

HAYLODGE PARK PUBLIC TOILETS

Report by Service Director Regulatory Services

PEEBLES COMMON GOOD FUND SUB COMMITTEE

3 DECEMBER 2014

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report requests that the Members of the Sub Committee consider the future arrangements for the opening of the public toilets sited in the Haylodge Park, Peebles for the period 2015 going forward.
- 1.2 Since 2012 the Common Good Fund has met the costs of opening the Public Toilets in the Haylodge Park, the park being a common good asset maintained and operated by the Council. The Council had reviewed the provision of public toilets provision in the area in 2011 and resolved not to continue to meet the costs of this facility from the Council General Fund but Members of the then Common Good Fund Working Group decided that the inhabitants of Peebles would benefit for the service being provided by the Fund and advertised for a contractor to carry out the service. A three year award of contract for service was given and this will terminate at the close of this 2014 season in September. There was no extension provision in that original contract.
- 1.3 Members now require to consider if they wish to continue to fund this service from the Common Good Fund and if so to instruct officers to take the necessary steps to procure the service and determine the time period.

2 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 **I recommend that the Sub Committee**
- (a) Determine if they wish to continue to fund the provision of public toilets in the Haylodge Park, Peebles from the Common Good Fund and
- (b) Consider for what period the service contract should be procured and instruct officers to take the necessary steps to put this in place.

3 Background

- 3.1 The Peebles Common Good Working Group agreed at the meeting on 9 February2012 to make arrangements for the operation of the public toilets sited within the Haylodge Park which had been closed by the local authority in a review of the provision of such facilities.
- 3.2 The park is a common good asset which is managed by the Council as a local authority park.
- 3.3 A contractor was secured through advertisement in the local press and seasonal openings from Easter to the end of September for 2012, 2013 and 2014 carried out.
- 3.4 The service has been enjoyed by users of the Park although there has been no logging or recording of numbers. No adverse comment has been received regarding the use of the Fund for this service and it is proposed that arrangements are made for 2015 onwards with similar opening season.
- 3.5 The use of a 3 year service contact reduced the costs of administration and Members are invited to consider this as the shortest period to continue with and to give consideration to seeking tenders for a 5 year period.

4 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial

The provision of this service, including service and materials, has cost the common good fund

2012	£6032
2013	£6571
2014 (est.)	£6000

These have been met within budget.

4.2 **Risk and Mitigations**

There is a risk that should the Sub Committee determine not to continue with the provision that there is adverse publicity for the loss of service to inhabitants and visitors to the town.

4.3 Equalities

It is anticipated that there will be no adverse impact arising from the proposal that the service be continued

4.4 Acting Sustainably

There are no anticipated economic, social or environmental effects of doing or not doing what is proposed and evaluate any impact other that the opportunity to continue the likely provision of part time work for 6 months.

4.5 Carbon Management

There are no impacts on the Council's carbon emissions of doing or not doing what is proposed.

4.5 Rural Proofing

This is not a new or amended policy or strategy and no rural proofing is required.

4.6 **Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation**

There are no changes required to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation as a result of these

5 CONSULTATION

5.1 The Chief Financial Officer, the Chief Legal Officer, the Monitoring Officer, the Service Director Strategy and Policy, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Chief Officer HR, Procurement Officer and the Clerk to the Council have been consulted.

Approved by

Service Director Regulatory Services Signature

Author(s)

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Background Papers: Previous Minute Reference: Peebles CGF Working Group 9 February 2012

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Contact us at Anne Isles, Legal and Licensing Services Manager, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells, tel. 01835 825002 (DL) or by email <u>aisles@scotborders.gov.uk</u>