

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL DUNS COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES of Meeting of the DUNS
COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
held in Council Chamber, Newtown Street,
Duns on Thursday, 7 September 2017 at
5.30 pm

Present:- Councillors J. Greenwell and D. Moffat
Community Councillor A. Mitchell.
Apologies:- Councillors M. Rowley
In Attendance:- Principal Solicitor (H MacLeod), Capital and Investments
Manager (K Robb), Democratic Services Officer (P Bolson).
Members of the Public:- 1

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN.**

As Councillor Rowley was unable to attend the meeting, the Sub-Committee unanimously agreed that the appointment of Chairman be held over until the next meeting. The Sub-Committee further agreed that this meeting be chaired by Councillor Greenwell.

DECISION AGREED.

2. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS.**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

3. **MINUTE.**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Duns Common Good Fund Sub-Committee of 2 June 2016.

DECISION AGREED to note the Minute.

4. **FINANCIAL MONITORING FOR 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2017.**

4.1 There had been circulated copies of a report by the Chief Financial Officer which provided details of the income and expenditure for the Duns Common Good Fund for 2016/2017 including balance sheet values at 31 March 2017 and the proposed budget for 2017/18. Appendix 1 provided the details of the actual income and expenditure for 2016/17, showing a surplus of £779 in 2016/17 with a projected deficit of £578 for 2017/18. Appendix 2 gave the balance sheet value as at 31 March 2017 and this showed a decrease in the Reserves of £1,721, details of which were included in the report. A summary of the property portfolio showing property expenditure to 31 March 2017 was provided in Appendix 3. Ms Robb explained that following the transfer of 10 South Street, Duns to the Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer (QLTR) in September 2016, a total of £1,695 had been refunded to the Council for legal, advertising and surveyor costs. This had been offset by utilities costs of £398 associated with the property. Appendix 3 reflected that the property had been transferred for nil consideration to the QLTR and Members noted that it had now been removed from the Council's Asset Register. The closing balance at 31 March 2017 as detailed in Appendix 2 was £18,081 and following discussion, it was agreed that the maximum amount available now be invested in the Newton Fund.

4.2 Ms Robb advised Members that a report was being presented to Council laying out the options for the future management of the Trust Funds and that a decision was awaited from the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) regarding deregistration of

Common Goods Funds generally. In response to a question about the trusts/bequests currently within the area, Ms Robb confirmed that work had been ongoing for some time across the Council in relation to grouping these trusts under themes, eg Community, Welfare and Education, whilst maintaining the original ethos and intended locality for each. An update report would be presented in due course.

DECISION

(a) NOTED the:-

- (i) actual income and expenditure position for 2016/17 as detailed in Appendix 1;**
- (ii) final balance sheet value to 31 March 2017 as detailed in Appendix 2; and**
- (iii) summary of the property portfolio as detailed in Appendix 3.**

(b) AGREED:-

- (i) the proposed budget for 2017/18 as shown in Appendix 1; and**
- (ii) that the maximum amount available from the Balance Sheet now be invested in the Newton Fund.**

5. 10 SOUTH STREET, DUNS

Members received a verbal update on the current situation regarding the disposal of 10 South Street, Duns. Ms MacLeod advised that the QLTR finalised the sale of 10 South Street, Duns on 5 September 2016 and as was reflected in paragraph 3.1 above, all costs due to the Council had now been reimbursed by the QLTR.

DECISION

NOTED the update.

The meeting concluded at 5.55 pm