

## The Highland Council

### Tain 3-18 Campus - Stakeholder Group

Minute of meeting No. 11 held on Monday 26 June 2023 at 6:30 pm

Via Microsoft Teams

Attendees	Initials
<b>Highland Council - Members</b>	
Derek Louden, Chair	DL
<b>School Representatives</b>	
Eileen Henderson, Head Teacher, Craighill	EH
Jane MacKay, Head Teacher, Knockbreck	JM
Lee Williams, Head Teacher, St Duthus	LW
<b>Parent Council Representatives</b>	
Morven Fioretti	MF
Lisa Hickman	LH
Lorna MacIver	LM
Kirsteen Reekie	KR
Chris Ross	CR
Karin Wood	KW
<b>Community Representatives</b>	
Alan Mohan, Tain Community Council	AM
Veronica Morrison, Nigg and Shandwick Community Council	VM
Eric Nimmons, Tarbat Community Council	EN
Alison Taylor, Neighbour	AT
<b>Highland Council - Officials</b>	
Robert Campbell, Service Lead Capital Planning & Estate Strategy	RC
Derek Martin, Area Education and Learning Manager	DM
Callum Sinclair, Estates Officer	CS
<b>High Life Highland</b>	
Caitlyn Munro, Lead Coach	CM
Rob Parkes, Youth Worker	RP
June Robertson, Senior Librarian	JR
<b>Kier Construction</b>	
Jeff Hedley, Senior Project Manager	JH
Philip McDowell, Kier Regional Director	PM
<b>Apologies</b>	
Councillor Alasdair Rhind, Mark Jones and Simon Swanson	
<b>Minute</b>	
Callum Sinclair/Robert Campbell	

Item	Discussion and comment	Action
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	
<b>1.1</b>	RC welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of previous meeting</b>	

<b>Item</b>	<b>Discussion and comment</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>2.1</b>	The minutes were reviewed and accepted as a true record.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Project update</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	RC: Since the previous meeting in August 2022, construction work commenced in September and is due to be completed in December 2024. Future meetings will generally be held once per term.	
<b>3.2</b>	PM: Introduced himself to the meeting and handed over to JH.	
<b>3.3</b>	JH: Shared some progress photographs of the building and external areas taken the previous week. The steel frame is now complete, and the first-floor slab is being installed. Explained how the current drainage system works and the reinforcement works following the problems during the winter months with excessive run-off (additional drainage, ditching, pumps and filtration systems). The situation will continue to be monitored, and staff were present on site the previous weekend. The project is on programme to be completed by December 2024. The roof and wall cladding will be advanced over the next few months to allow internal works to begin next year.	
<b>3.4</b>	AT: The building looks wonderful, but the neighbours are unhappy due to the flooding issues and damage to the properties. Her back garden has not been reseeded and properties were to have been surveyed in May. JH: Apologised for the issues caused to the neighbours by the flooding. The surveyor has been appointed and is due to inspect the properties in the next 2-3 weeks to assess all the damage. Kier will put right any damage that has been caused and have responded to any issues raised by neighbours. AT: Had sent a quotation from a local gardening firm for the work required and nothing has happened. JH: He has the quotation but needs the survey to be carried out and then any damage caused will be put right. DL: Explained that he responded to all questions from AT but had not heard from her recently. AT: Previous e-mail to DL had not been responded to. DL asked that AT forward the email to DL and RC.	<b>DL/RC</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Education and school matters</b>	
<b>4.1</b>	DM: Outlined the proposed new management structure for the 3-18 Campus; St Duthus will continue to have its own Head Teacher. The Campus will have 1 Head Teacher, 4 Depute Head Teachers and 14 Principal Teachers. An internal advertisement was published for the Head Teacher post, and it has now been advertised externally. Some of the new management team will be in place around Easter 2024.	
<b>4.2</b>	DM: There will be engagement with the school community regarding the name of the name of the new campus. It is likely that 3 or 4 options will be put forward for consideration. The Lord Lyon has been consulted about the possible retention of the word "Royal" in the new name.	
<b>4.3</b>	DM: Other matters to be discussed will be uniforms, badges, and establishing new Parent Council and Pupil Council. A member of staff will be appointed as a liaison between the project team and the schools for the remainder of the construction period and to cover the transition to the new building.	
<b>4.4</b>	CR: With Mark Jones leaving his role as Tain Royal Academy Head Teacher, would it not make sense to accelerate the recruitment process?	

Item	Discussion and comment	Action
	DM: Andy Brown has been appointed as Acting Head Teacher until the permanent appointment of the new Campus Head Teacher.	
4.5	MF: Stated that she was disappointed and concerned about changing the management structure while the existing schools continue to operate. DM: The new management structure will be in place around one year before opening, and the existing Primary School Head Teachers will remain in post until the new team has been appointed. MF: How confident are you that you will recruit to the new post? DM: Hopeful that there will be extensive interest.	
4.6	RP: Has been asked by pupils on the plans for moving to the new building. DM: This will be one of the initial matters for the new school management team to consider and plan for. RP: Will pupils be involved in the process? DM: Pupils will be consulted, particularly senior pupils regarding exam dates.	
4.7	RP: What community spaces will be available in the new building? RC: There will be various rooms and areas that have been designed to be as flexible as possible. Once the management structure is in place then discussions can take place on what rooms are available and how they will be managed.	
4.8	LM: Hopes that new uniforms will be available from June 2024 to avoid parents having to buy two sets in one school year. DM: The new Parent Council will need to be involved in discussions about this and choosing a supplier. JM: Tain Print and Embroidery are a good local firm. All the schools currently have a shop where uniforms can be donated or swapped, and it would be good to keep this going.	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Swimming pool and library</b>	
5.1	RC: A decision has not been made on the potential relocation of the library to the new building and will raise it again with Senior Management.	<b>RC</b>
5.2	RC: The review of the capital programme is still ongoing, mainly due to an awaited announcement on a school funding bid to the Scottish Government. The review is likely to be concluded later this year, and a decision on the swimming pool options is unlikely to be made before then.	
5.3	CR: What are the issues regarding the two options? RC: Some work has been carried out on the cost of separating the pool building from the school buildings and the improvements that would be required in future years. Further consideration required by Members will be required at some point.	
5.4	RP: Asked if he could be consulted once the exercise has been completed as he has had questions from pupils. RC: Agreed to do so.	
5.5	VM: Asked for clarification on what options are being considered and if all the existing facilities would be retained with the pool as the community do not want to lose any. RC: The two options that were previously agreed were retaining the existing TRACC building or building a new pool at some point in the future. An area has been reserved on the new campus site for a pool and possibly other facilities. Ultimately it is a decision for Council Members.	

Item	Discussion and comment	Action
6.	<b>Date of next meeting</b>	
6.1	To be confirmed.	
7.	<b>ACOB</b>	
7.1	CR: Thanked JH for attending the recent Tain Royal Academy Parent Council meeting.	
7.2	The meeting was closed at 19:38.	