

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
SELKIRK COMMON GOOD FUND SUB COMMITTEE

MINUTE of MEETING of the SELKIRK COMMON GOOD FUND SUB COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells on Tuesday, 2 September 2014 at 3.00 p.m.

Present: Councillors G. Edgar (Chairman), M. Ballantyne, V. Davidson (from Para 3)
Community Councillor T. Combe.
In attendance: Solicitor (J. Webster), Senior Financial Analyst (A. Mitchell), Estates Surveyor
(J. Morison), Democratic Services Team Leader.

MINUTE

1. There had been circulated copies of the Minutes of 11 June 2014.

DECISION

APPROVED the minute for signature by the Chairman.

2. With reference to paragraph 5(i) of the Minute 11 June 2014, it was noted that the quote for the roof ridge had not yet been received. A report on the other matters would be given later in the meeting as part of the property update.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

3. With reference to paragraph 7 of the Minute of 11 June 2014, the Chairman reminded officers that the Sub-Committee required appropriate officers to attend a future meeting to discuss the implications of a Culture Trust for the Common Good Fund.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

4. There had been circulated copies of an application from Scott's Selkirk Association for funding of £1,200 to cover the costs of rental etc. associated with the "Green Shed" which was used by Scott's Selkirk and a number of other groups in Selkirk for the storage of equipment.

DECISION

AGREED to award a grant of £1,200 to Scott's Selkirk.

5. With reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of 6 October 2013, Mr Combe advised that he still had to meet Alex Young from the Council's lighting section with regard to the provision of a grant to the Selkirk Christmas Illuminations Group and that they would double check the existing power points and report back.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

6. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of 11 June 2014, Graeme McMurdo presented illustrations of the "Mini-rope end swing" which was proposed for the Bannerfield Play Area. Members agreed that the funding be released to purchase this piece of equipment.

DECISION

AGREED to confirm approval of the contribution of £5,000 towards play equipment for the Bannerfield Play Area.

PROPERTY UPDATE

7. In the absence of the Property Officer, the Estates Surveyor reported that one farm survey had been completed with the other two about to be carried out. The quote for the roof ridge of the shed at Smedheugh was still awaited. He further advised that the bathroom window at Smedheugh was in very poor condition and in need of an emergency repair at a cost of £392. Members expressed concern regarding the timescales required to get work carried out on Common Good Properties and asked that the Head of Property Maintenance be invited to their next meeting to explain the process. Members also requested that future meetings receive the Property Update report in written format.

DECISION

AGREED:-

- (a) to approve the replacement of the bathroom window at Smedheugh;
- (b) that the Head of Property Maintenance be invited to the next meeting to explain the process and timescale associated with the carrying out of works to Common Good properties; and
- (c) that future property update reports be provided in writing.

URGENT BUSINESS

8. Under Section 50B(4)(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the Chairman was of the opinion that the items dealt with in paragraphs 9 and 10 should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency, in view of the need to make an early decision.

THE RIGG

9. It was reported that a race meeting had been held on the Rigg and although the permission of the tenant farmer had been sought no request had been formally received by the Common Good Fund. The event had not been organised directly by the Common Riding Committee but the monies raised were being used to repair the Rigg with the remainder being donated to charity. Due to the success of the event it was likely to be held again next year but would be organised by the Common Riding Executive.

DECISION

AGREED that the Estates Surveyor get in touch with the organisers in writing to advise them of the requirements in terms of the holding of any future such events.

RIVER ETTRICK FISHING RIGHTS

10. The Chairman advised that the Tweed Foundation would be requesting permission to carry out a survey of fish in the River Ettrick. This required to be carried out outwith the fishing season and would involve the catching of around 30 fish.

AGREED to grant permission, when requested, to the Tweed Foundation to carry out their survey.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

11. The next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 29 October 2014.

DECISION

NOTED.

PRIVATE BUSINESS

12. **DECISION**

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 9 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Act.

The meeting concluded at 4.15 p.m.