing to go that extra mile to make a difference in your area. I look forward to working with the new community council.</em></td>
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<td>AOB</td>
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<td>Bryan Rowe reports that there is still little progress in obtaining a new library van, and that currently, a door-to-door service is being maintained. Bryan has escalated this subject to Jamie Stone and will report back at a later date.</td>
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<td><strong>Date of next meeting</strong> – as this is the final meeting of the Community Council in this election period, the exact date of the next meeting is unknown (as it is based on when and if a Community Council is elected). However, if a quorum can be found, it is likely that the next meeting will be on time with the current schedule (on or around 12th</td>
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