

**Tarbat Community Council (TCC)**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on**  
**Wednesday 4th February 2026 7.30 pm**  
**In Carnegie Hall**

**Present :** Gillian Davey (GD) (Chairman and secretary), Hamish Mackenzie (HM) (vice Chairman), Jackie Thornhill (JT), Leah McBain (LM) (Associate Member)  
Jim Philp (JP), Eric Nimmons (ER) , Gordon Jack (GJ)

**Apologies:** Cllr Connie Ramsay (CR), Reg Flegg (RF) (Treasurer),  
Cllr Laura Dundas (LD)

**In attendance:** Cllr Maureen Ross (MR)

**From Community:** Number present 6

**Approval of minutes from meeting held on 4th December 2025**

**Proposed by HM**  
**Seconded by JT**  
**Approved unanimously**

**Financial Report from RF**

**Current account**            £3726.71  
**Development account**    £4406.70

Thank you received from shop staff for Christmas gift from community council.  
£100 paid to help maintain area by Dolphin Cottages.  
LM will be taking over from RF as treasurer, she will take over the cheques and payments as from now. Question over whether LM needs to be full member to be treasurer. MR and HM will investigate.

**Action MR and HM**

**Proposed by GD**  
**Seconded by JP**  
**Approved unanimously**

**Matters arising**

**825 01 Flag**

JP has access to key. The rope is broken inside the flag casing. Flag will have to be dismantled to be fixed. JP will arrange dismantling, repair. Quote to be found and presented to community council.

**Action JP**

**825 02 Fountain steps**

TCC will help fund the refurbishing of the steps. Awaiting Alistair McClain and Stuart Nicola to give final costing. Sufficient funds in account to cover the cost.

**Action AM and SN**

### **825 03 Campus and TRACC**

MR informs us they are working towards April opening for primary and special needs school. Secondary will move after exams in June. TRACC - Highland Council estates are looking at design of new TRACC facility to be attached to the school. Funding for this is being looked into.

### **825 04 Bus service for village**

New bus service is now three days a week and timings slightly changed. Many members of the community have expressed great disappointment as it is felt this does not address the needs of the community, especially the younger ones. MR is still trying to address this issue and will keep us updated.

**Action MR**

### **825 05 Steps by side of hall**

Will be done in the spring.

**Action GD**

### **825 06 Rockfield coastal protection**

GJ continues to try to find out what the plan is. Working with MR and LD.

**Action MR and GJ**

### **825 07 Phone box car park notice board and information board**

RF and JP continuing to arrange this.

**Action RF and JP**

### **825 09 Disabled parking spaces to be repainted**

LD informs us it is on the list

**Action LD**

### **825 11 Road outside shop.**

LD will chase it up with roads.

**Action MR LD**

### **1025 03**

Whole village has drains at side of road blocked. LD and MR will contact relevant body.

**Action LD MR**

### **226 01**

#### **Invasive Buckthorn by first car park (by recycling)**

MR and LD are investigating what can be done about this. MR has reported it as it is classified as an invasive plant. MR will continue for chase this up.

**Action MR**

**226 02**

**Clean up of Shore between Rockfield and Wilkhaven**

Members of the community have raised the amount of fishing debris (creels and lines) as well as plastic rubbish on this part of the shore. Community pay back contacted but unable to assist. MR can arrange removal of rubbish. Suggested spring time for clean up.

**1225 01**

**Knockshortie building plot**

LD will investigate.

**Action LD**

**1225 02**

**Carnegie Hall sound system**

Update from Hall Committee member. System does need replacing, the hall are waiting for a quote and will inform us as soon as they have it. JP has been involved in this and is waiting for quote. MR says there are Awards for All are likely to be supportive and a have straight forward form to fill in. Member of hall committee given e-mail contact of MR to discuss grant application.

**Action JP**

**1225 03**

**Drainage at Seafield**

LD has been speaking to the council and an officer from the council will come out and give advice. LD will ensure EN is present at inspection.

**Action LD CR**

**1225 04**

Email from CR updating on overhanging trees on Castle street:

*As the overhanging trees are located on private land and are therefore the responsibility of the landowner to manage. At present the owner is unknown, so have requested a land search to identify the owner and their address. Once confirmed, they will contact the owner to request that the trees are cut back. If the necessary work is not carried out, they will proceed to issue a notice under Section 91 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984.*

**Action LD CR**

**Councillors report:**

**Local Place Plan** - meeting with community this week, good turn out. MR has typed up all the information that we received and conversations she had. There will be another meeting. There was some overlapping with bigger current issues. Other wards will be doing their community feedback, then the whole peninsula will be joined together. A consultant will make a Place Plan for the whole peninsula.

pHM raised concerns about proliferation of second homes and holiday cottages. MR says some villages have zones and limits as to how many houses can be holiday or second homes. This area has been investigated and the percentage of such homes is low. It is constantly being reviewed by council as holiday cottages have to be registered. Council works alongside developers and a certain percentage have to be affordable housing and social housing.

### **Police report**

No incidents

### **Correspondence**

None

### **AOCB**

#### **226 03**

##### **Hand rails by steps**

RF has asked to bring up the need for hand rails by some of the steps in the village. From bank street up and steps down to shop. GD asked MR if council would be able to do this. MR will investigate as to funding and who can do this.

**Action MR**

#### **0226 04**

##### **Motor bikes on dunes and on roads**

Concerns raised about bikes going over dunes by middle car park. Bikes going fast on roads.

Bird beak railing by middle car park could alleviate this problem. Community pay back will be asked EN suggests local fencers might help with supplies.

Smiley face for speed checks - MR will investigate into how to get one for Portmahomack.

**Action MR and GD**

#### **0226 05**

JT has had her attention brought to green bins not being emptied. MR will raise this with council.

**Action MR**

#### **0226 06**

Football pitch poorly maintained. MR will look into this. It is owned by Highland Highlife.

**Action MR**

**Meeting closed at 20.25**

**Next meeting 7:30 on Wednesday 1st April 2026.**