

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

MINUTES of Meeting of the PEEBLES
COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
held in Council Chamber, Council
Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells on
Wednesday, 29th June, 2016 at 2.00 pm

Present:- Councillors G. Garvie (Chairman), C. Bhatia, K. Cockburn. Community
Councillor L. Hayworth

Apologies:- Councillors W. Archibald, S. Bell, G. Logan.

In Attendance:- Senior Finance Officer (J. Yallop), Managing Solicitor - Property and
Licensing (R. Kirk), Estates Officer (J. Morison), Estates Surveyor (A.
Graham), Democratic Services Officer (K. Mason).

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

In the absence of Councillor Archibald, Councillor Garvie chaired the meeting.

2. **MINUTE.**

The Minute of Meeting of Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee of 25 May 2016 had been circulated.

**DECISION
APPROVED.**

3. **APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Community Councillor L. Hayward declared an interest in the following application.

(a) **Peebles Community Trust**

With reference to paragraph 7(a) of the Minute of 25 May 2016, there had been recirculated copies of an application for financial assistance from Peebles Community Trust in the sum of £1,500 to instruct a specialist lawyer to draw up revised Articles of Association for the Trust, which would enable them to undertake a Community Right to Buy bid for land or buildings, or to accept the transfer of an asset. In order to do this, the trust needed to have Articles of Association which were compliant with the recently adopted Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act. The Peebles Community Trust had provided up-to-date information in relation to their accounts. Mr David Pye, of the Peebles Community Trust was present he answered Members' questions and explained that revised Articles of Association had to be drawn up to meet new Scottish Government Legislation. Members were minded to grant the application and asked that Mr Pye or a representative of Peebles Community Trust attend a meeting of the Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee in 12 months' time to give an update on the work of the Trust

**DECISION
AGREED**

(a) **to grant Peebles Community Trust the sum of £1,500; and**

(b) **that Mr Pye or a representative of Peebles Community Trust attend a meeting of the Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee in 12 months' time to give an update on the work of the Trust.**

(b) Bonnie Peebles

There had been circulated copies of an application for financial assistance from Bonnie Peebles in the sum of £10,000 towards the cost of their Scott Brash Sculpture to commemorate his tremendous achievements as a world class showjumper. Mr S Wightman, Bonnie Peebles, was present. He confirmed that Mr S Winyard, Stobo Castle Health Spa had pledged £10,000 towards the statue. He explained that the quotation was the minimum price and if more funding was available Bonnie Peebles would be in a position to request that the sculptor provide another quotation for a more substantial sculpture. Members agreed that the application be continued to the next meeting to allow Bonnie Peebles to have further discussions with the sculptor and report on a revised estimate and details of the funding gap.

DECISION

AGREED to defer consideration of the application from Bonnie Peebles until the next meeting, when a revised quotation would be available together with details of the funding gap.

4. PEEBLES LAWN TENNIS CLUB, SPRINGHILL ROAD, PEEBLES

With reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of Meeting of 25 May 2016, there had been re-circulated copies of a report by the Service Director Assets and Infrastructure on the current lease with Peebles Tennis Club seeking approval for a new lease and to carry out tree works at the tennis courts. A Briefing Note from the Estates Officer had been circulated advising that Peebles Tennis Club had provided copies of their accounts for the last three years and in summary they had approximately £23,000 in the bank on 22 October 2015 and had made a surplus of £4,118 in 2015. The current lease to Peebles Tennis Club was rent free and the Estates Manager understood the previous leases were also rent free. Prior to 2012 the tennis courts had been classed as a Council asset rather than a Common Good asset. All other Scottish Borders tennis clubs who had leases from the Council were rent free. Selkirk Tennis Club was in the process of changing from a rent paying lease to a rent free lease because the responsibilities for repairs and maintenance were transferring from the Council to the tennis club. Out of other sports clubs in the Borders who had leases from the Council, it was usually football or rugby clubs which paid a rent and these rents were approximately £200 per annum. The exception was when a sports club had a licence to sell alcohol in their clubhouse where the rent was around £1,000 per annum.

DECISION

AGREED

- (a) to authorise the granting of a new 25 year lease to Peebles Tennis Club on terms to be agreed with the Estates Officer which would include a rent of £1 if asked; and**
- (b) to give consent to the Club to carry out works to the trees around the tennis courts.**

5. PRIVATE BUSINESS

AGREED under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the business contained in the following item on the ground that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of the part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Act.

SUMMARY OF PRIVATE BUSINESS

6. MINUTE.

The Committee approved the Private Minute of the meeting of 25 May 2016.

The meeting concluded at 3.00 p.m.