

**The Highland Council
No. 1 2017/2018**

Minutes of Meeting of the Highland Council held in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness on Thursday, 18 May 2017 at 10.30am.

**1. Interim Chair
Cathraiche Eadar-amail**

In terms of Section 4 (4) of the Local Government etc (Scotland) Act 1994, it was **AGREED** that the Returning Officer (in this case the Chief Executive) should preside until the Council elected its Convener which was the first substantive business to be transacted.

**2. Membership of the Council
Ballrachd na Comhairle**

There had been circulated Report No. HC/14/17 by the Returning Officer which provided the names and addresses of the candidates returned to membership of the Highland Council at the election held on 4 May 2017 which was **NOTED** as follows:-

Ward 1: North West and Central Sutherland

Kirsteen Currie	Rowanwood, Lamington, Kildary, Invergordon, IV18 0PE
Hugh Morrison	Orcadia, Lerin, Durness, Sutherland, IV27 4QB
Linda Munro	8 Munro Place, Bettyhill, By Thurso, KW14 7TD

Ward 2: Thurso and Northwest Caithness

Donnie Mackay	2 Wilson Terrace, Thurso, KW14 8AH
Struan Mackie	28 Ravenshill Road, Thurso, KW14 7PX
Matthew Reiss	Langland House, Hill of Forss, Thurso, KW14 7XQ
Karl Rosie	8 Sir Archibald Road, Thurso, Caithness, KW14 8HN

Ward 3: Wick and East Caithness

Raymond Bremner	1 Baikie Place, Thrumster, Caithness, KW1 5TE
Willie Mackay	36 Oldhall, Watten, Caithness, KW1 5XL
Andrew Sinclair	53 Broadhaven Road, Wick, Caithness, KW1 4RF
Nicola Sinclair	Inglevaar, 20 Sinclair Terrace, Wick, Caithness, KW1 5AB

Ward 4: East Sutherland and Edderton

Richard Gale	Suilven, Golspie Tower, Golspie, Sutherland, KW10 6SE
Deirdre Mackay	2 Muirfield Road, Brora, Sutherland, KW9 6QY

Jim McGillivray Struay Villa, School Street, Embo, Dornoch, Sutherland,
IV25 3PZ

Ward 5: Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh

Isabelle Campbell The Coach House, Glenshiel, By Kyle, Ross-shire, IV40
8HW

Dr Ian Cockburn Hillcrest, Tarvie, Strathpeffer, IV14 9EJ

Derek MacLeod Polisard, Lonemore, Strath, Gairloch, IV21 2DA

Kate Stephen Sgurr Alasdair, Main Street, Lochcarron, IV54 8YB

Ward 6: Cromarty Firth

Mike Finlayson Amberlea, Glenskiach, Evanton, Ross-shire, IV16 9UU

Pauline Munro Caplich House, Alness, Ross-shire, IV17 0TW

Maxine Smith 5 Calrichie Cottages, Invergordon, IV18 0LN

Carolyn Wilson 6 Dalmore Farm Cottages, Alness, IV17 0UX

Ward 7: Tain and Easter Ross

Derek Louden Abbian House, Tower Street, Tain, IV19 1DY

Fiona Robertson Tigh-na-Sonas, Newton, By Tain, IV20 1RU

Jamie Stone Knockbreck House, Tain, IV19 1LZ

Ward 8: Dingwall and Seaforth

Graham A
MacKenzie 19 Drumdyre Road, Dingwall, IV15 9RW

Alister Mackinnon Maybury, 17 Braes of Conon, Conon Bridge, Ross-shire, IV7
8AX

Angela MacLean 21 Grant Crescent, Maryburgh, Ross-shire, IV7 8EW

Margaret Paterson Craiglea, Craig Road, Dingwall, IV15 9LF

Ward 9: Black Isle

Gordon Adam Ruadh-Ard, Charleston, North Kessock, IV1 3YA

Jennifer Barclay 15 Barclay Drive, Fortrose, Ross-shire, IV10 8AA

Craig Fraser West Wing, Bellvue House, Church Street, Cromarty, IV11
8XA

Ward 10: Eilean a'Cheò

John Finlayson Seabank, Kyleakin, Isle of Skye, IV41 8PL

John Gordon 3 Mill Park, Portree, Isle of Skye, IV51 9EY
Ronald MacDonald Coille Ghiuthais, Viewfield Road, Portree, Isle of Skye, IV51 9EU
Calum MacLeod 2 Arddorch, Broadford, Isle of Skye, IV49 9AJ

Ward 11: Caol and Mallaig

Allan Henderson The Gantocks, Achintore Road, Fort William, PH33 6RN
Billy MacLachlan Woodside, Roy Bridge Road, Spean Bridge, PH34 4EU
Ben Thompson 2 Erracht, Banavie, Fort William, PH33 7PD

Ward 12: Aird and Loch Ness

Helen Carmichael Hawthorn, 25 Ferry Road, Beauly, Inverness-shire, IV4 7EA
George Cruickshank Glendal, Coiltyside, Lewiston, Drumnadrochit, Inverness, IV63 6UJ
Margaret Davidson Abriachan Nursery, Loch Ness Side, Inverness, IV3 8LA
Emma Knox Derin, St Mary's Road, Kirkhill, IV5 7NX

Ward 13: Inverness West

Bill Boyd 15 Royal Ness Court, Inverness, IV3 5TE
Alex Graham 9 Rangemore Road, Inverness, IV3 5EA
Graham Ross 5 Ardness Place, Inverness, IV2 4QJ

Ward 14: Inverness Central

Janet Campbell 39 Leachkin Avenue, Inverness, IV3 8LH
Richard Laird 4 Maple Drive, Inverness, IV3 5RJ
Bet McAllister 17 Harris Road, Damfield, Inverness, IV2 3LS

Ward 15: Inverness Ness-side

Alasdair Christie 7 Balnakyle Road, Lochardil, Inverness, IV2 4BW
Ron MacWilliam Mullinfenachan, Dulnain Bridge, Grantown on Spey, Inverness-shire, PH26 3LZ
Callum Smith 26 Davis Drive, Alness, Ross-shire, IV17 0ZD

Ward 16: Inverness Millburn

Ian Brown 5 Eastfield Avenue, Inverness, IV2 3RR

Jimmy Gray 18 Beaufort Road, Inverness, IV2 3NP

Isabelle MacKenzie 52 Crown Drive, Inverness, IV2 3QG

Ward 17: Culloden and Ardersier

Roddy Balfour Torran Gorm, Cantray, Croy, By Inverness, IV2 5PS

Glynis Campbell-Sinclair St Clair's House, Cantray, Inverness, IV2 5PW

Trish Robertson Meru, Nairn Road, Ardersier, IV2 7SE

Ward 18: Nairn and Cawdor

Laurie Fraser Fallowdene, Marine Road, Nairn, IV12 4EA

Tom Heggie Largo, 1 Caledonian Street, Nairn, IV12 4PA

Liz MacDonald Druimoak, Lochloy Road, Nairn, IV12 5LF

Peter Saggars 6 Leanach Court, Westhill, Inverness, IV2 5DE

Ward 19: Inverness South

Carolyn Caddick Torbreck, Easter Muckovie, Westhill, Inverness, IV2 5BN

Ken Gowans 9 Woodlands Grove, Westhill, Inverness, IV2 5DU

Andrew Jarvie 16 Grant Road, Balloch, Inverness, IV2 7JN

Duncan MacPherson 19 Towerhill Avenue, Cradlehall, Inverness, IV2 5FX

Ward 20: Badenoch and Strathspey

John Bruce Lodge of Finlarig, Dulnain Bridge, Grantown on Spey, PH26 3NU

Muriel Cockburn Hillcrest, Tarvie, Strathpeffer, IV14 9EJ

Pippa Hadley 26 Dunbarry Terrace, Kingussie, PH21 1LL

Bill Lobban Pawprints, Dalfaber, Aviemore, PH22 1QD

Ward 21: Fort William and Ardnamurchan

Blair Allan 2 Glasdrum Grove, Fort William, PH33 6DE

Andrew P Baxter 12 Riverside Road, Kinlochleven, Argyll, PH50 4QH

Niall McLean Druimandaraich, West Laroch, Ballachulish, PH49 4JQ

Ian Ramon Caol Muile, Kilchoan, Acharacle, PH36 4LH

3. Calling of the Roll and Apologies for Absence
Gairm a' Chlàir agus Leisgeulan

Present:

Mr G Adam	Mrs L MacDonald
Mr B Allan	Mr R MacDonald
Mr R Balfour	Mrs D Mackay
Mrs J Barclay	Mr D Mackay
Mr A Baxter	Mr W MacKay
Mr B Boyd	Mr G MacKenzie
Mr R Bremner	Mrs I MacKenzie
Mr I Brown	Mr S Mackie
Mr J Bruce	Mr A Mackinnon
Mrs C Caddick	Mr B MacLachlan
Mrs I Campbell	Ms A MacLean
Miss J Campbell	Mr C MacLeod
Mrs G Campbell-Sinclair	Mr D MacLeod
Mrs H Carmichael	Mr D Macpherson
Mr A Christie	Mr R MacWilliam
Mr I Cockburn	Mrs B McAllister
Mrs M Cockburn	Mr J McGillivray
Mr G Cruickshank	Mr N McLean
Ms K Currie	Mr H Morrison
Mrs M Davidson	Ms L Munro
Mr J Finlayson	Ms P Munro
Mr M Finlayson	Mrs M Paterson
Mr C Fraser	Mr I Ramon
Mr L Fraser	Mr M Reiss
Mr R Gale	Mrs F Robertson
Mr J Gordon	Mrs T Robertson
Mr K Gowans	Mr K Rosie
Mr A Graham	Mr G Ross
Mr J Gray	Mr P Saggars
Mrs P Hadley	Mr A Sinclair
Mr T Heggie	Ms N Sinclair (via VC)
Mr A Henderson	Mr C Smith
Mr A Jarvie	Ms M Smith
Ms E Knox	Mrs K Stephen
Mr R Laird	Mr J Stone
Mr B Lobban	Mr B Thompson
Mr D Louden	Mrs C Wilson

In Attendance:

Chief Executive	Director of Finance
Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Development	Director of Community Services
Director of Development & Infrastructure	

There were no apologies of absence.

4. Declarations of Interest
Foillseachaidhean Com-pàirt

There were no declarations of interest.

**5. Declaration of Acceptance of Office
Foillseachadh Gabhail ri Oifis**

It was **NOTED** that all Members present had signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**6. Convener of the Council – Appointment
Neach-gairm na Comhairle – Cur an Dreuchd**

In terms of Section 4(1) of the Local Government etc (Scotland) Act 1994, the Council was advised that it was required to appoint a Convener.

At this point, Mr B Lobban was nominated by Mrs M Davidson and this was seconded by Mr A Mackinnon.

Mrs L MacDonald was nominated by Ms M Smith and this was seconded by Mr R Laird.

In a vote between the two candidates, Mr Lobban received 52 votes and Mrs MacDonald received 22 votes - with no abstentions.

It was therefore **AGREED** to appoint **Mr B Lobban** as Convener of the Council – the votes having been cast as follows:-

Votes for Mr B Lobban

Mr G Adam, Mr R Balfour, Mrs J Barclay, Mr A Baxter, Mr J Bruce, Mrs C Caddick, Mrs I Campbell, Miss J Campbell, Mrs H Carmichael, Mr A Christie, Mr G Cruickshank, Mrs M Davidson, Mr J Finlayson, Mr M Finlayson, Mr L Fraser, Mr R Gale, Mr J Gordon, Mr A Graham, Mr J Gray, Mrs P Hadley, Mr T Heggie, Mr A Henderson, Mr A Jarvie, Mr B Lobban, Mr R MacDonald, Mrs D Mackay, Mr D Mackay, Mr W MacKay, Mrs I MacKenzie, Mr S Mackie, Mr A Mackinnon, Ms A MacLean, Mr D MacLeod, Mr D Macpherson, Mrs B McAllister, Mr J McGillivray, Mr H Morrison, Ms L Munro, Mrs M Paterson, Mr I Ramon, Mr M Reiss, Mrs F Robertson, Mrs T Robertson, Mr G Ross, Mr P Saggars, Mr A Sinclair, Mrs N Sinclair, Mr C Smith, Mrs K Stephen, Mr J Stone, Mr B Thompson, Mrs C Wilson

Votes for Mrs L MacDonald

Mr B Allan, Mr B Boyd, Mr R Bremner, Mr I Brown, Mrs G Campbell-Sinclair, Mrs M Cockburn, Dr I Cockburn, Mr K Currie, Mr C Fraser, Mr K Gowans, Ms E Knox, Mr R Laird, Mr D Loudon, Mrs L MacDonald, Mr G MacKenzie, Mr B MacLachlan, Mr C MacLeod, Mr R MacWilliam, Mr N McLean, Ms P Munro, Mr K Rosie, Ms M Smith

The Convener then took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

**7. Leader of the Council – Appointment
Ceannard na Comhairle – Cur an Dreuchd**

The Council **AGREED** to establish the post of Leader of the Council.

In this regard, Mrs M Davidson was nominated by Mr A Christie and this was seconded by Mr J Gray.

Ms M Smith was nominated by Mr R Laird and this was seconded by Mr K Gowans.

In a vote between the two candidates, Mrs Davidson received 52 votes and Ms Smith received 22 votes - with no abstentions.

It was therefore **AGREED** that **Mrs M Davidson** should be appointed as Leader of the Council – the votes having been cast as follows:-

Votes for Mrs M Davidson

Mr G Adam, Mr R Balfour, Mrs J Barclay, Mr A Baxter, Mr J Bruce, Mrs C Caddick, Mrs I Campbell, Miss J Campbell, Mrs H Carmichael, Mr A Christie, Mr G Cruickshank, Mrs M Davidson, Mr J Finlayson, Mr M Finlayson, Mr L Fraser, Mr R Gale, Mr J Gordon, Mr A Graham, Mr J Gray, Mrs P Hadley, Mr T Heggie, Mr A Henderson, Mr A Jarvie, Mr B Lobban, Mr R MacDonald, Mrs D Mackay, Mr D Mackay, Mr W MacKay, Mrs I MacKenzie, Mr S Mackie, Mr A Mackinnon, Ms A MacLean, Mr D MacLeod, Mr D Macpherson, Mrs B McAllister, Mr J McGillivray, Mr H Morrison, Ms L Munro, Mrs M Paterson, Mr I Ramon, Mr M Reiss, Mrs F Robertson, Mrs T Robertson, Mr G Ross, Mr P Saggars, Mr A Sinclair, Mrs N Sinclair, Mr C Smith, Mrs K Stephen, Mr J Stone, Mr B Thompson, Mrs C Wilson

Votes for Ms M Smith

Mr B Allan, Mr B Boyd, Mr R Bremner, Mr I Brown, Mrs G Campbell-Sinclair, Mrs M Cockburn, Dr I Cockburn, Mr K Currie, Mr C Fraser, Mr K Gowans, Ms E Knox, Mr R Laird, Mr D Louden, Mrs L MacDonald, Mr G MacKenzie, Mr B MacLachlan, Mr C MacLeod, Mr R MacWilliam, Mr N McLean, Ms P Munro, Mr K Rosie, Ms M Smith

8. Depute Leader of the Council – Appointment Iar-Cheannard na Comhairle – Cur an Dreuchd

The Council **AGREED** to establish the post of Depute Leader of the Council.

In this regard, Mr A Christie was nominated by Mrs M Davidson and this was seconded by Mr J Gray.

Mr R Laird was nominated by Ms M Smith and this was seconded by Dr I Cockburn.

In a vote between the two candidates, Mr Christie received 43 votes and Mr Laird received 22 votes - with 9 abstentions.

The Council therefore **AGREED** to appoint **Mr A Christie** as Depute Leader of the Council – the votes having been cast as follows:-

Votes for Mr A Christie

Mr G Adam, Mr R Balfour, Mrs J Barclay, Mr A Baxter, Mrs C Caddick, Mrs I Campbell, Miss J Campbell, Mrs H Carmichael, Mr A Christie, Mrs M Davidson, Mr J Finlayson, Mr M Finlayson, Mr L Fraser, Mr R Gale, Mr J Gordon, Mr A Graham, Mr J Gray, Mrs P Hadley, Mr T Heggie, Mr A Henderson, Mr B Lobban, Mr R MacDonald, Mrs D Mackay, Mr D Mackay, Mr W MacKay, Mr A Mackinnon, Ms A MacLean, Mr D MacLeod, Mr D Macpherson, Mrs B McAllister, Mr J McGillivray, Mr H Morrison, Ms L Munro, Mrs M Paterson, Mr M Reiss, Mrs F Robertson, Mrs T Robertson, Mr G Ross, Mrs N Sinclair, Mrs K Stephen, Mr J Stone, Mr B Thompson, Mrs C Wilson

Votes for Mr R Laird

Mr B Allan, Mr B Boyd, Mr R Bremner, Mr I Brown, Mrs G Campbell-Sinclair, Mrs M Cockburn, Dr I Cockburn, Mr K Currie, Mr C Fraser, Mr K Gowans, Ms E Knox, Mr R Laird, Mr D Louden, Mrs L MacDonald, Mr G MacKenzie, Mr B MacLachlan, Mr C MacLeod, Mr R MacWilliam, Mr N McLean, Ms P Munro, Mr K Rosie, Ms M Smith

Abstentions

Mr J Bruce, Mr G Cruickshank, Mr A Jarvie, Mrs I MacKenzie, Mr S Mackie, Mr I Ramon, Mr P Saggars, Mr A Sinclair and Mr C Smith.

9. Leader of the Opposition – Appointment Ceannard nan Dùbhlannach – Cur an Dreuchd

The Council **AGREED** to establish the post of Leader of the Opposition.

In this regard, Ms M Smith was nominated by Mr R Laird and this was seconded by Mrs G Campbell-Sinclair.

At this point, Mr C Smith was nominated by Mr A Jarvie and this was seconded by Mr G Cruickshank. In this respect, it was confirmed that this nomination could only proceed if a suspension of Standing Order 38.1.7 (which stated that nomination of the Leader of the Opposition should come from the largest political group in opposition to the Administration which in this case was the SNP Group) was moved and agreed.

Thereafter, Mr A Jarvie, seconded by Mr G Cruickshank, **MOVED** the suspension of Standing Order 38.1.7.

Mr R Laird, seconded by Ms M Smith, moved as an **AMENDMENT** that there should be no suspension of Standing Order 38.1.7.

On a vote being taken, the **MOTION** received 11 votes and the **AMENDMENT** received 24 votes- with 13 abstentions – the votes having been cast as follows:-

For the Motion

Mr R Balfour, Mr J Bruce, Mr G Cruickshank, Mr A Jarvie, Mrs I MacKenzie, Mr S Mackie, Mr D MacLeod, Mr I Ramon, Mr P Saggars, Mr A Sinclair and Mr C Smith.

For the Amendment

Mr B Allan, Mr B Boyd, Mr R Bremner, Mr I Brown, Mrs G Campbell-Sinclair, Mrs M Cockburn, Dr I Cockburn, Mr K Currie, Mr C Fraser, Mr K Gowans, Mr A Graham, Mrs P Hadley, Ms E Knox, Mr R Laird, Mr D Loudon, Mrs L MacDonald, Mr G MacKenzie, Mr B MacLachlan, Mr C MacLeod, Mr R MacWilliam, Mr N McLean, Ms P Munro, Mr K Rosie and Ms M Smith

Abstentions

Mr G Adam, Mr R Gale, Mrs C Caddick, Mr A Christie, Mr J Gray, Mrs D Mackay, Mrs A MacLean, Mrs B McAllister, Mrs L Munro, Mrs T Robertson, Ms N Sinclair, Ms K Stephen and Mr J Stone.

The Council therefore **AGREED** to appoint **Ms M Smith** as Leader of the Opposition.

10. Powers Taken Cumhachdan a Ghabhadh

It was **NOTED** that the recess powers granted at the meeting held on Thursday, 9 March 2017 were exercised on behalf of the Council as follows:-

Strathpeffer Pavilion – Chief Executive – confirmation of a three year discounted lease agreement at a rental of £10,000 per annum between Scottish Historic Buildings Trust and the Council – with High Life Highland taking on an operational role over this period with the clear objective of supporting a community buy out. The

Council would continue to maintain the Pavilion under the terms of the lease and Local Members were supportive.

**11. Confirmation of Minutes – Highland Council
Dearbhadh Geàrr-chunntais – Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd**

There had been circulated for confirmation the Minutes of Meeting of the Highland Council held on Thursday, 9 March 2017 and of the Special Meeting (Planning) held on 7 March 2017 - which were **APPROVED**.

**12. Deeds Executed
Sgrìobhainnean Lagha a Bhuilicheadh**

It was **NOTED** that a list of deeds and other documents executed on behalf of the Council since the meeting held on 9 March 2017 were available in the Members' Library and on the Council's Website.

**13. Timetable of Meetings up to the Summer Recess
Clàr-ama Choinneamhan gu Fosadh an t-Samhraidh**

It was **AGREED** that further meetings of the full Council up to the Summer Recess should be held as follows –

- Thursday, 1 June – 10.35am
- Thursday, 29 June - 10.35am

It was also **NOTED** that Time for Prayer and Reflection would continue to take place before the start of meetings of the full Council at 10.30am on each occasion.

The meeting ended at 10.55am.