

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
LAUDER COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTE of the MEETING of the LAUDER COMMON
GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE held in Committee
Room 1, Council Headquarters, Newtown St
Boswells on 30 October 2012 at 2.00 p.m.

Present:- Councillors D. Parker (Chairman), J. Torrance, N. Watson.
Also Present:- Mr A. Smith, Chairman, Lauderdale Community Council.
In Attendance:- Legal and Licensing Manager (A. Isles), Senior Financial Analyst (A. Mitchell), Estates
Surveyor - Property and Facilities Management (J. Morison), Committee and Elections
Officer (V. MacMillan).

MINUTE

1. The Minute of Meeting of 4 September 2012 had been circulated.

DECISION

APPROVED for signature by the Chairman.

MONITORING REPORT FOR 6 MONTHS TO END SEPTEMBER 2012

2. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of 4 September 2012, there had been circulated a report by the Chief Financial Officer providing details of transactions for the 6 months to 30 September 2012 and projections for the annual outturn with variances from the final budget and the projected effect on Revenue and Capital Reserves at 31 March 2013. The report explained that Appendix 1 continued to be developed and brought together key financial data on the Revenue performance and Balance Sheet situation for 2012/13. Appendices 2 to 5 provided details on the Revenue Budget monitoring in an expanded layout, Grants paid and payable, Revenue and Capital Reserves and the property portfolio performance. Interest had started to be earned upon the loan provided to the Lauder Golf Club. It was expected that the income earned in 2012/13 would be £430 and since no budget was set for this income this contributed to the higher than budgeted interest income. Projected income from interest on balances invested in the Council's Loan Fund was projected to increase since the capital balance was currently earning 1.25% whilst the budget was initially set at 0.475%. The interest was not credited until the end of the year and therefore the amount was dependent on interest rates over the remainder of the year. The budget for rental income included £7,800 that related to 2012/13 to be transferred back from Revenue Reserves since it was included in the 2011/12 accounts. Taking all of the above into consideration the Common Good Fund was projecting expenditure of £30,990 and income of £17,372 supplemented by a draw down of £9,228 from the Revaluation Reserve that resulted in an outturn of net expenditure of £4,390 in 2012/13, against a budget of £5,640. The Chairman thanked the Senior Financial Analyst for the work he had done on revising the appendices and remarked that it was a job well done and Mr Smith agreed that the appendices were much easier to understand. The Senior Financial Analyst answered Members' questions.

DECISION

- (a) **AGREED to APPROVE the financial performance for 2012/13 as shown in Appendix 2.**
- (b) **NOTED:-**

- (i) the key figures shown in Appendix 1;
- (ii) the Grants Analysis provided in Appendix 3;
- (iii) the projected balances on Revenue and Capital Reserves as shown in Appendix 4; and
- (iv) the detailed property income and expenditure provided in Appendix 5.

BMX TRACK REQUEST VERBAL UPDATE

3. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of 4 September 2012 the Estates Manager provided a verbal update on the BMX track and Lauder Common Farm. There had been discussions with the relevant officers about potential contamination issues on the site of the BMX track in Lauder's Burnmill area as it was believed that the site had formerly been used as a refuse tip. A letter of comfort had been requested as to the use of the land by the group to assist with their funding application and to provide assurance that the Landlord's consent and a lease would be available.

DECISION

AGREED that in relation to the proposed BMX track at Burnmill a suitable letter of comfort be granted to the group on terms to be agreed by the Council's Heads of Estates and Property management and Legal and Democratic Services.

LAUDER COMMON FARM UPDATE

4. The Estates Manager advised that he had met with Mr Peter Middlemiss and Mr Derek Taylor to discuss the replacement of storage heaters within the Shepherds Cottage at Lauder Common Farm. The options would be priced up in collaboration with property maintenance officers and reported at the next meeting of the Lauder Common Good Sub-Committee.

NOTED the update.

The meeting concluded at 2.20 p.m.