

From: david macdonald [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 06:58 PM
To: Maurice McIntyre
Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Tain 3 - 18 campus

Dear Mr McIntyre

3-18 Campus, Tain

Note : The return email address provided, carelearningadmin@highland.gov.uk/, has been returned as an invalid address.

Further to your email of 19 January 2015, as invited, here are the comments of the Community Council in advance of your 10 February 2015 deadline :

The Community Council at its meeting on 26 January 2014 considered the Highland Council's Consultation Report and resolved generally to confirm that the reservations contained within its previously submitted comment, still holds.

In terms of further comment, it was thought the Highland Council's responses to the issues raised are poorly presented and wholly inadequate in relation to the level of concern put to you, not only by the Community Council but also other stakeholders. The entire public engagement exercise has been disappointing to say the very least and the impression given is that pre-determination of site selection and superficial justification thereof have dictated events thus far.

There remains serious doubt over the ability of the TRA site to accommodate the scale of development proposed and there is a high risk of negative implications for local residents. The Community Council's reasonable request for vital detail to assist its determination in such areas was denied and we hope this 'cart before horse' approach will not continue. Designing a scheme remote from those most affected, only to present it as a *fait accompli* is not in anyone's interest. If a development befitting the expectations of the people of Tain and catchment is to be delivered then a firm commitment must be given to ongoing consultation with school staff, students, the community and the Community Council on matters of design and layout before any final decisions are made. Public meetings should be better advertised and timed if they are to serve any real purpose. If we can assist in this area, the Community Council is happy to help with ensuring more effective public engagement.

Regards detailed design, care should be taken to avoid a flat roof design with all the ongoing issues that is guaranteed to bring. Solar renewables should be embraced to reduce heating costs, particularly for the swimming pool and, as recommended already, the Craighill site should be kept in reserve for the swimming pool in the event the TRA site proves incapable of accommodating both educational **and** community facilities.

We trust you will have proper regard for these observations and we look forward to the prospect of more effective and responsive public engagement.

Sincerely

David Macdonald

Chair

The Royal Burgh of Tain Community Council

-----Original Message-----

From: Carrie's Voice [REDACTED]

Sent: 10 February 2015 09:23

To: Business Support C & L - HQ & South

Cc: Magaidh Wentworth

Subject: Tain school Campus

Hello Mr Jackson,

I write to you in relation to the Gaelic medium provision within the new school campus where my children will attend.

I note that in one section of the report the concern about a separate area for the Gaelic unit was raised but there was no reference to this in the response. I know that this is covered in the government paper on Gaelic medium education (copy was also handed in by Donald Beaton) and I'm sure all aspects of that have been considered but I thought I should just mention it in case.

The teachers have raised concerns about adequate storage as they require a lot more storage than mainstream 1-3 and 4-7 given that all the materials that the mainstream share are replicated in Gaelic.

Lastly I wondered what provisions are in place for numbers in the Gaelic unit growing considerably. I work for Comann nam Parant promoting Gaelic medium education in the Tain area. We had our record intake into primary 1 and to the nursery this year. Our feeder parent and toddler group has over 50 children in it's books. We are aware that doesn't mean that all children are planning on going to GME but the interest appears to be increasing rapidly. If you like I can speak with the parents to try and get a more accurate number for the next couple of years.

Kind regards

Carrie

Sent from my iPhone

From: Michelle MacDonald [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 February 2015 14:24
To: Business Support C & L - HQ & South
Subject: Tain School(3-18 Campus)
Importance: High

RE: MEETING ON 11th FEBRUARY

Dear Mr Jackson,

I am writing in reference to the recent published report regarding the new tain school. My two children are currently in gaelic medium education at Craighill nursery and Primary. I noticed in the report(issue 4) that it was mentioned about the gaelic medium having a seperate building or area for teaching. I would just like to emphasise the importance of this. We, as parents, feel that it is very important that the classrooms be seperate and not open plan due to the fact that the children in gaelic medium are taught only in gaelic and we fear that any hint of English being heard whilst they are being taught at school that this could have an effect on their learning. I believe that others have raised this issue too and I really hope that it is taken on board when finalising the design of the new school. As I said previously this was raised in issue 4 of the report, however there was nothing about it in the response part of the report.

Kindest Regards

Michelle MacDonald