

**Please find attached the Public Minutes in respect of
Item on 6 the agenda for the above meeting**

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| 6. | <p>Committee Minutes (Pages 3 - 64)</p> <p>Consider Minutes of the following Committees:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Cheviot Area Partnership 1 February 2023 (b) Berwickshire Area Partnership 9 February 2023 (c) Local Review Body 20 February 2023 (d) Peebles Common Good Fund 28 February 2023 (e) Peebles Common Good Fund 7 March 2023 (f) Innerleithen Common Good Fund 8 March 2023 (g) Pension Fund 9 March 2023 (h) Pension Board 9 March 2023 (i) Chambers Institution Trust 15 March 2023 (j) Local Review Body 20 March 2023 (k) Peebles Common Good Fund 22 March 2023 (l) Eildon Area Partnership 23 March 2023 (m) Planning and Building Standards 27 March 2023 <p>(Copies attached.)</p> | 5 mins |
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| (a) | Cheviot Area Partnership | 1 February 2023 |
| (b) | Berwickshire Area Partnership | 9 February 2023 |
| (c) | Local Review Body | 20 February 2023 |
| (d) | Peebles Common Good Fund | 28 February 2023 |
| (e) | Peebles Common Good Fund | 7 March 2023 |
| (f) | Innerleithen Common Good Fund | 8 March 2023 |
| (g) | Pension Fund | 9 March 2023 |
| (h) | Pension Board | 9 March 2023 |
| (i) | Chambers Institution Trust | 15 March 2023 |
| (j) | Local Review Body | 20 March 2023 |
| (k) | Peebles Common Good Fund | 22 March 2023 |
| (l) | Eildon Area Partnership | 23 March 2023 |
| (m) | Planning and Building Standards | 27 March 2023 |

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MINUTES of Meeting of the
CHEVIOT AREA PARTNERSHIP
held on Wednesday, 1 February
2023 at 6.30 pm. Via Microsoft
Teams.

Present:- Councillors P. Brown, (Chairman), S. Hamilton, S. Mountford, E. Robson, S. Scott, T. Weatherston, together with 18 Representatives of Partner Organisations, Community Councils and Members of the Public.

In attendance: - Community Co-ordinator – Gillian Jardine, Democratic Services Officer (F. Henderson).

1. **WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the in person meeting, which included Elected Members, Community Council representatives, Community Organisations and guests attending within the meeting. She outlined how the meeting would be conducted.

2. **FEEDBACK FROM THE MEETING ON 23 NOVEMBER 2022**

The minute of the meeting of the Cheviot Area Partnership held on 23 November 2022 had been circulated with the Agenda. There were no specific actions to follow up from the last Area Partnership meeting and Katy Jackson would continue to keep the Area Partnership informed as the new coast to coast cycle route was prepared for opening.

3. **SECTION 1: SERVICE & PARTNER UPDATES AND CONSULTATIONS**

3.1 **COMMUNITY CONVERSATION FEEDBACK**

Last summer elected members and senior SBC Officers toured the Borders to meet with communities to discuss the issues important to them. 11 community conversations were held in total, two of which were in Cheviot. A summary of the feedback from these conversations was included in the Agenda Pack and overall people seemed to like the format of these sessions and another round of conversations was being planned for later in the year. The issues raised so to date were to be considered as part of SBC's budget process and should feed in to local planning. Observations from those who had attended the conversations were that they required to be publicised better, with a more targeted approach and not all questions had been answered. The Community Engagement Officer requested that matter wishing to be raised be forwarded to her by e-mail on GJardine@scotborders.gov.uk. It was also highlighted that there had been a difference of opinion as to what was expected and other partners to be invited to future conversations.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

3.2 **HARRY WHITMORE - COMMUNITY LED HOUSING COORDINATOR, SOUTH OF SCOTLAND COMMUNITY HOUSING - SOSCH**

The Chairman welcomed Harry Whitmore, Community Led Housing Co-coordinator with SOSCH who support community organisations to consider solutions to local housing issues and deliver community led housing projects. It was explained that Community Led housing was delivered by and for local communities, rather than relying on traditional

providers, it was a way for local people to produce place-based solutions to local problems through a process of participation and empowerment. There were many types of community led housing, but in Scotland it typically took the form of housing developed and owned by a community organisation such as a Community Development Trust. As a result of Scotland's land reform legislation and the Community Development Trust model, there was a vibrant landscape of community-led housing. The Scottish model allowed for not only housing, but for community trusts to own other assets like shops and renewable energy sources. There were 612 assets in community ownership across Scotland in December 2020. Mr Whitmore went onto to explain the benefits of community ownership and community led housing which included – sustaining communities, regenerating places in decline, a flexible approach to housing, providing affordable homes for local people and a reliable source of revenue for community organisations.

- 3.3 Mr Whitmore then went onto explain that SOSCH was a community-led housing enabler established in 2006 in order to address a shortfall in rural housing supply in South West Scotland. SOSCH support community organisations to deliver affordable community-led housing within the context of community ownership of land and assets and Land Reform. SOSCH had a long track record of project delivery across South West Scotland and were engaged with 35+ communities in southern Scotland. They operated on a fee-based system which were included where possible in funding packages so communities were not paying out of their pockets. SOSCH worked with community organisations at an early stage to set themselves up to deliver community led housing, either supporting a group to constitute itself properly, or direct them towards partners to help. The two key requirements to setting up your voluntary or community organisation correctly were an open membership, and a defined geographical area, in order to use certain legal powers and access to certain funding. By working with SOSCH, the capacity of your organisation was increased by reducing the burden on the organisation. The amount of involvement SOSCH had in the project varied depending on the confidence and ability of the group to deliver a project. SOSCH could increase a community's capacity by helping them hire a member of staff, such as a development officer to manage the day to day delivery of the project, which could be included as part of the feasibility funding, and could be either short term, or long term. SOSCH could also help increase a community's capacity to deliver community housing by working in partnership with other groups, such as housing associations, to deliver projects. This may be a good option for large-scale projects, where a community lacked confidence to deliver it themselves.
- 3.4 In terms of Finance and Funding, SOSCH used its partnership and experience to help communities' access resources, putting together comprehensive and bespoke funding packages to deliver CLH projects. The starting point of financing a project was with the Rural Housing Fund (RHF) and Scottish Land Fund (SFL) and early stage expressions of interest helped secure funding for feasibility work. Rural Housing Fund can then offer capital works funding, and the Scottish Land Fund can support the purchase of an asset. The Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF) can be accessed when re-purposing existing buildings, especially within conservation areas or listed buildings and they can provide grants for feasibility work, and loans for capital words South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE). SOSE had previously helped finance community led projects, as well as several SOSCH projects, such as the Langholm Old Police Station. They had also supported Kirkhope Steadings, the first CLH project in the Borders. Other sources of funding were Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF); Borderlands Growth Deal; Ecological Building Society; Wind Farm Funds; Empty Homes Grant Scheme; SSE - Scottish Borders Sustainable Development Fund.
- 3.5 In terms of South East Scotland, Mr Whitmore explained that a 'Community Led Housing Coordinator - South East Scotland' had been recruited to expand the work of SOSCH from South West Scotland to South East Scotland, to replicate the SOSCH approach and successes. SOSCH were very encouraged by existing community led development in the Borders and were keen help to accelerate this by raising awareness around community led housing and how it could fit into the wider community development agenda. The last

three months had been spent building partnerships across the region to help support communities to deliver community led housing and work had already begun directly with communities with early discussions.

- 3.6 In terms of Cheviot, it was explained that there was a population of around 19,345.34% of the population who lived in settlements under 500 people. Jedburgh (3774 in 2020) was the only settlement not eligible for the rural housing fund, despite Kelso (6833 in 2020) having a higher population. Existing community owned assets in Cheviot included: The Port House, Jedburgh; Laidlaw Memorial Pool, Jedburgh and Morebattle Village Shop and Post Office. While vacant and long term empty homes were everywhere, Cheviot had a few key 'hotspots'. These hotspots had a high number of both vacant and LTE properties and while data can help to identify housing need and areas with a particularly high number of vacant and long term empty properties, empty buildings anywhere can help address challenges that communities face. Most of all, SOSCH relied on local knowledge of empty, vacant and derelict properties to deliver CLH.
- 3.7 SOSCH could help across the entire process of community led housing, but needed the local knowledge and ideas. Therefore, they were looking for information on;
- Could your community benefit from Community Led Housing?
 - What is the housing need in your community?
 - Are you interested in any buildings or land to develop housing?
 - If you've identified a building or land:
 - Who owns the building/land?
 - How long has it been vacant?
 - Is it currently on the market?
 - Are you interested in other forms of community ownership and regeneration?

For more information on SOSCH South East Scotland project, please contact the Community Led Housing Coordinator for South East Scotland, Harry Whitmore. Email: harry.sosch@outlook.com.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

MEMBER

Councillor Mountford left the meeting prior to consideration of the following item.

4.0 **SECTION 2: COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND COMMUNITY FUNDING
Cheviot Funding Tables 2022/23**

There had been circulated copies of the Cheviot Funding for 2022/2023 which detailed the funding available together with information on the allocation of the Community Grant Fund in 2022/23. The Community Co-ordinator advised that the two applications from Jedburgh Community Council and the Rural Space Agency's application had been withdrawn. The opening balance at 1 April 2022 was £80,268.39 plus underspend from the Community Fund in 2021/22 of £28,640.65, underspend in the Local Festival Grant in 2021/22 of £2,953.00 and underspend in the Community Fund 2019/20 of £2,175, which resulted in an overall budget of £114,037.04. Other sources of funding included Local Festival Grant Budget totalling £16,675.00, Annual Support Grant to Community Councils totalling £11,100.00, Common Goods, SBC Enhancement Grant, SBC Welfare Grant and SBC Small Schemes totalled £197,882.69. Neighbourhood Support Fund applications awarded since April 2022 totalled £19,209.71 and application assessed and awaiting decision totalled £28,237.56.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

Neighbourhood Support Fund

- 4.2 There had been 14 applications received for the Cheviot Neighbourhood Support Fund which was a significant increase on previous rounds and very encouraging that more community organisations were coming forward. There had been circulated copies of a report which detailed the recommendations of the Cheviot Community Fund Assessment Panel. The report provided a brief description of each application received and a recommendation on the sum to be awarded to each project.
- 4.3 **Perfect Harmony**
An application had been received from Perfect Harmony requesting £1,350 to fund an additional 5 concerts per year throughout Cheviot care facilities. The concert engaged local musicians with the purpose of enhancing the lives of the recipients. The application scored an average of 80+ in terms of their ability to deliver, evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability. The Panel were supportive of the project and recommended that £1,350 be awarded.
- 4.4 **QME Care**
An application had been received from QME Care in the sum of £2,250 to offer a subsidised meal during their Sunday Lunch Club as well as a contribution to resources for additional activities, e.g. music, games, crafts, group discussion and reminiscence, and cognitive stimulation, within their existing Place and Space Day Service. The Panel were supportive of the project and recommended that £2,250 be awarded.
- 4.5 **Ancrum Community Council**
An application had been received from Ancrum Community Council in the sum of £468.98 towards the erection of signage to encourage responsible dog ownership, and disallow dogs on the village green. The Panel were not supportive of the project.
- 4.6 **Jedburgh Community Council**
Applications had been received from Jedburgh Community Council requesting £1,251 to replace all floral displays throughout Jedburgh with perennial plants to move to a more sustainable model and reduce the use of bedding plants. The application scored an average of 80+ in terms of their ability to deliver, evidence of need, innovation, sustainability, potential impact and use of public money. The Panel were supportive of the project and recommended that £1,215 be awarded.
- 4.7 **Kelso Walking Festival Committee**
An application had been received from Kelso Walking Festival Committee in the sum of £5,000 to deliver the Annual Scottish Borders Walking Festival. The Funds would be used to support the rental of the Community Centre as well as design and publication of marketing material to promote the event. The application scored 80+ in terms of their ability to deliver, evidence of need, potential impact and use of public money. The Panel were supportive of the project and recommended that £5,000 be awarded.
- 4.8 **Kelso Heritage Society**
An application had been received from the Kelso Heritage Society in the sum of £989 to support the purchase of updated software and equipment to be used throughout their programme of monthly talks of local and Scottish historical interest. Kelso Heritage Society's application scored an average of 80+ in terms of their ability to deliver, evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability. The Panel were supportive of the project and recommended that £989 be awarded.
- 4.9 **Art at Ancrum**
An application had been received from Art at Ancrum in the sum of £540 towards supporting the annual arts fair located within the village of Ancrum. The fair supported artists and makers to display and sell their work, drawing interest and tourism to the village. Funds would also be used to produce a high-quality A3, colour catalogue for the event displaying information as well as a village map. The panel felt they produced a

strong case in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability and recommended that £540 be awarded.

4.10 Kelso Camera Club

An application had been received from Kelso Camera Club in the sum of £1,062 towards the hosting of their annual exhibition. The exhibition was open to the public, free of charge and funds would be used to support the town hall hire as well as printing and mounting images. An application was made for £1062.18 from Kelso Camera Club to host their annual exhibition. The Panel agreed that the application produced a strong case in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability and therefore recommended that £1062.18 be awarded.

4.11 St Boswells PS

An application had been received from St Boswells Primary School Parent and & Friends Partnership and St Boswells Community Council sub-groups, Green St Boswells and Friends of the Community Woodland in the sum of £1,159. The application was to support a project aimed to create a Community micro-orchard, a commemorative Queen's Green Canopy mini-woodland and associated wildlife areas around St Boswells Primary School grounds. The project aimed to create community opportunities for learning and development surrounding wildlife and fruit. The application scored an average of 80+ in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability and it was recommended that £1,159 be awarded.

4.12 Kelso Skatepark Project

An application had been received from the Kelso Skatepark Project in the sum of £5,000 towards supporting consultancy fees for the improvement of safety, security and lighting to the Skatepark. The application scored an average of 80+ in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability and it was recommended that £5,000 be awarded.

4.13 Thomas Maconochie KHS Trust

An application had been received from the Thomas Maconochie KHS Trust, in partnership with CLD Service to run an intergenerational project between the residents of Kerfield Court and pupils from the High School. The group would work with a stone carver to produce sculptures that would be placed within the residents' garden at Kerfield Court and the application was in the sum of £2,106. The application scored an average of 80+ in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability and it was recommended that £2,106 be awarded.

4.14 It was noted that Dean Weatherston has been appointed as Chair of the Panel following the resignation of the previous Panel Chair. Mr Weatherston highlighted that the resignation of the previous Chairman and a further Panel Member indicating his intention to stand down following the next meeting, membership required to be addressed.

DECISION

AGREED:-

(a) that the following sums be awarded to each of those listed:-

- **Perfect Harmony - £1,350**
- **QME Care - £2,250**
- **Jedburgh Community Council – Replacement of Floral Displays - £1,215**
- **KCC Walking Festival Committee - £5,000**
- **Kelso Heritage Society - £989**
- **Art at Ancrum - £540**
- **Kelso Camera Club - £1,062**

- **St Boswells PS - £1,159**
- **Kelso Skatepark Project - £5,000**
- **Thomas Maconochie KHS Trust - £2,106**

(b) that no award be made to Ancrum Community Council

MEMBER

Councillor Weatherston left the meeting following consideration of the above item.

5.0 SECTION 3: PLACE MAKING

5.1 It was reported that the Cheviot Place Making Working Group had recently met with Sarah McDonald, Selkirk BIDS to hear about the two community engagement events which had been delivered in Selkirk. This was in anticipation of Cheviot communities planning their community engagement activities. It had been agreed that Alison Grainger, Police Scotland be invited to attend the Jedburgh Place Making workshop scheduled for March 2023.

5.2 Community Council Updates:-

Jedburgh CC - Working with SOSE and SBC and looking at

- Hydro Poll with in Swimming pool Building
- Asset Transfer of Town Hall
- Energy from water
- Working with Harry Whitmore in respect of 50 Vacant Buildings
- Pedestrian Walkway re-installed
- Streetscape
- National Park

Kelso CC - Update

- Old Kelso High School
- Trinity Church

5.3 Cost of Living Update

The Community Engagement Officer reported that three applications had been received for the Warm and Well Fund – 2 applications had been funded and one application had been withdrawn.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

6.0 SECTION 4: Other

6.1 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DOCUMENT

The Chairman advised that additional information was included in the agenda pack which contained information on current consultations and links to useful information.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

6.2 DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Future Meetings of the Cheviot Area Partnership would be held on the following dates:

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

The next meeting would be held on **Wednesday, 29 March 2023** and the venue was to be confirmed.

6.3 MEETING EVALUATION

Ms Jardine reminded those present about the meeting evaluation form which could be accessed via the link <https://forms.office.com/r/HHH1dEcmz3>. She added that feedback about the Area Partnership meetings was really helpful and always appreciated.

The meeting concluded at 8.00 pm

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SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL BERWICKSHIRE AREA PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES of Meeting of the
BERWICKSHIRE AREA PARTNERSHIP
held in Foulden Village Hall, Foulden, TD15
1UH on Thursday, 9 February 2023 at 6.45
pm

Present:- Councillors J. Anderson, C. Hamilton, D. Moffat and A. Orr

Other organisations attendees: Mr J. Aitchison, Ms L. Anderson and Mr G. Power (Eyemouth CC), Ms J. Amaral (BAVS), Ms K. Burch (Abundant Borders), Ms T. Collin (Allanton, Whitsome and Edrom CC), Ms A. Currie (Berwickshire Anti-Litter Group), Ms M. Douglas and Ms H. Paxton (Greenlaw and Hume CC), Ms P. Hood (Cockburnspath and Cove CC), Mr L. Inglis (Reston and Auchencrow CC), Mr A. Manley (Foulden, Mordington and Lamberton CC), Ms W. Myers (Coldstream and District CC), Mr D. Paterson (Berwickshire Housing Association), Mr K. Pattison (Paxton Resilience Group), Mr G. Pearson (Leitholm, Eccles and Birgham CC), Mr P. Potter and Ms S. Potter (Burnmouth CC), Mr S. Wright (Chirnside CC).

Apologies:- Councillors J. Greenwell and M. Rowley

In Attendance:- Community Co-ordinator, Community Engagement Officer (J. Purves), Mr H. Whitmore (South of Scotland Community Housing), Ms C. Wilson (NHS Borders), Democratic Services Officer (W. Mohieddeen).

1. **WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Berwickshire Area Partnership and to Foulden Village Hall.

2. **FEEDBACK FROM MEETING OF 1 DECEMBER 2022**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting held on 1 December 2022.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the Minute for signature by the Chair.

3. **COMMUNITY CONVERSATION FEEDBACK**

There had been circulated copies of a summary of feedback from Community Conversations events that took place during summer 2022. The Chair advised that Elected Members and senior SBC officers. 11 Community Conversations were held in total, two of which were in Berwickshire; one event held in Duns on 26 July 2022 and one event held in Eyemouth on 2 August 2022. The issues raised were to be considered as part of SBC's budget process and would inform local planning.

DECISION

NOTED the update.

4. **SOUTH OF SCOTLAND COMMUNITY HOUSING**

The Chair introduced Harry Whitmore of South of Scotland Community Housing (SOSCH) to present on support available to communities for community housing projects. SOSCH were established in 2006 as a community-led housing enabler in order to address shortfalls in rural housing supply in South West Scotland. SOSCH supported community

organisations to deliver affordable community-led housing within the context of community-ownership of land and assets and Land Reform. Community-led housing typically took the model of being owned by a Community Development Trust which allowed for the ownership of housing by community trusts and also assets such as shops and renewable energy sources. Benefits of community housing included the provision of affordable homes for local people and workers, particularly in rural areas. Other benefits of community-led housing stated by SOSCH included encouraging repopulation of rural areas, regenerating local economies through the provision of housing, repurpose derelict or empty buildings, and to act as a reliable source of revenue for community organisations. SOSCH offered support for community organisations by providing a long-term project lifecycle support. SOSCH had a team of five people working across the entire of the South of Scotland on services related to community-led housing and were engaged in over 35 communities. The support that SOSCH provided were helping through the policy and funding contexts of community-led housing and nurture partnerships on a regional, national and international level.

MEMBER

Councillor Hamilton joined the meeting during discussion of the item.

Communities could use SOSCH support to properly establish trusts, hire staff for local groups to take forward work and to access funding. Funding opportunities were presented which included the Rural Housing Fund and Scottish Land Fund, Architectural Heritage Fund, South of Scotland Enterprise, Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF); Borderlands Growth Deal, Ecological Building Society, Wind Farm Funds, Empty Homes Grant Scheme, and SSE Scottish Borders Sustainable Development Fund. SOSCH supported community groups through established routes to community asset ownership which included Community Right to Buy, Community Asset Transfer, and open market or negotiated sales. Mr Whitmore explained that as the Community-Led Housing Coordinator for South East Scotland role was part-funded by the Scottish Empty Homes Partnership there was a focus on bringing empty building into use as community-led housing. Benefits of this route included a reduced carbon footprint from preventing the demolition of old building and building new properties, aiding town centre renewal, restoring confidence in local property markets by ending long-term empty properties, preserving built heritage and encouraging community participation. Mr Whitmore explained that Eyemouth was the only settlement in Berwickshire not eligible for the rural housing fund which may be caused by its proximity to larger settlements. There were vacant and long-term empty property hotspots in Berwickshire – settlements that highlighted were Greenlaw, Coldstream South, Swinton, Leitholm and Fogo. Cranshaws and Abbey St Bathans were also affected by a high number of second homes. Mr Whitmore asked attendees to consider opportunities for community-led housing and to engage SOSCH in their deliberations, and answered questions from those in attendance. Mr Whitmore advised that projects typically took 5 years from conception to moving-in of tenants. The Chair thanked Mr Whitmore for the presentation.

DECISION

- (a) **AGREED to circulate SOSCH presentation slides and contact details for Mr Whitmore to Area Partnership attendees; and,**
- (b) **NOTED the update.**

5. NHS BORDERS

Cathy Wilson, General Manager Primary and Community Services at NHS Borders was invited by the Chair to address the Area Partnerships on topics related to primary care in Berwickshire. The closure of the Chirside medical practice was addressed and Cathy Wilson explained matters which surrounded the decision. The operation of the Chirside branch was unsustainable due to difficulties around the recruitment of GPs. A short-life working group was created to assess the situation of the branch. Reduced hours were

considered however this was deemed unsafe. The case went to the NHS Borders executive team which supported the decision to close the branch which highlighted the challenges of attracting GPs to work in Berwickshire which was being addressed by a live project which was looking at active solutions to increase GP capacity. Cathy Wilson answered questions from attendees on the challenges of GP recruitment in Berwickshire. A review had taken place to assess GP recruitment after the Duns clinic was taken over on an emergency basis by the NHS Borders board. No applications were received for GP positions in Duns and reasons found included travel and housing issues. Other measures to address primary care were being initiated which included eConsult which wasn't to replace a phone call opportunity with a GP but allowed for a triage to take place. Cathy Wilson explained it was difficult for NHS Borders board to assess number of patients as data was held by GP practices and other ways to monitor performance of primary care were used. Cathy Wilson advised that she was happy to share minutes of the short-life working group with community councils. Cathy Wilson was thanked by attendees for addressing the Berwickshire Area Partnership.

6. **BERWICKSHIRE FUNDING TABLE 2022-23**

There had been circulated copies of the Berwickshire Funding Table which showed available funding in the Berwickshire area. The Communities Coordinator explained that there were 36 applications to the Neighbourhood Support Fund to be considered and that the fund was oversubscribed. The Neighbourhood Support Fund began with £99,997.19 for 2022-23 and that £62,565.64 of funding had been awarded since 1 April 2022. Ms Jardine highlighted that there was £2,523.23 in the SBC Enhancement Trust and £12,332.43 available in the SBC Welfare Trust.

DECISION

NOTED the update.

7. **BERWICKSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT FUND**

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Berwickshire Neighbourhood Support Fund Assessment Panel which provided a description of activities of the panel and recommendations for 36 applications to the Neighbourhood Support Fund. The applications requested funding which totalled over £121,000. Further clarification was added to the Neighbourhood Support Fund guidance notes in September 2022 which addressed clearly defined outcomes and timescales, and funding was less likely to be given for ongoing activity and general staff support without compelling justifications. The panel had welcomed two new panel members, Kathy Huffman and Jim Hettrick. Furthermore, Anne McNeill had taken the decision to step down and she was thanked by the panel for her contribution to its work over the previous two years. Mr Dickinson restated the assessment panel's wish to uncouple its work from the Berwickshire Area Partnership and to have authority to grant funding from the Neighbourhood Support Fund so that grant funding decisions could be made more timeously in three equally-spaced application periods per year.

DECISION

AGREED:

- (a) To award Gordon Community Sportsfield a grant of £5,000;**
- (b) To award Borders Pottery a grant of £4,829;**
- (c) To award Abundant Borders a grant of £3,636;**
- (d) To award Coldstream Heart Rhythm a grant of £2,250;**
- (e) To award Borders Women's Aid a grant of £1,080;**

- (f) To award A Heart for Duns a grant of £5,000;
- (g) To award Parent Space a grant of £3,752.10;
- (h) To award Ayton Christmas Lights a grant of £945;
- (i) To award Duns Rugby Football Club a grant of £849.45;
- (j) To award Duns Football Club an awards of £1,000;
- (k) To award Birgham Community Development Trust an award of £4,590;

8. **BERWICKSHIRE ANTI-LITTER GROUP**

The Chair invited Alison Currie of Berwickshire Anti-Litter Group (BAG) to inform the Area Partnership on the group and its aims and activities. BAG was established to address litter in Berwickshire particularly on roads and with litter on the A1. Solutions suggested included engaging with the council to allow volunteers to conduct a litter pick on roads. The group wished to see better enforcement to tackle littering. Members discussed the issues raised around littering on roads and advised that examples could be used from other countries on their approach to littering and that enforcement may be considered.

9. **PLACE MAKING**

The Community Engagement Officer provided an update on Place Making activities in Berwickshire. The Place Making Tool was presented to Eat Sleep Ride who were guided through the questions in the pack where affordable housing and access of space for community use was raised issues that merited attention. Comments received in Place Making workshops were to be collated as part of town plans. Ms Amaral advised that a workshop with Scottish Futures Trust was proposed to take place on 26 April 2023 and that BAVS were available to deliver training. 17 training sessions had been delivered by BAVS for community groups. Attendees remarked that Place Making workshops required suitable notice for people to attend.

DECISION

NOTED the update.

10. **COST OF LIVING UPDATE**

There had been circulated copies of an update on activities that had taken place by SBC on cost of living support. SBC agreed a range of measures totalling £1.2 million to support communities affected by the cost of living crisis. This included the creation of the Warm and Well Fund to support voluntary, community and charity organisations to provide a warm space for those that struggled to heat their homes during the winter months. Working in partnership with The Bridge and BAVS the intention was to provide a dignified approach to ensuring help reaches communities and individuals who required additional assistance. In Berwickshire, SBC Warm and Well funding of £18,541 was being distributed through BAVS who also secured match funding of £25,680 from the National Lottery. As part of the Cost of Living support, CAB and BAVS organised and delivered an energy information session to help community volunteers and staff have supportive energy conversations with people who were using warm spaces or who were accessing community services. The training provides information on the financial sources available to heat homes and how to refer people to assistance. Funding was available to support energy training across the Borders so additional sessions could be offered to those who were interested.

DECISION

NOTED the update.

11. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DOCUMENT**

The Chair advised that additional information was included in the agenda pack which contained information on current consultations and links to useful information.

12. **NEXT MEETING OF THE BERWICKSHIRE AREA PARTNERSHIP**

The Chair advised that the next meeting of the Berwickshire Area Partnership was on 30 March 2022.

The meeting concluded at 8.50 pm.

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SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL LOCAL REVIEW BODY

MINUTE of Meeting of the LOCAL REVIEW BODY held in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells on Monday, 20 February 2023 at 10 a.m.

- Present:- Councillors S Mountford (Chair), J. Cox, M. Douglas, D. Moffat, A. Orr, V. Thomson, N. Richards, S. Scott.
- Apologies: Councillor E. Small.
- In Attendance:- Principal Planning Officer (C. Miller), Assistant Planning Officer (S. Shearer), Solicitor (S. Thompson), Democratic Services Team Leader, Democratic Services Officer (F. Henderson).

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Chair varied the order of business as shown on the agenda and the Minute reflects the order in which the items were considered at the meeting.

1. CONTINUATION OF REVIEW - 22/00035/RREF

With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of 12 December 2022, the Local Review Body continued their consideration of the request from Mr Peter Hedley, c/o Ferguson Planning, 54 Island Street, Galashiels to review the decision to refuse the planning application for the erection of residential holiday let with associated facilities at Townfoot Hill Land North West of Cunzierton House, Oxnam, Jedburgh. The supporting papers included the submission by the Planning Officer and Applicants response to the new information; Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; additional information; consultation replies and list of policies.

- 1.2 It was reported that the Scottish Government had adopted, with effect from 13 February 2023, the new National Planning Framework (NPF4) which superseded previous guidance and had been incorporated into the Local Development Plan. Members noted that in accordance with the terms of Section 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, the Planning Authority must ensure that Planning Decisions and Reviews took account of the new Framework. In respect of this particular review, the Planning Officer had provided full comments on how NPF4 related to the proposal and his decision, as part of his comments on the new information submitted by the applicant. In turn, the applicant had responded to the Officer's comments on NPF4 and the members agreed to proceed with the Review.

- 1.3 Members reported that they had found the site visit, carried out on 20 February 2023, very useful and that the proposal was for the erection of a residential holiday let with associated facilities. Members firstly considered the principle of the development under Policy ED7 and the requirement for submission of a business case to support tourist accommodation proposals in the countryside. Whilst they noted that the Appointed Officer considered the submitted Business Plan did not provide sufficient indication of viability to justify the development, the Review Body accepted the Plan on the basis of farm diversification and the contribution it demonstrated to the existing farm business. In considering the criteria set down in Policy ED7 and PMD2 on siting, landscape and relationship with adjoining uses, it was noted that the Appointed Officer and Landscape Officer had objected due to the prominence, elevation and secluded location of the proposal and that it was out of character with the landscape and surrounding development pattern. The Review Body noted the additional submissions from the applicant, including

the Visual Impact Study and sequential plan with associated photographs and agreed that the site was a significant distance from a very limited number of farms and houses and that, from some directions, would not be visible. It was noted that the proposal was utilising an existing disused quarry scar in the hillside, the building being sunk into the site with green roof and other design elements that would successfully reduce prominence, visual impacts and impact on the landscape. Provided controls could be imposed by condition to secure non-reflective glass and discrete indoor/outdoor lighting, Members were content that sunlight glint or evening lighting could be mitigated to acceptable levels, thus addressing the Landscape Officer's concerns over this element. In terms of access, whilst there was some concern over the gradient of the public road leading to the site, Members noted that both the Roads and Access Officers were content with the revised plans subject to appropriate conditions on the road access, parking, turning and maintenance of the existing right of way. Subject to those conditions, the Review Body concluded that the development was modest in scale and form, with limited visibility and acceptable impacts on the landscape, character of the area and residential amenity.

DECISION

AGREED that:-

- (a) the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;**
- (b) the review could be considered without the need for any further procedure on the basis of the papers submitted;**
- (c) after considering all relevant information the development was consistent with Policies PMD1, PMD2, ED7 and IS5 of the Local Development Plan and Policies 14, 29 and 30 of National Planning Framework 4 and the development was considered to be an appropriate provision of tourist accommodation for the location with a justified business case, complying with sustainability and tourism strategies for the area and providing high quality accommodation in an attractive setting. Impacts on landscape and access could be satisfactorily mitigated by appropriate conditions; and**
- (d) the officer's decision to refuse the application be overturned and the application approved, for the reasons detailed in Appendix I to this Minute.**

2. CONTINUATION OF REVIEW - 22/00041/RREF

With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of 23 January 2023, the Local Review Body continued their consideration of the request from Mr P J Lewis, c/o RM Architecture Ltd, Bloomfield, Heatherlie Park, Selkirk to review the decision to refuse the planning application for the erection of a dwellinghouse on Land South West of Castleside Cottage, Selkirk. The supporting papers included the written submission from the Applicant detailing the fibre cement cladding and colour proposed, together with photographs of the use of the material; Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; consultation replies further representations and list of policies. It had previously been accepted that there was a building group present and the site was an appropriate addition to that group under the Housing in the Countryside Policy HD2 and the relevant SPG. The Applicant had also supplied a sample of the fibre cement to be used.

- 2.1 It was reported that the Scottish Government had adopted, with effect from 13 February 2023, the new National Planning Framework (NPF4) which superseded previous guidance and had been incorporated into the Local Development Plan. Members noted that in accordance with the terms of Section 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, the Planning Authority must ensure that Planning Decisions and Reviews took account of the new Framework. To this end, members agreed that the

review be continued to allow the Applicant and Planning Officer the opportunity to submit comments on the impact of NPF4 on the Application.

DECISION

AGREED that:-

- (a) the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;**
- (b) the review could not be considered without the need for further procedure in the form of written submissions;**
- (c) the Applicant and Planning Officer be given the opportunity to submit an NPF4 statement; and**
- (d) consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting on a date to be confirmed.**

3. REVIEW - 22/00044/RREF

There had been circulated copies of a request from the Firm of Corstane, c/o Ferguson Planning, 54 Island Street, Galashiels to refuse the planning application for the siting of shepherds hut and siting of cabin (retrospective) to form holiday let accommodation on Land South West of Corstane Farmhouse, Broughton. The supporting papers included the Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; consultation replies; support comments and list of policies. The Planning Adviser drew attention to information, in the form of Visualisations and Business Plan which had been submitted with the Notice of Review but which had not been before the Appointed Officer at the time of determination. Members agreed that the information was new but considered that it met the Section 43B test, was material to the determination of the Review and could be considered. However, they also agreed that the new information could not be considered without affording the Planning Officer an opportunity of making representations.

- 3.1 Furthermore, Mrs Thompson, Solicitor advised that as a result of the Scottish Government adopting, with effect from 13 February 2023, the National Planning Framework (NPF4) which superseded previous guidance and had been incorporated into the Local Development Plan. Members noted that in accordance with the terms of Section 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, the Planning Authority must ensure that Planning Decisions and Reviews took account of the new Framework and agreed that the review be continued to allow the Applicant and Planning Officer the opportunity to submit comments on the impact of NPF4 on the Application.

DECISION

AGREED that:-

- (a) the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;**
- (b) new evidence submitted with the Notice of Review in the form of visualisations and Business Plan met the test set in Section 43B of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and was material to the determination;**
- (c) the review could be not considered without the need for further procedure in the form of written submissions;**
- (d) the Planning Officer be given the opportunity to comment on the new evidence submitted with the Notice of Review ;**

- (e) the Planning Officer and Applicant be given the opportunity to submit an NPF4 statement; and**
- (f) consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting on a date to be confirmed.**

4.0 REVIEW – 22/00047/RREF

There had been circulated copies of a request from Marchmont Farms Ltd, per Smith and Garratt, The Guildhall, Ladykirk, Berwick-upon-Tweed to review the decision to refuse the planning application for the erection of Class 4 joinery workshop with associated access and parking on Land North and East of Clay Dub, Duns Road, Greenlaw, Duns. The supporting papers included the Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; additional information; support comments, consultation replies, objections, further representations and list of policies. The Planning Adviser drew attention to information, in the form of an extract of a land capability for agriculture map, the applicant claiming the Planning Officer had made an error as the site was not Prime Agricultural Land according to their map which had been submitted with the Notice of Review. As this had not been before the Appointed Officer at the time of determination, Members agreed that the information was new but considered that it met the Section 43B test, was material to the determination of the Review and could be considered. However, they also agreed that the new information could not be considered without affording the Planning Officer an opportunity of making representations. The Members also requested a site visit.

- 4.1** Furthermore, Mrs Thompson, Solicitor advised that as a result of the Scottish Government adopting, with effect from 13 February 2023, the National Planning Framework (NPF4) which superseded previous guidance and had been incorporated into the Local development Plan. Members noted that in accordance with the terms of Section 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, the Planning Authority must ensure that Planning Decisions and Reviews took account of the new Framework and agreed that the review be continued to allow the Applicant and Planning Officer the opportunity to submit comments on the impact of NPF4 on the Application.

DECISION

AGREED that:-

- (a) the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;**
- (b) new evidence submitted with the Notice of Review in the form of an extract of a land capability for agriculture map (which, it was claimed, demonstrated the Planning Officer had made an error as the site was not Prime Agricultural Land) met the test set in Section 43B of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and was material to the determination;**
- (c) the review could be not considered without the need for further procedure in the form of written submissions;**
- (d) the Planning Officer be given the opportunity to comment on the new evidence submitted with the Notice of Review ;**
- (e) the Planning Officer and Applicant be given the opportunity to submit an NPF4 statement; and**
- (f) consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting on a date to be confirmed.**

5. **REVIEW – 22/00045/RREF**

There had been circulated copies of a request from Mr and Mrs Craig Fletcher, c/o Ferguson Planning, 54 Island Street, Galashiels to review the decision to refuse the planning application for alterations and extension to dwellinghouse at 17 George Street, Eyemouth. The supporting papers included the Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; consultation replies; additional information and list of policies. The Planning Adviser drew attention to information, in the form of a Heritage Statement which had been submitted with the Notice of Review but which had not been before the Appointed Officer at the time of determination. Members agreed that the information was new but considered that it met the Section 43B test, was material to the determination of the Review and could be considered. However, they also agreed that the new information could not be considered without affording the Planning Officer an opportunity of making representations.

- 5.1 Furthermore, Mrs Thompson, Solicitor advised that as a result of the Scottish Government adopting, with effect from 13 February 2023, the National Planning Framework (NPF4) which superseded previous guidance and had been incorporated into the Local development Plan. Members noted that in accordance with the terms of Section 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, the Planning Authority must ensure that Planning Decisions and Reviews took account of the new Framework and agreed that the application be continued to allow the Applicant and Planning Officer the opportunity to submit comments on the impact of NPF4 on the application.

DECISION

AGREED that:-

- (a) **the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;**
- (b) **new evidence submitted with the Notice of Review in the form of a Heritage Statement met the test set in Section 43B of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and was material to the determination;**
- (c) **the review could be not considered without the need for further procedure in the form of written submissions;**
- (d) **the Planning Officer be given the opportunity to comment on the new evidence submitted with the Notice of Review;**
- (e) **the Planning Officer and Applicant be given the opportunity to submit an NPF4 statement; and**
- (f) **consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting on a date to be confirmed.**

6. **REVIEW – 22/00046/RREF**

There had been circulated copies of a request from Mr W Hannah, c/o Ferguson Planning, 54 Island Street, Galashiels to review the decision to refuse the planning application for the alterations and extensions to dwellinghouse at Dove Cottage, Gate Lodge, Press Castle, Coldingham, Eyemouth. The supporting papers included the Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; additional information; consultation replies, support comments and list of policies. Mrs Thompson, Solicitor advised that as a result of the Scottish Government adopting, with effect from 13 February 2023, the National Planning Framework (NPF4) which superseded previous guidance and had been incorporated into the Local development Plan. Members noted that in accordance with the terms of Section 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, the Planning Authority must ensure that Planning Decisions and Reviews took account of the new Framework and agreed that the

application be continued to allow the Applicant and Planning Officer the opportunity to submit comments on the impact of NPF4 on the Application.

DECISION

AGREED that:-

- (a) the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;
- (b) the review could not be considered without the need for further procedure in the form of written submissions ;
- (c) the Applicant and Planning Officer be given the opportunity to submit an NPF4 statement; and
- (d) consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting on a date to be confirmed.

PROCEDURAL HEARINGS

7. Mrs Thompson, Solicitor explained that that the following applications had been placed on the Agenda as procedural hearings as a result of the Scottish Government introducing the National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) on 13 February 2023, which superseded previous guidance and had been incorporated into the Local Development Plan. In accordance with the terms of Section 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, the Planning Authority must ensure that Planning Decisions and Reviews took account of the new Framework. It was therefore agreed that comments on the impact of NPF4 on the planning application and subsequent review be sought from the Planning Officer and Applicant, prior to the following applications being presented to the Local Review Body for consideration.

8. **CONTINUATION OF REVIEW - 22/00039/RREF**

With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of 23 January 2023, there had been circulated copies of a request from James Neil and Son per Sam Edwards, 37 One George Street, Edinburgh to review the decision to refuse the planning application for the erection of holiday accommodation on Land North East of Runningburn Farm, Stichill. The supporting papers included the Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; additional information and consultation replies.

DECISION

AGREED that:-

- (a) the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;
- (b) the review could not be considered without the need for further procedure in the form of written submissions;
- (c) the Planning Officer and Applicant be given the opportunity to submit an NPF4 statement; and
- (d) consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting on a date to be confirmed.

9. **CONTINUATION OF REVIEW - 22/00040/RREF**

With reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of 23 January 2023, there had been circulated copies of request from Mr and Mrs McLaren, per Richards Amos Ltd, 2 Golden

Square, Duns to review the decision to refuse the planning application for the erection of 2 No. dwellinghouses on Land at Silo Bins, Edington Mill, Edington Road, Chirnside. The supporting papers included the Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; additional information, consultation replies and objection comments.

DECISION

AGREED that:-

- (a) **the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;**
- (b) **the review could not be considered without the need for further procedure in the form of written submissions;**
- (c) **the Planning Officer and Applicant be given the opportunity to submit an NPF4 statement; and**
- (d) **consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting on a date to be confirmed.**

10. REVIEW - 23/00001/RREF

There had been circulated copies of a request from Mr Richard Spray, per Mr Handley, John Handley Associates Ltd, 65A Leamington Terrace, Edinburgh to review the decision to refuse the planning application for the erection of timber storage and processing facility with new access junction, yard area, landscaping, tree planting, SUDs and associated works and planning permission in principle for associated dwellinghouse with office for the timber processing facility on Land South West of West Loch Farmhouse, Peebles. The supporting papers included the Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; Consultation Replies; Objection comments and further representations.

DECISION

AGREED that:-

- (a) **the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;**
- (b) **the review could not be considered without the need for further procedure in the form of written submissions;**
- (c) **the Planning Officer and Applicant be given the opportunity to submit an NPF4 statement; and**
- (d) **consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting on a date to be confirmed.**

11. REVIEW - 23/0002/RREF

There had been circulated copies of a request from Mr Robert Gaston, Ravelaw Farm, Duns to review the decision to refuse the planning application for the erection of agricultural building (retrospective) at Ravelaw Farm, Duns. The supporting papers included the Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; Consultation Replies; support comments and objection comments.

DECISION

AGREED that:-

- (a) the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;**
- (b) the review could not be considered without the need for further procedure in the form of written submissions;**
- (c) the Planning Officer and Applicant be given the opportunity to submit an NPF4 statement; and**
- (d) consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting on a date to be confirmed.**

The meeting concluded at 11:40 a.m.

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

MINUTES of Meeting of the PEEBLES
COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
held in Council Chamber, Rosetta Road,
EH45 8HG on Tuesday, 28th February, 2023
at 5.00 pm

Present:- Councillors D. Begg, M. Douglas, J. Pirone, E. Small, V. Thomson and Maudsley
In Attendance:- Acting Chief Corporate Governance Officer, Estates Strategy Manager, Estates
Surveyor (T. Hill), Democratic Services Team Leader, Trainee Democratic Services
Officer

1. **MINUTE AND ACTION TRACKER**

The Minute of the meeting of Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee held on 23 November 2022 and the Action Tracker had been circulated. With reference to paragraph 7 of the minute of 23 November 2022, it was noted that Councillor Tatler had declared an interest in the item of business in terms of Section 5 of the Councillors Code of Conduct and left the meeting during the discussion.

DECISION

APPROVED the minute for signature by the Chairman and APPROVED the Action Tracker.

2. **PEEBLES COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT**

Peter Maudsley had indicated his intention to step down from the Sub-Committee since his appointment as Chair of Peebles Community Council. George Ramsay was nominated by the Peebles Community Council to take his place.

DECISION

NOTED the appointment of George Ramsay to the Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee as the Peebles Community Council representative.

3. **FINANCIAL MONITORING FOR THE 9 MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2022 AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2023/24**

There had been circulated copies of the Peebles Common Good Fund Financial Monitoring Report from the Acting Chief Financial Adviser. The report provided the details of income and expenditure for the Peebles Common Good Fund for nine months to 31 December 2022, a full year projected out-turn for 2022/23, projected balance sheet values as at 31 March 2023 and proposed budget for 2023/24. Appendix 1 detailed the projected income and expenditure position for 2022/23 and showed a projected deficit of £10,300 for the year which was higher than the previously reported deficit on 23 November 2022 as a result of an increase to the Central Support Charge. Appendix 2 detailed a projected balance sheet value as at 31 March 2023 and showed a projected decrease in reserves of £81,860. Appendix 3a detailed a breakdown of the property portfolio, projected rental income and projected net return for 2022/23 and the actual property income to 31 December 2022. Appendix 3b detailed a breakdown of the property portfolio, projected property expenditure for 2022/23 and actual property expenditure to 31 December 2022. Appendix 4 detailed a breakdown of the property portfolio and projected portfolio valuations at 31 March 2023. Appendix 5 detailed the value of Aegon Asset Management Investment Fund to 31 December 2022. The Investment Fund had an 11.43% unrealised loss in market value since investment largely due to continued volatility in investment

markets. The cash held by the fund was projected to be £67,704 at 31 March 2023. Grants and other donations approved and distributed to 31 March 2023 totalled £9,230 with £10,770 unallocated from the 2022/23 budget.

DECISION

AGREED to:

- (a) **the projected income and expenditure for 2022/23 in Appendix 1 as the revised budget for 2022/23;**
- (b) **the proposed budget for 2023/24 as shown in Appendix 1;**
- (c) **note the projected balance sheet value as at 31 March 2023 in Appendix 2;**
- (d) **note the summary of the property portfolio in Appendices 3 and 4; and**
- (e) **note the current position of the Aegon Asset Management Investment Fund in Appendix 5.**

4. PROPERTY UPDATE

The Estates Surveyor advised that the following park bookings had been made for 2023:-

- Funfair, Victoria Park
- Cycle event, Tweed Green
- Tweedlove Bike Festival, Tweed Green

With reference to paragraph 7 of the meeting of 23 November 2022, the income from commercial bookings in 2022/23 was confirmed as £2424 and was generated from a circus and two funfairs.

DECISION

NOTED the update.

5. HAYLODGE AND VICTORIA PARKS BENCHES AND TABLES

There had been circulated copies of a presentation from the Peebles Callants Club, the purpose of which was to seek the approval of the Committee for the installation of a number of picnic tables and park benches. The Callants Club had been successful in securing 50% of the necessary funding from the Small Schemes budget to upgrade four benches and install four picnic tables in Haylodge Park, install two benches in Haylodge Hospital garden and install two picnic tables adjacent to the new playpark in Victoria Park. There had been an open question related to the installation of picnic tables which asked for consideration of a table with a disposable barbeque plate to prevent grass damage. A request was made that the Callants Club consider the inclusion of the barbeque plates. It was suggested that the Community Payback Team might be considered as a source of labour. Members approved the installation of the benches and tables.

DECISION

AGREED to the installation of six benches and six picnic tables in Haylodge and Victoria Parks by the Peebles Callants Club.

6. KINGSMEADOWS CAR PARK TOILETS

There followed a discussion on the future of Kingsmeadows Car Park Toilets. A report was to be presented to Scottish Borders Council on public convenience provision across the region. It was anticipated that provision was to be reduced to one site per town with only the East Station Toilets to be maintained in Peebles by Scottish Borders Council. The operation and maintenance of Kingsmeadows Car Park toilets was therefore to revert

back to the Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee. It was agreed that an item be added to the next agenda to consider a report on the running costs and regime proposal. In addition it was requested that the parking bays be remarked to maximise the use of space. The need for the retention of bus/coach parking and space for the uplift of bottle banks was noted. A request was to be made to Roads for a summary of running costs and a regime proposal, to be considered at the next public meeting of the Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee on 24 May 2023.

DECISION

- (a) NOTED that the Kingsmeadows Car Park toilets were to revert back to the control of Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee;**
- (b) AGREED to add an item to the next agenda to consider a report on the running costs and regime proposal for Kingsmeadows Car Park toilets; and**
- (c) AGREED to request a report on a plan and summary of costs for the remarking of parking bays to maximise the use of space in Kingsmeadows Car Park.**

7. PRIVATE CEREMONY: HAYLODGE PARK

There had been a request to hold a private ceremony to scatter ashes in Haylodge Park. The Committee raised no objections. It was agreed to add an agenda item to discuss memorials on Common Good land in general to the next in-person meeting of the Committee.

DECISION:

AGREED to the holding of a private ceremony in Haylodge Park and to add an agenda item to discuss memorials on Common Good land in general to the next in-person meeting of the Committee.

8. PEEBLES BOWLING CLUB

There followed a brief discussion on a request from Peebles Bowling Club to carry out site investigations with a view to installing a silt trap and soakaway and to the re-siting of a store on a small area of Common Good Land. It was confirmed that this was to be carried out at no cost to the Common Good Fund. The request to carry out site investigations was agreed and a further private meeting was scheduled to discuss a rental agreement for the land on which the store was to be erected.

DECISION:

AGREED to

- (a) Peebles Bowling Club carrying out site investigations with a view to installing a silt trap and soakaway; and**
- (b) convene a private meeting of the Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee to discuss a rental agreement for the land on which the store was to be erected.**

9. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT.

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

- 9.1 A request had been received from the Peebles Beltane Committee to plant one of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Trees on Tweed Green, the deadline for which was the end of March. At the conclusion of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the trees which had formed

part of the event on the Mall in London were earmarked for distribution to counties via Lord Lieutenants. These 'trees of trees' were to be awarded to groups who had done great work for their communities. Tweeddale was given one 'tree of trees' and Sir Hew Strachan nominated the Beltane Committee to receive it, a proposal which met the full approval of the organisers of the Queen's Green Canopy. The rowan tree was currently about 8ft and could grow to 25-30 ft and was to be accompanied by a commemorative plaque. Members agreed to the preferred site of near the wishing well provided the necessary checks were made for cabling and pipework. Haylodge Park had been earmarked for the second site if required.

- 9.2 A request had been received from Anne Woodcock, Communications and Fundraising Officer with RiverTweed.org.uk for permission to stage an event on behalf of the Tweed Foundation and Peeblesshire Trout Fishing Association on Tweed Green on Saturday 1st April 2023. The event was to celebrate the start of the Trout Season on Tweed. The day was an opportunity to promote the health and wellbeing benefits of fishing; to chat with local anglers and engage with new, lapsed, or inactive anglers and help grow participation within the area; to launch the new Trout & Grayling Logbook which monitored trout and grayling with Citizen Science and to launch the RiverFly Monitoring Initiative for Tweed with an opportunity for local residents to find out more and to get involved. Tweed Foundation biologists were also to discuss the Tweed Trout & Grayling Initiative on the river which included the Trout Acoustic Tracking project. The applicant was to be directed to the booking form to be completed and emailed to PLACE Bookings to secure the date. A request was made that the event was used to publicise the Tweeddale area and the Chair undertook to meet with Ms Woodcock to discuss how this might be achieved.

**DECISION
AGREED:-**

- (a) **to the Beltane Committee planting the Queen's Platinum Jubilee rowan tree and commemorative plaque by the wishing well on Tweed Green, provided the necessary checks were made for cabling and pipework;**
- (b) **to the staging of an event by RiverTweed.org.uk on Tweed Green on 1 April 2023, with the proviso that the event was used to publicise the Tweeddale area**

Note

At the conclusion of the formal business the Sub-Committee held a Q&A session with members of the public. A copy of the questions and the responses given forms the Appendix to this Minute

10. **OPEN QUESTIONS**

The meeting concluded at 5.35 pm

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

MINUTES of Meeting of the PEEBLES
COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
held via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, 7th
March, 2023 at 4.00 pm

Present:- Councillors R. Tatler (Chair), D. Begg, M. Douglas, J. Pirone, E. Small. V. Thomson
In Attendance:- Acting Chief Corporate Governance Officer, Estates Surveyor (T. Hill), Democratic Services Team Leader

1. **PRIVATE BUSINESS
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 6 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Act.

2. **MINUTE**

There had been circulated copies of the private section of the meeting held on 23 November 2022.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the Minute for signature by the Chairman.

3. **HAYLODGE PATH REPAIRS**

It was noted that no information had been provided regarding the costs so this item could not be considered.

DECISION

AGREED to defer until the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

4. **PEEBLES BOWLING CLUB**

There had been circulated copies of a briefing note by the Estates Surveyor regarding an area of land at Peebles Bowling Club which belonged to the Common Good Fund. The land was currently a maintained area of grassland/garden ground adjacent to the bowling green with a couple of benches and wooden storage sheds situated on the land. The bowling club occupied this land under an agreement dating from 1906. This agreement included a rental payment of 15 shillings per annum. The bowling club were planning to renovate and extend their current club house and had requested to use the Peebles Common Good land to install a soakaway in connection with this development.

Additionally a timber summer house already at the bowling green would be relocated onto the Common Good land. Plans showing the proposed works were contained in the briefing paper. Members discussed the request and were in agreement in principle that it be approved. However, the Acting Corporate Governance Officer advised that if planning permission was required for a change of use of the land then there would be a requirement under the Community Empowerment legislation to carry out a public

consultation. The Estates Surveyor confirmed that the Bowling Club had applied for planning permission for the full scheme and she would check if this covered a change of use. Members agreed to grant delegated powers to the Acting Corporate Governance Officer and the Estates Survey to approve the request if it was ascertained that a change of use was not required. With regard to the rental it was suggested that a new rent of £100 per annum be included in the Minute of Amendment. In response to a question, Ms Hill advised that when looking at rents for sports clubs across the Borders this was the suggested amount which would cover administration costs. It was noted that the Golf Club currently paid a more commercially based rent and Members asked that the rents of all sports clubs using land owned by the Peebles Common Good Fund should be reviewed to ensure equality of treatment.

DECISION

AGREED:-

- (a) to delegate powers to the Acting Corporate Governance Officer and the Estates Survey to approve the request to allow the uses of a soakaway and siting of a summer house on the land owned by the Common Good Fund if it was ascertained that a change of use was not required;**
- (b) subject to (a) above, to issue a Minute of Amendment to the current Agreement to cover these uses;**
- (c) to include a new rent of £100 per annum in the Minute of Amendment;**
- (d) that a review of rents for all sports clubs occupying land owned by the Common Good Fund be carried out.**

The meeting concluded at 4.15 pm

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

MINUTES of Meeting of the INNERLEITHEN
COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
held VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS on
Wednesday, 8th March, 2023 at 3.00 pm

Present:- Councillors M. Douglas (Chairman), J. Pirone and R. Tatler
Apologies:- Acting Chief Financial Officer
In Attendance:- Principal Solicitor (G. Sellar), Estates Surveyor (Tricia Hill), G.Daly
(Innerleithen Community Council), Emma Guy (ESO Sports), Trainee
Democratic Services Officer

1. **MINUTE**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the meetings held on 24 August and 15 September 2022.

DECISION:

AGREED the minute of the meetings held on 24 August and 15 September 2022.

2. **CYCLE STORAGE AT INNERLEITHEN MEMORIAL HALL**

There had been circulated plans of the proposed site for cycle storage Veloboxes. Permission had been sought by ESO Sports to install the Veloboxes for use by employees and the public. The boxes were to be secured with key access, leased on an annual basis. Local residents had been approached to publicise their availability and two households had signed up to use a box. Loulabelle's Café on Innerleithen High Street had also been approached to use the secure storage for the benefit of their customers, on a sign in/ sign out basis. It was confirmed that the future maintenance and removal of the storage boxes was the responsibility of ESO Sports. It was confirmed that the Veloboxes were to be further advertised on Innerleithen Online.

DECISION

AGREED to the installation of cycle storage Veloboxes as detailed on the plan.

3. **MEMORIAL GARDEN**

It was agreed that an update from Ross McGinn, Community Trust be requested for the next meeting of the Innerleithen Common Good Fund.

DECISION

AGREED to that an update be requested from Ross McGinn at the next meeting on 1 June 2023.

4. **MEMORIAL HALL: DEVELOPMENT OF PLAY PARK SITE**

There followed a discussion on the development of an empty green space behind the Memorial Hall. Suggestions from the User Group included the installation of benches and tables, an area of hard standing for local bands to play and to approach the Edible Garden to install some raised beds to create a community growing facility. Further proposals were welcomed for consideration at a future meeting. Gordon Daly undertook to discuss the matter with Innerleithen Community Council with a view to a member joining the user group.

DECISION:
NOTED the update

5. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Innerleithen Common Good Fund was scheduled for 1 June 2023 at 3pm.

The meeting concluded at 3.10 pm

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

MINUTES of Meeting of the CHAMBERS
INSTITUTION TRUST held via Microsoft
Teams on Wednesday, 15th March, 2023 at
4.00 pm

Present:- Councillors R. Tatler (Chair), D. Begg, M. Douglas, J. Pirone and E. Small

Apologies:- Councillor V. Thomson

In Attendance:- Chief Legal Officer, Property Officer (G. Smith), F. Colton (Live Borders),
Localities Development Co-Ordinator (K. Harrow), S. Coe, Trainee
Democratic Services Officer

1. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Chairman varied the order of business as shown on the agenda and the Minute reflects the order in which the items were considered at the meeting.

2. MINUTE AND ACTION TRACKER

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting held on 22 February 2023 and the Action Tracker.

DECISION

(a) **APPROVED the tracker and the Minute for signature by the Chair.**

3. BENEFICIARIES GROUP UPDATE

There had been circulated copies of the Note of the Beneficiaries Group meeting held on 14 March. The Chair provided a brief summary of the meeting, reported that attendance was considerably lower for this in-person meeting and handed over to Gareth Smith, Property Officer. The walls were framed and boarded where necessary and the window arches had been formed and plastered. Ornamental plasterwork was now in place around the windows with work to begin on the top central band soon. It was estimated that 50% of the cornice work had been completed. The proposed date for the dropping of the scaffold, the week ending 31 March, was considered as being too soon as other trades still had work outstanding that required high level access. Electrical cabling was now complete along with smoke detection preparation by Border Safeguard. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of 25 January 2023, Mr Smith confirmed that the header tank and pipework removal and boiler work had proved more costly than anticipated and that the cost was to be met from the Property Maintenance budget. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of 25 January it was also confirmed that the cost of the installation of Wi-Fi (£4408.38 +VAT) was to be met by Live Borders. The project had five weeks to completion and it was anticipated that the next two to three weeks would see good progress once the ornamental plasterwork was complete. Light fittings were to be installed once the scaffold was removed to safeguard against damage. Most paint colours had been agreed and paint sample boards had been produced for the high level work. The roof timber colour required further investigation and samples to be prepared and Councillor Pirone, Fiona Colton and Sam Coe agreed to attend the Burgh Hall on Friday 17 March to help with colour selection. It had been agreed with Sanne Roberts, Heritage Officer that wall fans that required rewiring were to be removed. White wall lights had been selected with the proviso that the finish was to match the pendant light. It had been

agreed to temporarily apply a plain decal to a number of windows to hide the view of the rain gutter and pigeon nesting site, with further discussions to follow on Friday following an inspection of the windows. The radiator covers were to be clad with a timber grill and painted to match the timber panelling. With reference to paragraph 3.2 of the Minute of January 25 it was agreed that the estimated cost of £58k rendered the installation of automated window blinds too costly during this first phase of work. It was agreed to postpone this particular project to a later phase along with insulation and acoustics when additional funding had been identified. It was agreed that it was important to convey to the public that the work undertaken on the Burgh Hall was the first phase in a longer term programme of work.

DECISION:
NOTED the update.

4. BURGH HALL BUDGET AND COSTS

- 4.1 With reference to paragraph 2.1 of the Minute of the meeting 22 February 2023, there had been circulated a spreadsheet of costs of the Burgh Hall renovations. The Chair reiterated that the Wi-Fi and header tank costs were not to be met from the Burgh Hall budget and the spend to date was just under £130k. Mr Smith confirmed that there would be some additional costs associated with reinstating the stage lights and stage curtains. The funding for the Burgh Hall work was as follows: £100k from Place Based Investment Program and £29k from the Chambers Institution Trust. Fiona Colton (Live Borders) confirmed that further discussion was to be had to determine the funding of the Wi-Fi wiring installation and the 2 year maintenance contract. The cost of the maintenance contract was to be considered as part of the Service Level Agreement between Live Borders and the Chambers Institution Trust with the cost to be recovered from the income generated by the Burgh Hall for Live Borders.
- 4.2 Gareth Smith confirmed that the Burgh Hall was to be handed back to Live Borders on 21 April 2023.
- 4.3 With reference to paragraph 3.8 of the Minute of 25 January 2023, Localities Development Coordinator Kenny Harrow had proposed that the appointment of a facilitator became part of Peebles 'Place Making Plan' process which allowed access to the facilitators appointed to Scottish Borders Council's approved list. Mr Harrow agreed to prepare a proposal as part of a wider Peebles Place Making Plan to the next meeting on 10 May 2023.
- 4.4 With reference to paragraph 2.2 of the minute of 22 February 2023, Sam Coe reported there was to be a workshop on 24 March that involved Page\Park Architects, Live Borders and the Beneficiaries Group to discuss the core uses and possibilities for the Burgh Hall and to prioritise its competing use and needs. Photographs of the interior of St Andrew's Church, Blackadder were shared by way of illustration of the space afforded by the installation of a complete first floor – one of the proposals to be considered with Page\Park. The Church was of a similar size to the Burgh Hall with a vaulted ceiling and large stained glass windows on the gable ends and side walls.
- 4.5 The Chair reported that the Beneficiaries Group had discussed the formation of a sub group to prepare a business plan for the Chambers Institution Trust going forward. Currently there was a Service Level Agreement between Live Borders and Chambers Institution Trust that facilitated the running of the Burgh Hall. The Chair sought approval for the formation of the sub group which was agreed.

DECISION:

- (a) **NOTED the update and AGREED to postpone the installation of automated window blinds to a later phase of work once additional funding had been identified.**
- (b) **NOTED the briefing paper and that the Burgh Hall was to be handed back to Live Borders on 21 April 2023.**

- (c) **AGREED to consider a proposal from the Localities Development Coordinator to contract an SBC approved facilitator as part of a wider Peebles Place Making Plan at the next meeting on 10 May 2023.**
- (d) **AGREED to the formation of a sub group of the Beneficiaries Group to prepare a business plan for the Chambers Institution Trust.**

5. **140TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

With reference to paragraph 2.9 of the Minute of the meeting on 14 December 2022, there followed a discussion on a proposed event to mark the 140th anniversary of the death of William Chambers. Fiona Colton reported that the museum and library service was to hold a function on Thursday 17 and Friday 18 May 2023. It was agreed that an invitation only opening event be held on 18 May that catered for all parties and individuals involved in the Burgh Hall project so far. The Chair undertook to liaise with Fiona Colton to produce a guest list. There was another proposal that a volunteer fair be held on Saturday 24th June 2023 that incorporated the Citizens Advice Bureau, Live Borders library and museum service, Peebles Common Good Fund and the John Buchan Museum among others. The date was unanimously agreed and the apologies of the Chair and Mr Coe were noted for the volunteer fair.

DECISION

AGREED:

- (a) **to host an invitation only event on Friday 18 May 2023 to mark the 140th anniversary of William Chamber's death and the reopening of the Burgh Hall; and**
- (b) **to hold a volunteer fair in the Burgh Hall on Saturday 24 June with interested stakeholders**

6. **ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT**

The Chair reported that at a recent meeting of stakeholders of the Chambers Institution Trust buildings, Ian Buckingham of the John Buchan Museum had requested that the committee considered making improvements to the museum windows and signage. There followed a short discussion on the exterior appearance of the building that faced onto the High Street. Its Grade A listed status required consultation regarding the possible re-siting of benches, the removal of railings, window replacements and the erection of temporary signage. Gareth Smith undertook to liaise with Estates and Planning.

DECISION

NOTED.

7. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Chambers Institution Trust was scheduled for 10 May 2023 at 4pm via Microsoft Teams.

The meeting concluded at 5.15 pm

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SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL LOCAL REVIEW BODY

MINUTE of Meeting of the LOCAL REVIEW BODY held in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells on Monday, 20 March 2023 at 10 a.m.

Present:- Councillors S Mountford (Chair), M. Douglas, D. Moffat, A. Orr, V. Thomson, N. Richards, S. Scott.

Apologies: Councillors E. Small, J. Cox.

In Attendance:- Principal Planning Officer (C. Miller), Solicitor (S. Thompson), Democratic Services Team Leader, Democratic Services Officer (F. Henderson).

1. CONTINUATION OF REVIEW 22/00041/RREF

With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of 20 February 2023, the Local Review Body continued their consideration of a request from Mr P J Lewis, c/o RM Architecture Ltd, Bloomfield, Heatherlie Park, Selkirk to review the decision to refuse the planning application for the erection of a dwellinghouse on Land South West of Castleside Cottage, Selkirk. The supporting papers included the written submission from the Applicant detailing the fibre cement cladding and colour proposed, together with photographs of the use of the material; Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; consultation replies; further representations and list of policies. The Applicant had also supplied a sample of the fibre cement to be used.

- 1.1 At their initial consideration of the Review, Members noted that the application had not been refused in relation to the principle of a house under Policy HD2 of the Local Development Plan and the New Housing in the Borders Countryside Supplementary Planning Guidance. However, they did consider the principle as part of their overall consideration of the Review, the relationship with the Development Plan and all other material issues. Members accepted that there was a building group present at Castleside, that there was capacity for addition of another house and that the application site was an appropriate site within the group. The Review Body concluded that the principle of a house was acceptable under Clause A of Policy HD2 and the New Housing in the Borders Countryside SPG.
- 1.2 Members then considered the issues of siting and design and noted that the Appointed Officer had accepted the scale, position and alignment of the proposed dwellinghouse but had considered that the external cladding material, its colour and the fenestration, especially to the south-west elevation, were inappropriate and out of context with the character and architectural styles of the building group and surrounding area.
- 1.3 After careful consideration of the fibre cement sample and additional photographs, the Review Body were of the opinion that the design would result in a house very different from what existed within the building group, appearing prominent and incongruous adjoining the existing cottage. Whilst there were no objections to the overall scale and form of the house, the type, colour and extent of external cladding and fenestration would result in a design that would be out of character with the group and area.

VOTE

Councillor Thomson, seconded by Councillor Orr, moved that the officer's decision be upheld and the application refused.

Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor Richards moved as an amendment that the officer's decision be overturned and the application approved.

On a show of hands Members voted as follows:-

Motion - 5 votes

Amendment - 2 votes

DECISION

DECIDED that:-

- (a) the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;**
- (b) the review could be considered without the need for further procedure;**
- (c) the design was contrary to Policies PMD2 and HD2 of the Local Development Plan and the advice within the SPGs;**
- (d) NPF4 Policies did not alter their conclusion.**
- (e) that the Officer's decision to refuse the application be upheld.**

PROCEDURAL HEARINGS

2.0 Mrs Thompson, Solicitor explained that that the following applications had been placed on the Agenda as procedural hearings as a result of the Scottish Government introducing the National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) on 13 February 2023, which superseded previous guidance and now formed part of the Development Plan. In accordance with the terms of Section 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, the Planning Authority must ensure that Planning Decisions and Reviews took account of the new Framework. It was therefore agreed that comments on the impact of NPF4 on the planning application and subsequent review be sought from the Planning Officer and Applicant, prior to the following applications being presented to the Local Review Body for consideration.

3.0 REVIEW OF 23/00004/RREF

There had been circulated copies of a request from W A Mole & Son, c/o Cockburn's Consultants, 1A Belford Park, Edinburgh to review the decision to refuse the planning application for the erection of 4 No. dwellinghouses on Land West of Greenburn Cottage, Auchencrow. The supporting papers included the Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; additional information and consultation replies.

DECISION

AGREED that:-

- (a) the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;**
- (b) the review could not be considered without the need for further procedure in the form of written submissions;**
- (c) the Planning Officer and Applicant be given the opportunity to submit an NPF4 statement; and**
- (d) consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting on a date to be confirmed.**

4.0 **REVIEW OF 23/00005/RREF**

There had been circulated copies of request from Mr Alan Hislop, 100 Abbotseat, Kelso , to review the decision to refuse the planning application for the erection of a boundary fence (retrospective) at 100 Abbotseat, Kelso. The supporting papers included the Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; additional information, consultation replies and Objection comments.

DECISION

AGREED that:-

- (a) **the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;**
- (b) **the review could not be considered without the need for further procedure in the form of written submissions;**
- (c) **the Planning Officer and Applicant be given the opportunity to submit an NPF4 statement; and**
- (f) **consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting on a date to be confirmed.**

5.0 **REVIEW OF 23/00007/RREF**

There had been circulated copies of a request from Mr and Mrs P Nowell, The Millers House, Scotsmill, Kailzie, Peebles to review the decision to refuse the planning application for the formation of access and boundary fence (retrospective) at The Millers House, Scotsmill, Kailzie, Peebles . The supporting papers included the Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; Consultation Replies; Objection comments and further representations;

DECISION

AGREED that:-

- (a) **the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;**
- (b) **the review could not be considered without the need for further procedure in the form of written submissions;**
- (c) **the Planning Officer and Applicant be given the opportunity to submit an NPF4 statement; and**
- (d) **consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting on a date to be confirmed.**

6.0 **REVIEW OF 23/00008/RREF**

There had been circulated copies of a request from Mr Rob Cameron c/o Ferguson Planning, 54 Island Street, Galashiels to review the decision to refuse the planning application for the erection of residential dwelling together with associated landscaping/amenity, parking, infrastructure and access at Land South of Ebbastrand, Coldingham Sands, Coldingham. The supporting papers included the Notice of Review (including the Decision Notice and Officer's Report); Papers referred to in the Officer's report; Consultation Replies; support comments and objection comments.

DECISION

AGREED that:-

- (a) the request for review had been competently made in terms of Section 43A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997;**
- (b) the review could not be considered without the need for further procedure in the form of written submissions;**
- (c) the Planning Officer and Applicant be given the opportunity to submit an NPF4 statement; and**
- (d) consideration of the review be continued to a future meeting on a date to be confirmed.**

The meeting concluded at 10.23 a.m.

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL PENSION FUND COMMITTEE AND PENSION BOARD

MINUTES of Meeting of the PENSION
FUND COMMITTEE AND PENSION
BOARD held via Microsoft Teams on
Tuesday, 21 March 2023 at 10.00am.

Present:- Councillors D. Parker (Chairman), P. Brown, C. Hamilton, W. McAteer, D. Moffat, S. Mountford, W. McAteer, J. Pirone, S. Scott, Mr D. Bell, Mr M. Drysdale, Mr M. Everett, and Ms L. Stephen.

Apologies:- Mr A. Daye, Ms K M Hughes and Ms K Robb

In Attendance: Chief Executive, Acting Chief Financial Officer, Chief Legal Officer, HR Shared Services Manager, Democratic Services Officer (D. Hall).

Also in Attendance: Mr A Ross and Mr A Singh (Isio), Mr J Boyd and Ms S Harold (Audit Scotland)

1. **MINUTE**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting held on 12 December 2022.

DECISION

NOTED for signature by the Chairman.

2. **PENSION FUND INVESTMENT AND PERFORMANCE SUB-COMMITTEE**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting of the Pension Fund Investment and Performance Sub-Committee held on 31 October 2022.

DECISION

NOTED for signature by the Chairman.

2. **STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES**

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Acting Chief Financial Officer which proposed the revised Statement of Investment Principles (SIP) for 2023. The report explained that the SIP should be kept under review and updated and approved annually in line with the Pension Fund's business plan. The report discharged that requirement. The Pension Fund was required by the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations to have an up-to-date Statement of Investment Principles. Appendix A to the report contained the revised Statement of Investment Principles. The Acting Chief Financial Officer, Mrs Suzy Douglas, presented the report and provided an overview of the SIP. Mr Andrew Singh of Isio explained that the report represented an annual refresh of the principles which govern the Fund. Members welcomed the report.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the Statement of Investment Principles contained in Appendix A to the report.

3. **RISK REGISTER UPDATE**

With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of the Meeting held on 13 December 2022 there had been circulated a report by the Acting Chief Financial Officer which formed part of the risk review requirements and provided an update on the risk register. The report explained that identifying and managing risk was a cornerstone of effective management and was required under the Council's Risk Management Policy and

process guide and CIPFA's guidance "Delivering Governance in Local Government Framework "2007". It was further reflected and enhanced in the "Local Government Pension Scheme" published by CIPFA. Following the Committee meeting on 13 December 2022 the Council had appointed Isio to assist with the management of the Pension Fund. As part of their remit, they had reviewed the risk register and had made a number of observations and comments. In response to a question regarding the appointment of Isio to assist with management of the Fund, Mrs Douglas confirmed that the appointment was on an interim basis whilst SBC went through the recruitment process to hire an in-house Pension Fund Manager. Mrs Douglas confirmed that additional costs would be incurred by the Fund due to the extra work carried out by Isio, and undertook to share the details with Members. Members highlighted that the Fund had been quick to respond to the recommendations of Clare Scott's report, and had taken steps to reduce the number of risks within the register promptly.

**DECISION
AGREED:-**

- (a) to a review of the Risk Register as outlined the report; and**
- (b) to the timetable set out in paragraph 3.1 (f) of the report.**

4. PENSION FUND BUDGET MONITORING TO 31 DECEMBER 2022

With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of the Meeting held on 12 December 2022, there had been circulated copies of a report by the Acting Chief Financial Officer which provided an updated position of the Pension Fund budget to 31 December 2022 including projections to 31 March 2023. The Local Government Pension Scheme (Scotland) Regulation 2014 required Administering Authorities to ensure strong governance arrangements and set out the standards they were to be measured against. To ensure the Fund met the standards, a budget was approved on 17 March 2022 following the recommendations within the CIPFA accounting guidelines headings. The report was the third quarterly monitoring report of the approved budget. The total expenditure to 31 December 2022 was £3.739m, with a breakdown provided within the report. Total projected expenditure was £7.4m. Mrs Douglas presented the report and highlighted that the majority of the budget was based upon investment manager costs, which were in turn based on investor returns. It had been determined that it would be helpful to delay the setting of the budget until the 2022/23 outturn position was known, and that approval for the budget would therefore be sought at the next meeting. The third quarter expenditure for investment management fees was not available and therefore had not been included in the monitoring to 31 December 2022, and would be reflected in the report which would be presented at the next meeting of the Committee. In response to a question regarding the inclusion of the additional costs incurred with Isio in the 2022/23 outturn, Mrs Douglas confirmed that they would be included. Regarding the budget for 2023/24, Mrs Douglas confirmed that the proposed budget would be presented to the Committee in June. The final 2022/23 outturn would also be presented at that meeting. In response to a question regarding a fall in investment income in Quarter 4 compared to the preceding 12 months, the Chief Executive explained that investment income was highly variable in terms of quarterly performance, and that it was premature to state whether that formed part of an ongoing trend. There were no long term concerns regarding investment income.

**DECISION
AGREED to:**

- (a) note the actual expenditure to 31 December 2022; and**

(b) note the projected out turn position to 31 March 2023.

5. INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2022/24 FOR THE SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL PENSION FUND

With reference to paragraph 10 of the Minute of the meeting held on 17 March 2022 there had been circulated copies of a report by the Chief Officer Audit and Risk which presented the Internal Audit Annual Plan 2022/23 for approval to enable the Chief Officer Audit and Risk to provide the required audit opinion on the adequacy of the Scottish Borders Council Pension Fund's overall control environment. The report explained that the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) required the Chief Audit Executive (CAE), the Council's Chief Officer Audit & Risk, to establish risk based plans to set out the areas of Internal Audit activity, consistent with the objectives of the Pension Fund. A fundamental role of the Internal Audit function was to provide senior management and members with independent and objective assurance, which was designed to add value and improve the organisation's operations. In addition, the CAE was also required to prepare an Internal Audit annual opinion on the adequacy of the organisation's overall control environment. The proposed Internal Audit Annual Plan 2023/24 for the Pension Fund in Appendix 1 to the report set out the range and breadth of audit areas and sufficient audit activity to enable the CAE to prepare an Internal Audit annual opinion for the Pension Fund. Key components of the audit planning process included a clear understanding of the organisation's functions, associated risks, and assurance framework. There were resources currently in place to achieve the Internal Audit Annual Plan 2023/24 for the Pension Fund and to meet its objectives. The Chief Legal Officer presented the report and explained that the Chief Officer Audit and Risk had been unable to attend. It was hoped that a change in format of the Audit would provide a greater level of transparency. The number of internal audit days deployed to the Pension Fund audit had increased from 5 to 20.

**DECISION
AGREED to**

(a) approve the Internal Audit Annual Plan 2023/23 for the Scottish Borders Council Pension Fund; and

(b) note that any changes in-year would be brought back for approval.

6. EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2022/23

There had been circulated copies of the External Annual Audit Plan 2022/23 for the Scottish Borders Council Pension Fund prepared by Audit Scotland. The Chairman welcomed Mr John Boyd and Ms Stephanie Harold of Audit Scotland to the meeting to present the report. Mr Boyd explained that his team had been appointed as Auditor of the Fund for a five year period. The Plan for 2022/23 was comparable to preceding years. The main elements of Audit Scotland's work would include an evaluation of the key controls within the main accounting systems; an audit of the annual accounts and the provision of an independent Auditor's Report; an opinion on statutory information published in the annual accounts, comprising the Management Commentary, the Annual Governance Statement and the Governance Compliance Statement; and consideration of arrangements in relation to wider scope areas: financial management; financial sustainability; vision, leadership and governance; and use of resources to improve outcomes. Regarding materiality, Mr Boyd explained that planning materiality had been set at 1.5% of gross investment assets based on the Quarter 2 2022/23 investment performance reporting. Considerable focus would be paid to asset performance. Audit Scotland were required to report to those charged with governance on all unadjusted misstatements more than the reporting threshold amount, which was set at 2%, or £250k. The report outlined two areas of risk, material misstatement due to fraud caused

by the management override of controls; and estimation applied to Level 3 Investments, which had been identified as significant risks of material misstatement to the financial statements. Those risks had the greatest impact on planned audit procedures. Level 3 investments were an inherent risk due to the subjectivity and estimation in their values as they were not based on published market data. The report outlined planned responses, which included engagement with investment managers and assessments of their controls on valuation and analytical procedures. Mr Boyd highlighted that a final area of focus for Audit Scotland would concern the estimations applied to the International Accounting Standard (IAS) 26 actuarial valuation. An assessment of the assumptions applied by the Fund through the appointed actuary would be carried out. The annual report would also include findings related to the financial management; financial sustainability; vision, leadership and governance; and the use of resources to improve outcomes. Mr Boyd confirmed that the statutory deadline for the independent auditors report was 30 September 2023, and that he expected to present the report to the Committee by that time.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the Scottish Borders Council Pension Fund External Audit Plan 2022/23.

7. INFORMATION UPDATE

There had been circulated copies of a briefing paper by the Acting Chief Financial Officer which provided an update on a number of areas which were being monitored and areas where work was progressing. Full reports on the individual areas would be tabled as decisions and actions were required. The HR Shared Services Manager confirmed that Fund officers were working with Hymans Robertson as part of the triennial evaluation, and an indicative timeline had been provided. Formal training with Hymans Robertson was expected to be carried out at a future date. The Acting Chief Financial Officer provided a positive update on the Fund's application as a signatory to the UK Stewardship code to the UK Financial Reporting Council. The application had been successful, and the accreditation put the Fund in a select group of LGPS funds who had also become signatories. Further areas of improvement and future actions would be required to maintain the accreditation, and a further report would be brought to the Committee outlining an action plan for delivery. Future training opportunities would be circulated when they became available. It was agreed that future meetings of the Pension Fund Investment and Performance Sub-Committee would be held in person. Expenses would be incurred where Fund Managers had to travel in order to attend the meeting. In response to a question regarding the costs incurred as part of the Stewardship Code, the Chief Executive confirmed that there was a small fee, in the context of the Fund, and that the code demonstrated that the Fund was meeting the highest standard of governance. Regarding whether the Fund should focus on delivering profits over administrative matters, the Chief Executive highlighted that the Fund was well diversified and protected.

DECISION

NOTED

8. PRIVATE BUSINESS

AGREED under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to excluded the public from the meeting during consideration of the business contained in the following items on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 and 8 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Act.

SUMMARY OF PRIVATE BUSINESS

9. **MINUTE**
The Committee considered the Private Minute of the Meeting held on 13 December 2022.
10. **PENSION FUND INVESTMENT AND PERFORMANCE SUB-COMMITTEE**
The Committee considered the Private Minute of the Meeting of the Pension Fund Investment and Performance Sub-Committee held on 31 October 2022.
11. **QUARTER 4 INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT**
The Committee noted the Quarter 4 Investment Performance report by Isio.
12. **BAILLIE GIFFORD EQUITY ALLOCATION – PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**
The Committee noted a report by Isio on Baillie Gifford's performance and agreed to hold a special meeting.

The meeting concluded at 11.40 am.

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SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL PENSION BOARD

MINUTE of Meeting of the PENSION BOARD
held Via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, 21
March 2023 at 11.45 a.m.

Present:- Mr. D. Bell (Vice-chair), Mr. M. Drysdale, Mr. M Everett and Ms. L. Steven
Apologies:- Councillor J. Pirone, Mr. A. Daye, Ms K Robb and Ms K M Hughes
In Attendance:- Chief Executive, Acting Chief Financial Officer, HR Shared Services Manager,
Democratic Services Officer (D. Hall)

CHAIRMAN

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair assumed the Chair.

1. MINUTE

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the meeting held on 13 December 2022.

DECISION

NOTED for signature by the Chairman

2. JOINT MEETING OF PENSION COMMITTEE AND PENSION BOARD

The Chair invited those present to raise any matters which had been discussed at the joint meeting. Concerns were expressed that agreeing to hold the Pension Fund Investment and Performance Sub-Committee in person had the potential to send the wrong message on climate change as Investment Managers could be required to fly to the UK. The Chief Executive explained that only one manager was based overseas, and that the meeting with them would only occur once a year. There was no agreement on whether holding in person meetings was the best course, with positives presented for both in person and purely online meetings. Members acknowledged that managing the Baillie Gifford allocation in the agreed way was a prudent decision.

DECISION

AGREED that there were no issues to raise.

3. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Meeting of the Pension Board was set for 22 June 2023.

The meeting concluded at 11.50 a.m.

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SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

MINUTES of Meeting of the PEEBLES
COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
held in via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday,
22nd March, 2023 at 12.00 pm

Present:- Councillors R. Tatler (Chair), D. Begg, M. Douglas, J. Pirone and Community
Councillor G. Ramsay
Apologies: Councillors E. Small and V. Thomson
In Attendance:- Acting Chief Corporate Governance Officer, Neighbourhood Assistant Area
Manager (Neil Pringle), Trainee Democratic Services Officer

1. **HAYLODGE PARK: HANDRAIL AT RAEBURN STEPS**

There had been a request from the Peebles Callants Club for permission to install a handrail along the side of the steps of the Raeburn on the west side of Haylodge Park. The handrail was to be approximately 84 metres in length and provide assistance to those walking up and down the steps. A contractor had been appointed and the cost of materials and labour was to be met from community grants and at no cost to the Peebles Common Good Fund. It was agreed that permission to install the handrail was approved.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the request for the installation of a handrail along the side of the steps of the Raeburn, Haylodge Park.

2. **PEEBLES COMMON GOOD EXHIBITION**

With reference to an open question submitted at the meeting of the Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee on 28 February 2023, there was a proposal from the Chair for an exhibition on the history, assets and work of Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee. A volunteer fair had been proposed to follow on from the reopening of the Burgh Hall on 23 April 2023. A date for the event was still to be confirmed though it was thought not to be possible until late June 2023. The volunteer fair was to provide a focus for the work of local organisations and charities to showcase their work and to recruit potential new volunteers. The Chair proposed that the Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee attended the event accompanied by two pop up panels, one concerned with information on Common Good Funds in general, and the other to explain the history, assets and work of Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee. These panels were to be made available for display at other sites around the town after the volunteer event. There was also to be the facility for the public to leave comments and suggestions during the fair. It was confirmed that the costs incurred to stage the exhibition had been approved by the Acting Chief Financial Officer as an appropriate use of the Common Good funds. It was suggested that the alternative locations were well publicised. The Chair undertook to liaise with the Communications department for advice on how to proceed and to ensure advance promotion of the volunteer fair and the Common Good exhibition panels' future locations.

DECISION

NOTED the proposal

3. **ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT.**

Under Section 50B(4)(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the Chairman was of the opinion that the items dealt with in the following paragraph should be considered at

the meeting as a matter of urgency, in view of the need to make an early decision or to keep Members informed.

- 3.1 The Chair informed the Members of the proposed reopening of Haylodge Park toilets from 1 April 2023.

**DECISION
NOTED**

- 3.2 The Chair informed Members of a late application to the Peebles Common Good Fund from Iain Gibson for a youth project that was to run from June 2023. The Chair had agreed to meet with Mr Gibson for further discussion on details of the project and an extraordinary meeting of the Peebles Common Good Fund was to be convened at a future date to consider the funding application in full.

**DECISION
NOTED**

- 3.3 With reference to paragraph 9.2 of the minute of the Meeting on 28 February 2023, the Chair informed Members of progress of the event to be held on 1 April 2023 on Tweed Green by Tweed Foundation and Peeblesshire Trout Fishing Association. The event planning had progressed well and at a recent meeting with Anne Woodcock, the Chair had been able to connect the event up with Go Tweed Valley and the newly formed Retailers Association to further promote Peebles as a visitor destination. The Chair encouraged attendance at this inaugural event.

**DECISION
NOTED**

4. **PRIVATE BUSINESS
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.

5. **HAYLODGE PATH REPAIRS**

Members considered the area for repair and quotes for work to be undertaken.

The meeting concluded at 12.20 pm

MINUTE of Meeting of the EILDON AREA
PARTNERSHIP held via Microsoft Teams on
Thursday, 23 March 2023 at 6.00 p.m.

Present:- Councillors J. Linehan (Chair), C. Cochrane, L. Douglas, E. Jardine, N. Mackinnon, F. Sinclair, together with 8 representatives of Partner Organisations, Community Councils, and members of the public.

Apologies:- Councillor D. Parker, J. PatonDay, E. Thornton-Nicol

In Attendance:- Community Co-ordinator (K. Harrow), Community Engagement Officer (E. Coltman), Democratic Services Team Leader

1. **CHAIR**

In the absence of Councillor Thornton-Nicol, Councillor Linehan chaired the meeting.

2. **WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Eildon Area Partnership held remotely via Microsoft Teams, which included Elected Members, guests attending within the meeting and those watching via the Live Stream.

3. **FEEDBACK AND EVALUATION FROM MEETING OF 26 JANUARY 2023**

The Minute of the meeting of the Eildon Area Partnership held on 26 January 2023 had been circulated and was noted. The Community Co-ordinator, Mr Harrow, advised that following the focus on transport at the January meeting a meeting was to be held at 10 a.m. the following day to discuss transport in the Eildon locality. The use of bikes was also being looked at and he invited those present to join him on a trip that was currently being planned in partnership with the Bike and Hike Hub, Galashiels.

4. **HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP**

The Chair welcomed Ms Carol Hayden to the meeting. Ms Hayden gave a presentation on the ongoing engagement and involvement in respect of the Health and Social Care Strategic Framework for 2023-2026. She provided an update on the work to date and sought further comments from those in attendance and involvement in the planning, design and monitoring of the Framework. She provided details of the key challenges being faced and highlighted the need for more support for unpaid carers. The vision for the Framework was that all people in the Scottish Borders would be able to live their lives to the full. The Framework set out how health and social care services would be transformed and delivered over the next three years and detailed the levels of achievement that were being aimed for. Ms Hayden asked that people submit their views on the Framework and advise whether anything was missing. She then explained the various ways people could be involved. Ms Jenny Mushlin from the Parish of Stow Community Council highlighted that transport was missing from the Framework. She had been a member of a previous group and would be very happy to be involved again. However, she did note that the group would need administrative support to be more effective. The Chair asked that the presentation be circulated and encouraged everyone to submit their views.

5. **CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSAL TO RELOCATE GALASHIELS ACADEMY**

There had been circulated copies of a document on the consultation relating to the proposal to relocate Galashiels Academy. The consultation period would run from 13 March to 12 May 2023 and a public meeting was to be held on 20 April between 6.30 pm

and 8.30 pm at Galashiels Academy. The paper gave details of the proposals and the educational benefits of the new building. Members welcomed the progress being made and encouraged everyone to take part in the consultation process. Councillor Sinclair commented on a successful dedicated website which had been created for the new Peebles High School and hoped this would be replicated for Galashiels. In response to a question as to whether or not Parish of Stow Community Council could receive a further briefing via Microsoft Teams from the contractors, Mr Coltman advised that he would check. The contractors had undertaken to provide regular feedback sessions as the construction progressed.

6. **AREA PARTNERSHIP REFLECTIONS**

Attendees were placed in breakout rooms to discuss how to encourage greater involvement at Area Partnership meetings, what topics people would like to see going forward and thoughts on the Neighbourhood Support Fund criteria which was to be considered later in the meeting. After attendees had returned to the main meeting the Chair thanked everyone for their participation and asked that people add their notes to the Google Jamboard.

7. **EILDON FUNDING TABLE 2022/23**

Copies of the Eildon Funding Table 2022/23 had been circulated with the agenda. Mr Coltman advised that the opening balance of the Neighbourhood Support Fund (NSF) had been £147,038.24, and that £138,372.79 had been awarded since April 2022. Applications totalling £18,433 had been assessed and were awaiting decision. Mr Coltman explained that if all of the applications were approved in full then the Fund would be oversubscribed by £9767.55.

8. **NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT FUND CRITERIA 2023/24**

It was noted that the funding available for 203/24 had dropped to £87k and it was therefore proposed that the limit for an individual application be reduced from £15k to £10k and this was unanimously approved. A review of the funding criteria was also suggested and it was further agreed that a reflective session be held with the Assessment Panel before the next meeting of the Area Partnership in June and that any proposed amendments be brought forward for consideration. There were currently 2 vacancies on the Assessment Panel and Mr Harrow encouraged people to get in touch if they were interested in joining.

9. **NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT FUND**

9.1 There had been circulated copies of the Eildon Assessment Panel's recommendations as a supplement to the agenda. The Chair welcomed Ms Jenny Mushlin of the Eildon Assessment Panel to provide an overview of each of the recommendations.

9.2 **Melrose in Bloom**

With reference to paragraph 5.5 of the Minute of 26 January 2023, it was reported that ownership of the fence had still not been ascertained but that the Panel were happy to consider an application in 2023/24 once ownership had been confirmed. Mr Coltman advised that a meeting had been arranged with Melrose in Bloom to discuss the next steps. Members unanimously agreed not to grant the funding.

9.3 **At Birkhill House CIC**

With reference to paragraph 5.6 of the Minute of 26 January 2023, it was reported that the previous concerns regarding lack of quotes and a business plan had now been addressed. The Panel considered it was a strong application and recommended part funding of £8,665.45. Members unanimously agreed to approve this funding.

9.4 **Rotary Club of Melrose**

An application for £2,500 had been received to re-establish the library at Earlston High School following the appointment of a new librarian. The money would be used to purchase new appropriate books. The Panel had recommended that the application be

refused but suggested that the Rotary Club liaise with Live Borders. Mr Coltman confirmed that a conversation with the Rotary Club was ongoing. Members unanimously agreed not to grant the funding.

10. **NEXT AREA PARTNERSHIP**

The Chair confirmed that the next Eildon Area Partnership would be held on Thursday, 15 June 2023 at 6pm. Meetings would continue to be held online via Microsoft Teams at present.

11. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ OPEN FORUM**

No items were raised.

The meeting concluded at 7.30 p.m.

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SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS COMMITTEE

MINUTES of Meeting of the PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS COMMITTEE held in Council Chambers, Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells and via Microsoft Teams on Monday, 27th March, 2023 at 10.00 am

Present:- Councillors S. Mountford (Chair), M. Douglas, D. Moffat, A. Orr, N. Richards, S. Scott and E. Small

Apologies:- Councillors J. Cox and V. Thomson

In Attendance:- Lead Planning Officer (B. Fotheringham), Lead Roads Planning Officer (D. Inglis), Solicitor (F. Rankine), Democratic Services Team Leader and Democratic Services Officer (W. Mohieddeen).

1. **MINUTE**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting held on 6 March 2023.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the Minute for signature by the Chair.

2. **APPLICATION**

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Chief Planning and Housing Officer on an application for planning permission which required consideration by the Committee.

DECISION

DEALT with the application as detailed in Appendix I of this Minute.

3. **APPEALS AND REVIEWS**

There had been circulated copies of a briefing note by the Chief Planning and Housing Officer on Appeals to the Scottish Ministers and Local Reviews.

DECISION

NOTED that:

(a) **An appeal decision had been received in respect of New quarry for Sand and Gravel Extraction, Land West of Slipperfield House Slipperfield Loch, West Linton – 21/00152/FUL – reporter’s decision: sustained.**

(b) **There remained 2 appeals previously reported on which decisions were still awaited when the report was prepared on 17th March 2023 which related to sites at:**

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| • 1 Hall Street, Galashiels | • The Old Cow Shed, Lennel, Coldstream |
|------------------------------------|---|

- (i) **Erection of dwellinghouse and associated work, Land South of Ebbastrand, Coldingham Sands, Coldingham – 22/01357/FUL;**
 - (ii) **Formation of access and boundary fence (retrospective), The Millers House Scotsmill Kailzie, Peebles – 22/01421/FUL;**
 - (iii) **Alteration and extension to dwellinghouse, Ratchill Farmhouse, Broughton – 22/01612/FUL;**
 - (iv) **Modification of condition No.1 of planning permission 15/01355/FUL to allow the holiday chalet to be occupied as dwellinghouse, Land at Disused Railway Line Rachan, Broughton – 22/01811/FUL; and,**
 - (v) **Installation of photo voltaic array to roof, Scott House, Douglas Square, Newcastleton – 22/01982/FUL;**
- (c) **There remained 11 reviews previously reported on which decisions were still awaited when the report was prepared on 17 March 2023 which related to sites at:**

| | |
|---|---|
| • Land North East of Runningburn Farm, Stichill | • Land at Silo Bins Edington Mill Chirnside, Edington Mill Road, Chirnside |
| • Land South West of Castleside Cottage, Selkirk | • Land South West of Corstane Farmhouse, Broughton |
| • Land North and East of Clay Dub, Duns Road, Greenlaw | • 17 George Street, Eyemouth |
| • Dove Cottage Gate Lodge Press Castle, Coldingham, Eyemouth | • Ravelaw Farm, Duns |
| • Land South West of West Loch Farmhouse, Peebles | • 100 Abbotseat, Kelso |
| • Land West of Greenburn Cottage, Auchencrow | |

- (d) **There remained one Section 36 Public Local Inquiry previously reported on which a decision was still awaited when the report was prepared on 17 March 2023 which related to a site at Land West of Castleweary (Faw Side Community Wind Farm), Fawside, Hawick.**

URGENT BUSINESS

Under Section 50B(4)(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the Chair was of the opinion that the item dealt with in the following paragraph should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency, in view of the need to keep Members informed.

4. WIND FARM APPLICATIONS

With reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of the Meeting held on 6 March 2023, the Lead Planning Officer advised Members that the Cloich Wind Farm application was being prepared for consideration by the Committee at its meeting to be held 24 April 2023. A visit to the application site was to be scheduled in the week prior to the meeting when the application would be considered.

**DECISION
NOTED the update.**

The meeting concluded at 10.30 am.

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APPENDIX I
APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

| <u>Reference</u> | <u>Nature of Development</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| 22/01205/FUL | Variation of Conditions 6 and 7 of planning permission 97/00640/MIN to enable night time operation of the existing asphalt plant | Land South West of Cowieslinn Quarry, Peebles |

DECISION: Approved as per officer recommendation, subject to the following conditions:

1. a) The hours of operations for all working, with the exception of the asphalt plant and measures required in an emergency situation, servicing, maintenance and testing of plant, shall be limited to the hours of 0700 hours and 2000 hours Mondays to Fridays and 0700 hours to 1200 hours on both Saturdays and Sundays. In addition, no operations shall be permitted on 25th and 26th December and 1st and 2nd January.
 b) In addition to the hours of operation stipulated in part a), the asphalt plant shall be permitted to operate between the hours of 2000 hours and 0100 hours Mondays to Fridays on up to 50 occasions per calendar year.
 c) Notwithstanding the terms of part (b) above, the asphalt plant operator may make a written request to the Planning Authority to increase its quota from 50 night-time operations in any calendar year (as specified within part (b) above). The Planning Authority will then decide, in writing, whether to increase the annual quota to number of occasions it deems appropriate.
 Reason: In the interests of amenity.
2. a) Minerals shall only be dispatched from the site between 0700 hours and 1800 hours on Mondays to Fridays and 0700 hours and 1200 hours on Saturdays, with no movements on Sundays.
 b) Notwithstanding the terms of part (a) above, the dispatch of asphalt shall be permitted between the hours of 1800 hours and 0100 hours Mondays to Fridays on the occasions the asphalt plant is permitted to operate outwith the usual hours of operation stipulated within Condition 1(a).
 Reason: In the interests of amenity.
3. With the exception of the Conditions hereby amended as above, the development shall be implemented in accordance with the schedule of conditions approved under applications 97/00640/MIN and 01/00669/FUL and in accordance with all agreements/approvals under the terms of those conditions.
 Reason: To ensure the development is implemented and operated in accordance with all measures within the approved schedule of conditions under the original quarry planning consent and quarry extension planning consent, to ensure compliance the Development Plan and relevant planning policy guidance.
4. Notwithstanding the terms of any conditions under previous consents at the site, no night-time working of the asphalt plant to commence until a scheme of site lighting together with bund and planting screening of the site and access road is submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Planning Authority. The lighting and screening then to be implemented and operated in accordance with the approved scheme.
 Reason: To safeguard residential and ecological receptors in the vicinity of the site.
5. Notwithstanding the terms of any conditions under previous consents at the site, no night-time working of the asphalt plant to commence until a Noise Monitoring Plan for the night-time operation of the asphalt plant and associated vehicles is submitted to, and approved in writing

by, the Planning Authority. The Plan then to be implemented and operated in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To safeguard residential receptors in the vicinity of the site.

Reference

22/01206/FUL

Nature of Development

Variation of Conditions 6 and 7 of planning permission 09/00468/MIN to enable night time operation of the existing asphalt plant

Location

Land South West of Cowieslinn Quarry, Peebles

DECISION: Approved as per officer recommendation, subject to the following conditions and informatives:

1. a) The hours of operations for all working, with the exception of the asphalt plant and measures required in an emergency situation, servicing, maintenance and testing of plant, shall be limited to the hours of 0700 hours and 2000 hours Mondays to Fridays and 0700 hours to 1200 hours on both Saturdays and Sundays. In addition, no operations shall be permitted on 25th and 26th December and 1st and 2nd January.
b) In addition to the hours of operation stipulated in part a), the asphalt plant shall be permitted to operate between the hours of 2000 hours and 0100 hours Mondays to Fridays on up to 50 occasions per calendar year.
c) Notwithstanding the terms of part (b) above, the asphalt plant operator may make a written request to the Planning Authority to increase its quota from 50 night-time operations in any calendar year (as specified within part (b) above). The Planning Authority will then decide, in writing, whether to increase the annual quota to number of occasions it deems appropriate.
Reason: In the interests of amenity.
2. a) Minerals shall only be dispatched from the site between 0700 hours and 1800 hours on Mondays to Fridays and 0700 hours and 1200 hours on Saturdays, with no movements on Sundays.
b) Notwithstanding the terms of part (a) above, the dispatch of asphalt shall be permitted between the hours of 1800 hours and 0100 hours Mondays to Fridays on the occasions the asphalt plant is permitted to operate outwith the usual hours of operation stipulated within Condition 1(a).
Reason: In the interests of amenity.
3. With the exception of the Conditions hereby amended as above, the development shall be implemented in accordance with the schedule of conditions approved under applications 01/00669/FUL and 09/00468/MIN and in accordance with all agreements/approvals under the terms of those conditions.
Reason: To ensure the development is implemented and operated in accordance with all measures within the approved schedule of conditions under the original quarry planning consent and quarry extension planning consent, to ensure compliance the Development Plan and relevant planning policy guidance.
4. Notwithstanding the terms of any conditions under previous consents at the site, no night-time working of the asphalt plant to commence until a scheme of site lighting together with bund and planting screening of the site and access road is submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Planning Authority. The lighting and screening then to be implemented and operated in accordance with the approved scheme.
Reason: To safeguard residential and ecological receptors in the vicinity of the site.
5. Notwithstanding the terms of any conditions under previous consents at the site, no night-time working of the asphalt plant to commence until a Noise Monitoring Plan for the night-time operation of the asphalt plant and associated vehicles is submitted to, and approved in writing

by, the Planning Authority. The Plan then to be implemented and operated in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To safeguard residential receptors in the vicinity of the site.