# SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL HAWICK COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTE of MEETING of the HAWICK COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE held in the Lesser Hall, Hawick on 20 May 2014 at 4.00 p.m.

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Present:- Councillors G. Turnbull (Chairman) A. Cranston, S. Marshall, R. Smith;

Community Councillors Mrs A. Knight (Burnfoot Community Council).

Apologies:- Councillor D. Patterson.

In Attendance:- Senior Financial Analyst (A. Mitchell), Solicitor with Legal Services (R. Kirk)

Property Officer (F. Scott), Estates Surveyor (J. Morison), Democratic

Services Officer (J. Turnbull).

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# **MINUTE**

1. There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting held on 18 March 2014.

#### **DECISION**

**APPROVED** the Minute for signature by the Chairman.

# MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTE

## **Whitlaw Wood House**

2. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of 18 March 2014, it was reported that the Estates Officer had received a request for vehicular access over the road belonging to the Common Good.

# **DECISION**

TO request that the Estates Surveyor report back to the next meeting regarding vehicular access over the road at Whitlaw Wood House.

#### **Hawick Moor**

- 3. With reference to paragraphs 12, 13 and 14 of the Minute of 18 March 2014, the Property Officer reported that the road resurfacing works had been completed. The horse friendly gate had also been installed. The refresh of the railings had commenced but had not been completed.
- 4. The Property Officer circulated a photograph showing damage to a container at Hawick Moor. He reported that insurance would cover £250.00 for a new container and £400.00 towards cleaning cost; the contents of the container were not covered by insurance.

# DECISION NOTED.

#### Pilmuir Farm

5. The Property Officer reported that he had obtained a second estimate of £7,000 for the repairs to the silage pit walls. However, it was now too late this year to commence the works. It had been suggested that the steel beams also required replacement, a photograph was circulated at the meeting for Members' information. The Property Officer had requested test holes to the beams and would report back once he had received the results. The approximate cost would be in the region of £25k.

6. The Committee highlighted that this was an example of funds being used to maintain assets to ensure that income was received for Common Good funds; a recent press article had been an inaccurate representation of facts. The Chairman added that he would be responding to the article in the press regarding passing the rights of the Common Good to Hawick residents.

#### **DECISION**

TO request that the outcome of the test holes to the steel beams be reported back to the next meeting of the Hawick Common Good Fund Sub-Committee.

# St Leonard's Farm

7. The Property Officer reported that a further inspection had been carried out, the fence had been completed and he had been impressed with the improvement.

# DECISION NOTED.

#### **VIV SHARP MEMORIAL**

8. The Committee discussed a letter received from Mr Wear requesting permission for a memorial to Mr Viv Sharp to be located on Common Good land. The Committee considered the proposal and supported in principle a memorial for Mr Sharp. However, they considered that a bench with a suitable plaque, placed in a location where Mr Sharp was known to have frequented – such as the corner of the park at The Moat or at the Auld Man's seat would be more appropriate. The Sub-Committee stated that they would assist Mr Wear with sourcing funding for the memorial if required and would work with him to find a suitable memorial and site which would mark the high regard Hawick had and has for Mr Viv Sharp.

#### **DECISION**

TO request that the Clerk inform Mr Wear of the Sub-Committee's decision.

## **PRIVATE BUSINESS**

### **DECISION**

9. AGREED under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the business detailed in the Appendix to this Minute on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of Part I of Schedule 7A of the Act.

# **SUMMARY OF PRIVATE BUSINESS**

# **MINUTE**

10. Members approved the private section of the Minute of 18 March 2014.

The meeting concluded at 4.20 pm.



# \* COMMON GOOD FUND APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Applicant Details	Vicin 0044
Applicant Details  Name and Address of Applicant/Organisation:  Telephone No:	Martinshouse Hawick TD9 0JS 01450 374738
Address to which paymen should be made:	Vision 2014 c/o Anne Sinyard Hawick High School Buccleuch Road Hawick TD9 0EG
Activities Please supply a brief description of the activities of your organisation and the benefits it brings to the local community:	staff from all Hawick Nursery, Primary and Secondary schools.
Assistance Requested Please indicate the sum requested and the purpose for which it will be used:	£2000 to help with Transport costs
When will the donation be required:	Circa 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2014

	Othe	r inforn	nation	1	
		you			
	inform	nation	which	you	feel
	is	releva	nt	to	this
application please providetails including details					
	any given	previo	us a	ssista	nce

Please see attached.

# Declaration

I hereby make application for assistance as above and certify that the information I have provided is acc

Signed:

Position Held: FILANCE - VISIAN 2014

Date

8 MAY 2014

Note: All applications from organisations MUST be accompanied by a copy of the latest audited accounts

This completed form, accounts and any supporting details should be submitted to the relevant area office -

Scottish Borders Council Area Offices, Corporate Resources Department, Newtown Street, Duns TD11 3DT. Telephone 01361 882600. (Duns Fund).

Scottish Borders Council Area Offices, Corporate Resources Department, Albert Place, Galashiels TD1 3DL. Telephone 01896 754751. (Galashiels, Lauder and Selkirk Funds).

Scottish Borders Council Area Offices, Corporate Resources Department, High Street, Hawick TD9 9EF. Telephone 01450 375991. (Hawick, Jedburgh and Kelso Funds).

Scottish Borders Council Area Offices, Corporate Resources Department, Rosetta Road, Peebles EH45 8HG. Telephone 01721 720153. (Peebles Fund).

<sup>\*</sup> Insert name of Fund



8 May 2014

Common Good Fund Scottish Borders Council Area Offices Corporate Resources Department High Street Hawick TD9 9EF

# Schoolchildren to re-enact The Battle of Hornshole

Dear Sirs

As you may know, **Vision 2014 - The Big Return**, is a schools initiative, and this year includes the re-enactment of The Battle of Hornshole on the **15th May**. Approximately 1800 children from Hawick and surrounding areas will participate. The children, in period dress, will walk from Hawick to Hornshole, participate in the re-enactment, enjoy entertainment, have a snack lunch and then return to the town. As you will understand this is a major undertaking but promises to be a glorious and educational spectacle. Some sponsorship is already in place but some costs are still to be covered, as detailed in the attached schedule.

I have enclosed a list of items we still need to fund. As you will see, we have already received generous contributions, but we need more financial support to help with the remaining project costs.

We hope you and the Common Good Fund management agree that **The Big Return 2014** is a project worthy of your support. Our formal application form is attached. If you need further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you in anticipation.

Yours sincerely

Dale Turnbull Finance Committee – Vision 2014

Tel: 01450 274738

Email: dale@martinshouse.co.uk

# Budgeted Activities - still to be funded

£1970
£ 475
£ 260
£ 50
£ 250
£883
£ 200
£ 750
£ 50
£ 200
£ 120
£ 100
£ 192
£5500

# Support Received to Date - In Kind

1800 Bottles Water – Morrisons, Hawick 1800 Snacks – Jus-Rol, Berwick Tweed for Costumes – Lovat Mills, Hawick 1800 Apples/Bananas – Sainsburys, Hawick

# **Donations Received to Date**

John & Mary Elliot Memorial Trust	£2500
David Craig Motors	£ 250
Hawick Trades	£ 500
Hawick Whist Group	£ 100
Bannerman Burke	£ 25
Richardsons	£ 50
Total	£3425



# LEASE AT VOLUNTEER PARK TO BILL McLAREN PARK LTD

**Report by Service Director Commercial Services** 

# HAWICK COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE 17 June 2014

#### 1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks to obtain the consent of the Hawick Common Good Sub-Committee to lease an area at the Volunteer Park to Bill McLaren Park Ltd for the development of new tennis courts.
- 1.2 The Bill McLaren Foundation through its company, Bill McLaren Park Ltd, has secured sufficient funding to undertake the development of three new tennis courts at the Volunteer Park and Buccleuch Park. Most of the area required is on the Buccleuch Park but about half of a court (336 square metres) is on the Volunteer Park.
- 1.3 The Volunteer Park Sports Committee currently lease the Volunteer Park, but they have consented to terminating their lease on the area of 336 square metres.

# **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 I recommend that the Hawick Common Good Sub-Committee:-
  - (a) Authorises the Service Director Commercial Services to terminate the lease of an area of 336 square metres to the Volunteer Park Sports Committee (see attached plan).
  - (b) Authorises the Service Director Commercial Services to agree a 25 year lease of an area of 336 square metres at a nominal rent to Bill McLaren Park Ltd to undertake its development of new tennis courts at the Volunteer Park. The lease will include any other terms that he deems appropriate.

#### **3 BACKGROUND & PROPOSALS**

- 3.1 The Volunteer Park was sold by the Duke of Buccleuch to the Hawick Common Riding Committee in 1920. The Park and stand has been leased to the Volunteer Park Sports Committee for many years with the most recent lease being for 25 years from 1997.
- The ownership of the Volunteer Park and Stand was transferred from the Common Riding Committee to the Hawick Common Good Fund in 2012, subject to the above lease arrangements.
- 3.3 The Volunteer Park Sports Committee currently pay an annual rent to the Common Good Fund of £1,700. The Common Good Fund have also awarded grants to that Committee for upgrading works to the stand in the last three years which amount to more than the rental income.
- 3.4 The Bill McLaren Foundation has plans to redevelop the Volunteer Park and neighbouring Buccleuch Park to create a sports centre for rugby, football, cricket, tennis and athletics.
- 3.5 In order to progress the redevelopment plans a new company, Bill McLaren Park Ltd, was set up in 2013. The directors/shareholders in this new company are Hawick Lindean and Hawick Wanderers Rugby Clubs, Hawick and Wilton Tennis Club and Hawick and Wilton Cricket Club and is chaired by the Bill McLaren Foundation.
- 3.6 Following the Hawick Common Good Sub-Committee meeting on 19 November 2013, a letter of support, in principle, was issued to the Bill McLaren Foundation regarding any grant funding applications for the proposed development at the Volunteer Park.
- 3.7 The Bill McLaren Foundation has secured funding of £40,000 from the Lawn Tennis Association and £76,000 from the Active Places Fund for a development of three new tennis courts.
- 3.8 In order to secure Lottery and other grant funding a lease, or other form of security of tenure, is required from the Hawick Common Good Fund as owners of the land at the Volunteer Park.

- 3.9 For a lease to be granted, part of the current lease to the Volunteer Park Sports Committee would have to be terminated. The Volunteer Park Sports Committee have discussed a partial termination of their lease at their meeting on 29 May 2014 and have no objections, subject to the flood light being moved to the corner of the tennis court and appropriate fencing being erected (see attached Minutes).
- 3.10 Buccleuch Estates Ltd have offered and issued a draft 21 year lease to Bill McLaren Park Ltd for the area of 2,200 square metres at Buccleuch Park for the development of the new tennis courts.
- 3.11 An application for Planning Permission for three new tennis courts was submitted to the Council on 13 May 2014 under reference 14/00544/FUL.

It is therefore proposed that:-

- (a) the lease of the Volunteer Park and Stand to the Volunteer Park 3.12 Sports Committee is partially terminated subject to the latter's agreement, and immediately thereafter to;
  - (b) a new 25 year lease is entered into for an area of 336 square metres at the Volunteer Park at a nominal rent to Bill McLaren Park Ltd.

### **4 IMPLICATIONS**

# 4.1 Financial

The current rent paid by the Volunteer Park Sports Committee for the stand and pitch at the Volunteer Park is £1,700 per annum and it is proposed that this rent will continue as the area being resumed from their lease is negligible.

## 4.2 **Risk and Mitigations**

There is a risk that the funding for the proposed larger redevelopment of the Volunteer Park will not be achievable and the proposal will not progress.

# 4.3 **Equalities**

It is anticipated there will be no adverse impact due to race, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation or religion/belief arising from the proposals contained in this report.

# 4.4 Acting Sustainably

There are no significant effects on the economy, community or environment.

# 4.5 Carbon Management

There are no significant effects on carbon emissions.

# 4.6 Rural Proofing

Not applicable because no new Council policy or strategy is being requested.

# 4.7 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There are no changes to be made.

#### **5 CONSULTATION**

5.1 The Chief Financial Officer, the Monitoring Officer, the Chief Legal Officer, the Service Director Strategy and Policy, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Chief Officer HR, the Service Director Interim Projects and Clerk to the Council have been consulted, any comments will be advised at the meeting.

# Approved by

# Service Director Commercial Services Signature ......

#### **Author**

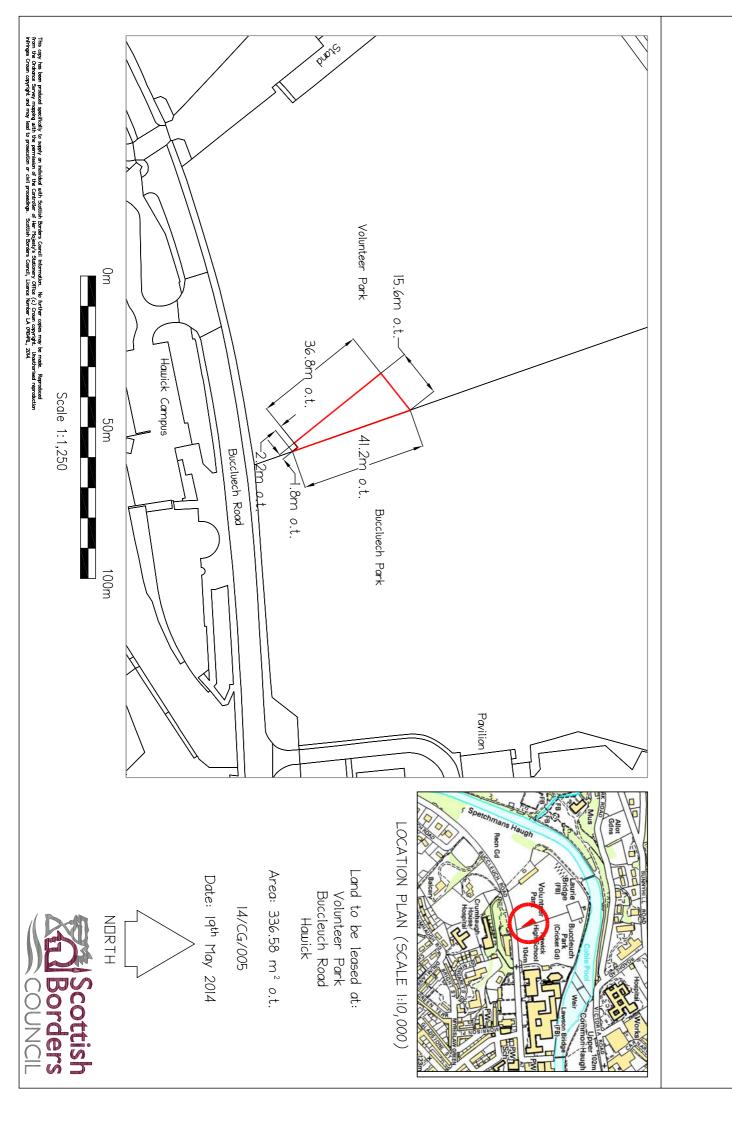
Name	Designation and Contact Number		
James Morison	Estates Surveyor, Property & Facilities	01835 824000	

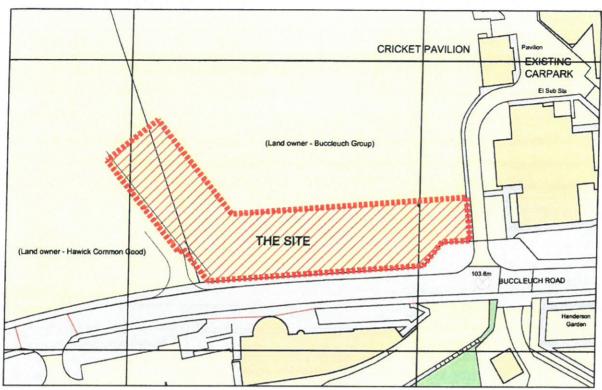
**Background Papers:** None

Previous Minute Reference: 19 November 2013

**Note** – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. James Morison can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

Contact us at Estate Management, Scottish Borders Council, Newtown St Boswells, Tel 01835 824000 Ext 5295.





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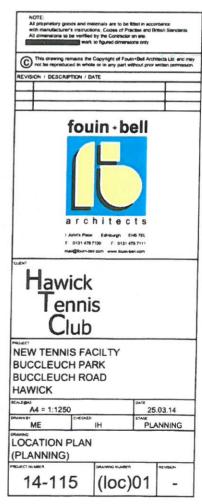


APPLICATION SITE AREA 2,905m2 / 0.29HA / 0.72 ACRES

**SCALE 1:1250** 



Hawick Tennis Club Bill McLaren Park



lan Hunt