SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL JEDBURGH COMMON GOOD SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES of Meeting of the JEDBURGH COMMON GOOD SUB-COMMITTEE held in Boardroom, Jedburgh Grammar School, Jedburgh on Wednesday, 14th September, 2016 at 4.30 pm

Present:- Councillors J. Brown, R. Stewart, S. Scott, Community Councillor Mr. H.Wight. In Attendance:- Capital and Investments Manager (Kirsty Robb), Estates Manager, Solicitor (Karen Scrymgeour), Democratic Services Officer (F. Henderson).

Members of the Public:- 0.

1. **MINUTE.**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting held on 1 June 2016.

DECISION NOTED.

2. MONITORING REPORT FOR 3 MONTHS TO 30 JUNE 2016

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Chief Financial Officer which provided details of the income and expenditure for the Jedburgh Common Good Fund for the 3 months to 30 June 2016 and full year projected out-turn for 2016/17. Appendix 1 provided a projected income and expenditure for 2016/17 and a projected deficit of £333 for the year. Appendix 2 provided Balance Sheet value to 31 March 2016 and a projected decrease in reserves of £3,405, due to depreciation of assets, the surplus generated in the year and movements in the value of investments. Appendix 3 provided a breakdown of the property portfolio showing actual rental Income and property Expenditure to 31 March 2016 where applicable and the 2015/16 depreciation charge. Appendix 4 detailed the value of the Newton Fund to 31 March 2016.

DECISION

- (a) NOTED:-
 - (i) the actual projected Income and Expenditure for 2015/16 as shown in Appendix 1 to the report;
 - (ii) the final balance sheet value to 31 March 2016 in Appendix 2;
 - (iii) the summary of the property portfolio in Appendix 3 to the report; and
 - (iv) the current position of the investment in the Newton Fund in Appendix 4 to the report.
- (b) AGREED the proposed budget for 2016/17 as shown in Appendix 1 to the report.

3.0 APPLICATIONS FOR FINACNIAL ASSISTANCE

3.1 Jedburgh Community Council – Christmas Lights There had been circulated copies of an Application for Financial Assistance from the Jedburgh Community Council towards providing Festive Lights in Jedburgh. The application which was in the sum of £30,000 towards the costs of replacing and upgrading the Festive Lighting in Jedburgh. The Sub-Committee were advised that since submitting the application the Community Council has been successful in securing funding of £5,000 from SBC Community Grant Scheme and £10,000 from Awards For All, which left a balance of £15,000. It was hoped that some of the previous lighting could be salvaged, which would reduce the costs further.

DECISION AGREED

- (a) in principle to support the cost of replacing the Festive Lighting up to a maximum of £15,000.
- (b) that final costs be agreed by e-mail between all SBC Councillors and Community Councillor Wight prior to being awarded.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Stewart declared an interest in the following item of business in terms of Section 5 of the Councillors Code of Conduct and left the meeting during the discussion.

3.2 Cheviot Youth Project – Community Connections Project Hub – 5/7 High Street, Jedburgh

There had been circulated copies of an Application for Financial Assistance from the Cheviot Youth Project in respect of the Community Connections Project Hub at 5/7 High Street, Jedburgh. The application was in the sum of £9,403 towards developing by Community Hub Office in the town centre which would provide meeting and work space from which to support, guide and direct the Community Connections Project programme. The funding being sought would allow internal restructuring of the space and the work that was needed to convert the building from a shop into a Community Connections Hub. The Application was broken down as follows:-

 Plumbing
 £3,082

 Electrics
 £1,295

 Joinery
 £5,026

 TOTAL
 £9,403

The application detailed the Community Connections programme which would be running from the space and applications submitted to other funding sources. The Sub-Committee raised concerns with regard to the disabled access into the property at 5/7 High Street and the tenure over the property.

DECISION AGREED:-

- (a) to support the application in principle;
- (b) that a special meeting be convened, should it be required, to consider additional information when received; and
- (c) to request a Business Case and proposed funding for next two years be submitted prior to a decision being made.

4. URGENT BUSINESS

Under Section 50B(4)(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the Chairman 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.

4.1 LEASE OF COMMON GOOD PROPOERTIES TO LIVE BORDERS

Community Councillor Wight had requested copies of the leases in respect of the Castle Jail and Mary Queen of Scots Museum which were being leased to Live Borders. Karen Scrymegour, Solicitor advised that they were to be known as Licences rather than leases and circulated at the meeting copies of the draft Licences for the Castle Jail and Mary Queen of Scots Museum. In response to a question about the maintenance of the properties, Ms Scrymegour advised that Live Borders was responsible for the internal maintenance and the maintenance of the Exterior was with the Landlord. Community Councillor Wight requested copies of the plan which were referred to within the draft Licences.

DECISION

- (a) NOTED.
- (b) AGREED that the plans referred to within the draft Licences be circulated forwarded to all members of the Sub-Committee.

The meeting concluded at 5.30 pm