**COMMON GOOD ASSET REGISTER FOR FORMER BURGH OF WICK**

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| **LAND AND BUILDINGS** | | |
| Wick was erected into a Royal Burgh by a Charter of King James VI dated 25 September 1589. All land deriving title from the Charter is considered to be inalienable. | | |
| **Name of asset** | **Location** | **Description** |
| **Bignold Park** including:  Changing rooms | South Road, KW1 5NH.  CAGUPRN: 130113195.  Bordered on north by Northcote Street, on east by Harrow Hill, on south by Harmsworth Park and on west from adjacent to 25 Northcote Street running south to rear of 13 Randolph Place. | Total site area: 70,738.15m².  **Title deed: Deed of Gift by Arthur Bignold to Provost, Magistrates & Councillors of Burgh of Wick registered 4 May 1903.**  Arthur Bignold acquired the ground with a view “to its being utilised as a public park and recreation ground for the inhabitants of Wick and Pultneytown”. He gifted it to the Royal Burgh of Wick “for the use and enjoyment of the inhabitants thereof heritable and irredeemably”. |
| **Camps Bay car park** | The Shore, KW1 4LU.  CAGUPRN: 130112116.  Located on the shore adjacent to Wick Harbour Bridge on the west and opposite 1 & 2 The Shore (Wick College building & restaurant premises). | Total site area: 1,005.40 m².  Title investigation completed January 2020 – historical plans as far back as 1870s show the area now used as Camps car park as being “Burgh Quay”. It does not appear to have formed part of the foreshore or to have been owned by the Crown. It also falls outwith the Royalty Boundary. No other owners have been identified by Registers of Scotland therefore it is assessed as being Common Good deriving title from the Royal Charter of 1589. |
| **Green Road Playing Fields** | Green Road, KW1 4DA.  CAGUPRN: 130113095.  Bordered on north by rear of properties 11a to 21a Henrietta Street, on east by rear of properties 12 to 40 Coach Road, on south by St Fergus Court car park & rear of properties 8 to 24 Louisburgh Street and on west by rear of properties 15 to 39 Green Road. | Total site area: 11675.18m².  The playing fields were acquired in 2 separate deeds – 1948 and 1950:   1. **Title deed: Feu Charter by the Trustees of Garden Duff Dunbar to Provost, Magistrates & Councillors of Burgh of Wick registered 12 May 1948 –** 10,157.61m² - all of land except south east plot adjacent to 12 to 18 Coach Road and St Fergus Court car park – contained in feu charter by Trustees of Garden Duff Dunbar to Provost, Magistrates & Councillors of Royal Burgh of Wick subject to the condition that the land is to be “used in all time coming for Playing Fields or for recreational purposes only and not otherwise”. This deed does not dedicate the ground as a King George V playing field. 2. **Title deed: Feu Charter by George Cospatrick Duff Sutherland Dunbar to Provost, Magistrates & Councillors of Burgh of Wick registered 4 December 1950 –** 1,517.57 m² - located in south east corner bordered by 12 to 18 Coach Road, St Fergus Court car park and land contained in 1948 deed – contained in feu charter by George Cospatrick Duff Sutherland Dunbar to Provost, Magistrates & Councillors of Royal Burgh of Wick to be held “in all time coming for the purposes of a playing field for public recreation for the inhabitants of the Royal Burgh of Wick and for the public generally”. This deed does dedicate this smaller area of ground as a King George’s Playing Field however it does not appear on the official list of such fields in Scotland and, given the larger area is assessed as Common Good, it would make sense for the smaller area to be similarly classified. |
| **Market Place** | Market Place, KW1 4LP.  Bordered on north by High Street, on east by The Crown Bar & building containing offices, on south & part of west by The Alexander Bain public house and on rest of west by Caithness House. | Total site area: 595.30 m².  The area of land making up Market Place derives title from Oswald’s Tenement and Redburn’s Tenement.   1. **Title deed: Redburn’s Tenement - Feu disposition by Duke & Earl of Sutherland to Provost, Magistrates & Town Council of Wick registered 30 March 1889 –** Specifically this was for behoof of community & declared that part of the subjects “shall be at all times used and appropriated for the purposes of a public market place for the said Burgh”. It also provided that, whilst the Burgh could remove and erect buildings on the tenement, none could be erected on the front area facing High Street without permission of the Duke & Earl of Sutherland. 2. **Title deed: Oswald’s Tenement – disposition by Honourable Edith Mary Haldane Oswald or Yorke & Honourable John Manners Yorke with consent of Trustees to magistrates & Town Council of Wick registered 23 October 1885.** |
| **Riverside Park (north of River)** including:  Riverside car park, quoiting shed and boating shed. | CAGUPRN: 130113368.  Bordered on north by farmland, The Glebe & rear of properties 1, 3 & 5 George Street, on east by St Fergus Road, on south east by Macleay Lane, on south west & south by River Wick continuing westwards tapering to a point 112m north west of footbridge.  Also included is the wooded area of land adjacent to the Church Yard wall of Wick Old Parish Church and bounded by St Fergus Road to the west and south west and St Fergus Lane to the south east. This area of land is included in the feu charter of 1881 referred to. | Total site area: 27,120 m².  The land at Riverside Park north of the River was acquired in 2 ways: -   1. **Title deed: Feu Charter by His Grace the Duke of Sutherland to the Magistrates of Wick registered 24 January 1883 –** 13,000 m² orthereby – eastern portion of land between St Fergus Road and River Wick – gifted in Feu Charter by Duke & Earl of Sutherland to Royal Burgh of Wick to be held, in all time coming, for the “use and benefit of the community of the Royal Burgh of Wick as a bleaching green, place of recreation and a stance for a market”.   Gift was in recognition of the reclamation work undertaken by the Burgh and also noted that since then it had been held for the behoof of the community with such rights of possession having been exercised for “time immemorial”.   1. **Title information but no deed: Minute of Agreement between Rev Alexander Clark and Town Council of Wick dated 21 January 1892** – 14,120 m² or thereby – area of land between The Glebe and the River to the west of the land mentioned as 1. above. The Minute of Agreement confirms an arrangement for the building of a wall along the south boundary of The Glebe.   The Minute recites that, at one time, the land south of The Glebe had consisted of foreshore and an island in the River which the people of Wick had used for drying clothes and over which they had exercised unrestricted freedom. The foreshore was then used as a deposit for rubbish resulting in part of the space between it and the island being filled up. Subsequently the land was levelled & improved by the Council. The Minute further notes that the land south of the wall to be built on the boundary of The Glebe was to be “used by the people of Wick solely for the purposes of a public park and for recreation”. |
| **Riverside Park (south of River)** including:  Fountain | CAGUPRN: 130113368.  Bordered on the north by River Wick, on the east by Bridge Street, on the south by Station Road and on the west by land acquired by the Council in 1979 from British Railways Board. | Only part is assessed as Common Good, the rest is held in part by the Council subject to a trust and in part following an acquisition in 1979 after the abolition of the Burgh.  Common good area: 1820 m².  **Title deed: Disposition by Trustees of James Louttit to Town Council of Wick registered 12 July 1900.**  Title was acquired on behalf of the Burgh with consideration paid by Wick Riverside Improvement Committee. The deed recited that the area of land was acquired for “behoof of the whole body and community thereof (*Wick*) and also for behoof of the community of the Burgh of Pultneytown, to be held in all time coming primarily for recreation purposes heritably and irredeemably”. |
| **Riverside Fountain** | Located in the Common Good area of Riverside Park (south of the River). | The fountain bears a plaque stating, “This fountain presented to the town of Wick by ex-Provost W Paterson Smith 1906”.  Considered to be Common Good. Memorials & statues are managed by the Council Community Services & there is no proposal to change this. |
| **Town Hall –** including Town Hall car park and Memorial Garden. | CAGUPRN: 130112661.  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG.  Located on the corner of Bridge Street and Victoria Place adjacent to the Courthouse. | Site area: 712m² or thereby.   1. **Title deed: Feu disposition by Rev Thomas Anderson to Magistrates & Town Council of Burgh of Wick dated 6 April 1829.** 2. **Disposition by County Council of Caithness to Provost, Magistrates & Councillors of Burgh of Wick registered 14 October 1932.**   In 1829 Rev. Thomas Anderson disponed the tenement and piece of ground known as Meikle Yard to the Burgh of Wick for behoof of the Town Council and the community of the Burgh. The Burgh constructed a Tolbooth and jail on this site then, jointly with the County Council of Caithness, a Town & County Hall, Courtroom and other buildings were constructed.  In 1880 the burgh disponed a one-half share to the County Council to reflect the arrangement.  In 1932 County Council of Caithness disponed to Burgh of Wick its one half share together with the public health offices, house occupied at the time by Inspector of Weights and Measures and an area of ground to the east.  The disposition was not for a statutory purpose nor held in trust, therefore, is considered to be Common Good. |
| **ART AND ARTIFACTS** | | |
| **Name of asset** | **Location** | **Description** |
| **Charter of Royal Burgh of Wick** | Original document was sent to the Keeper of the Records of Scotland by Town Clerk on 7 May 1975. | Charter of King James VI dated 25 September 1589 erecting Wick to a Royal Burgh. Copy in Latin, sasine and early translation are held in the deed safe at Highland Council HQ. |
| **Illustrated copy of Charter** | Wick Town Hall  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG. | Printed by A J Paterson of Parliament Hall, Wick in April 1972. |
| **Chains of Office** | Wick Heritage Museum  10-27 Bank Row, KW1 5EY | The chains of office of the Royal Burgh are on display in the Wick Heritage Museum.  Provost chain – gold links joining shields bearing names of Provosts with centre enameled pendant showing Arms of Royal Burgh. Town Clerk chain featuring discs joined by figure of eight links with centre pendant featuring date of erection into Royal Burgh (1589) and a representation of St Fergus being rowed in an open boat on the sea. |
| **Robes of office** | Wick Heritage Museum  10-27 Bank Row, KW1 5EY | The chains of office of the Royal Burgh are on display in the Wick Heritage Museum. Provost - red robe with white fur yoke and trim. Town clerk - black robe. |
| **Main Chair of Town Council** | Wick Town Hall  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG. | One of a pair of wedding chairs made from an oak rafter from St Magnus Cathedral in Kirkwall and presented to the Town Council by John Bruce in 1846. |
| **Wooden carving of Wick Coat of Arms** | Wick Town Hall  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG. | Presented to Provost & Town Council of Wick by Glasgow Corporation Belgian Committee on 10 September 1918 in appreciation of services rendered to Belgian refugees by the people of Wick. |
| **Portrait – James Reiach, Provost** | Wick Town Hall  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG. | Presented by friends as a mark of respect for his services as Provost of Wick.  A Johnston, oil on canvas, 126x100cm 1889. |
| **Portrait – John Kirk, Provost** | Wick Town Hall  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG. | First Chairman of the Wick & Pulteney Town Chamber of Commerce and distinguished for philanthropy and public services to community.  Artist unknown, oil on canvas, 75x62cm, date unknown. |
| **Portrait – General The Lord Horne of Stirkoke** | Wick Town Hall  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG. | David Macbeth Sutherland, oil on canvas, 117x93cm, 1929. |
| **Portrait – Sir John Pender, MP for Wick Burghs** | Wick Town Hall  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG. | Hubert von Herkomer, oil on canvas, 139x108cm, c.1887-1888. |
| **Portrait – Thomas Telford** | Wick Town Hall  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG. | M. Hyslop – may be a copy of the 1822 portrait by Samuel Lane – oil on canvas, 160x126, 1881. |
| **Portrait – William Rae, Provost** | Wick Town Hall  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG. | Presented by friends connected with Wick & Caithness-shire in 1887 in recognition of long, continued & valuable public services as Provost, Chairman of the Wick & Pulteney Town Harbours Trust & other important capacities.  James Irvine, oil on canvas, 125x101cm, 1887. |
| **Portrait – Josiah Rhind of Sibster, Provost** | Wick Town Hall  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG. | Artist unknown, oil on canvas, 74.5x62.5, 1840. |
| **Portrait – James Bremner** | Wick Town Hall  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG. | Artist unknown, oil on canvas, 126.5x101cm, date possibly 1856. |
| **Painting – Wick Harbour** | Wick Town Hall  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG. | Albert Dunington, oil on canvas, 49x39.5, date possibly 1880. |
| **Painting – Wick’s Black Saturday** | Wick Town Hall  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG. | Robert Anderson, oil on canvas, 108x181.5cm, 1885. |
| **Painting – Entrance to Wick Harbour (scene with lighthouse)** | Wick Town Hall  3 Bridge Street, KW1 4AG. | W.J. Renny, 117x85cm, 1884. |
| **COMMON GOOD FUND** | | |
| The Wick Common Good Fund is in the process of being re-established therefore, as yet, there are no Annual accounts or monitoring reports available. | | |