**INVERNESS REPRESENTATIONS AND RESPONSES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED** | **RESPONSES** |
| **Maggot Green**  This is wrongly named on the proposed register – it should be Friars Shott Green as Maggot Green is on the opposite side of the River Ness. | **Maggot Green**  This has been investigated from local history information and pictures and this is accepted. The register will be amended to Friars Shott Green open space. |
| **Torvean Quarry**   1. Torvean Quarry is not on the list of Common Good assets, but it is understood that fees for abstraction of sand and gravel were paid into the Common Good Fund. Is this the case? Should the Quarry be included as a Common Good Asset? 2. It is now in Highland Council ownership – does that mean it was alienated from the Burgh? If so, when did this happen? | **Torvean Quarry**   1. Land including the site of Torvean Quarry was purchased by the Burgh in 1923. It was not acquired for any purpose consistent with Common Good and has not been held on the Common Good account since purchase. Abstracts of Accounts show that mines, minerals and quarries were all held as part of the general fund rating account of the former Burgh of Inverness. Further checks of the accounts for around the period of the lease in 1957 show the income for abstraction from Torvean sand pit being paid into the Burgh general rating fund and not the Common Good fund. 2. The quarry has never been a Common Good asset. It transferred to the Highland Council via the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 and the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994. |
| **River Ness Fishings**  Should the description of the fishings be the same as the description for the River? | **River Ness Fishings**  This comment is noted. The register will be amended to show the River Ness and the fishing rights as a separate entry to the foreshore. |
| **Bught Park**  Highland Council obtained Counsel’s opinion on the status of Bught Park. This opinion was based on few known facts and case law considered to be relevant. It concluded that Bught Park was not Common Good. A different expert might hold a different opinion and therefore Counsel’s opinion should be reviewed. | **Bught Park**  Counsel who was instructed to provide the opinion is an expert in his field and has provided opinions on Common Good matters for the Council in the past. Bught Park was one part of a larger acquisition known collectively as the lands and estate of Bught (see comments re Torvean Quarry above). Counsel concluded that the purchase was not for Common Good purposes and at no point since acquisition in 1923 had any part of the lands been held on the Burgh/Council’s Common Good account. The facts have not changed since this opinion was obtained and the Council does not consider a second opinion to be justified. |
| **Lamp posts**  Should the ceremonial lamp posts located outside the Provost and Depute Provost houses be included as Common Good assets? | **Lamp posts**   * The Provost has two decorative lamp posts outside their home whilst in office. When the Provost changes one pole is removed. The Depute Provost does not have a decorative pole outside their house. * Enquiries have confirmed that the Inverness Common Good Fund pays for the lamp posts and installation only with the maintenance and electricity costs being covered by the Council lighting maintenance budget. * An entry referencing the lamp posts will be added to the Inverness list of Common Good assets. |
| **Extent of assets**  It can be difficult to interpret the descriptions particularly in the industrial estate areas. Will a map showing the assets be produced once the register is finalised? | **Extent of assets**  A link to a map of the Highland Council Common Good land and buildings has been requested however there are other current projects ahead of it pending completion. |
| **Bridges and public toilets**   1. Re-open the public toilets. 2. Repair and paint the footbridges over the Ness. 3. Provide a decent playground for Central Primary School. | **Bridges and public toilets**   1. The Castle Wynd toilets are kept open seasonally due to Common Good funding subject to annual review. 2. There has been recent restoration undertaken to the bridges in and around the Ness Islands as this area of Inverness is land held as Common Good land. 3. In general, this would fall outwith the scope of Common Good funding although there would be nothing to prevent an application for an identified piece of equipment being made either to Common Good fund or Ward Discretionary funding subject to it meeting the conditions and requirements for such applications which can be found on the Council website. |