

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

PEEBLES COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES of Meeting of the PEEBLES
COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
held in Council Chamber, Rosetta Road,
Peebles on Wednesday, 27th February, 2019
at 5.00 pm

Present:- Councillors R. Tatler (Chairman), H. Anderson, K. Chapman, S. Haslam,
E. Small and Community Councillor L. Hayworth
Apologies:- Councillors S. Bell
In Attendance:- Pensions and Investment Manager, Solicitor (E. Moir), Estates Manager,
Democratic Services Team Leader

1. **MINUTE**

- 1.1 The Minute of the Meeting of Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee held on 28 November had been circulated.
- 1.2 With reference to paragraph 1.1 of the Minute of 28 November 2018, it was noted that that the introduction of a single application form for all applications to the Council for funding was part of a report to be considered at Council the following day.
- 1.3 With reference to paragraph 1.2 of the Minute of 28 November 2018, the Estates Manager advised that progress was being made on the preparation of the map showing the location of all Common Good land.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the Minutes and noted the information provided.

2. **FINANCIAL MONITORING FOR 9 MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2018**

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Chief Financial Officer providing details of the income and expenditure for the Peebles Common Good Fund for the nine months to 31 December 2018 and full year projected out-turn for 2018/19 and projected balance sheet values as at 31 March 2019. Appendix 1 to the report provided a projected Income and Expenditure position which currently showed a projected surplus of £24,636 for the year. Appendix 2 to the report contained a projected Balance Sheet to 31 March 2019 and projected a decrease in the reserves of £12,805. Appendix 3 to the report detailed the breakdown of the property portfolio showing projected rental income for 2018/19 and actual property expenditure to 31 December 2018. Appendix 4 to the report showed the value of the Kames Capital Investment Fund to 31 December 2018. Pensions and Investments Manager introduced Sara Halliday who had recently joined the Council and would have future responsibility for Peebles Common Good Fund. She then outlined the main highlights in the report and advised that although the Kames Fund had not performed as well recently it was now picking up again. The Chairman proposed that £20k of the cash surplus be invested and this was unanimously agreed.

DECISION

AGREED:-

- (a) **the projected Income and Expenditure for 2018/19, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report;**
- (b) **to note the projected Balance Sheet value as at 31 March 2019, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report;**

- (c) to note the summary of the property portfolio, as detailed in Appendix 3 to the report;
- (d) to note the current position of the investment in the Kames Investment Fund, as detailed in Appendix 4 to the report; and
- (e) that £20k of the cash surplus be invested.

3. **APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

There had been circulated copies of a request for funding by the Riverside House Film Club for the sum of £2,100 to purchase equipment for showing films to the residents of Riverside House. Members agreed to approve the funding request.

DECISION

AGREED to approve a grant of £2,100 to Riverside House Film Club.

4. **LAND AND PROPERTY**

GARAGE AT TWEEDGREEN

The Chairman advised that he had been contacted by Peebles Rugby Club regarding the condition of a garage that they leased from the Council. The property was currently sub-let to the Tweeddale Peace Group but this would cease later this year. There were some issues with the property including the fact that the main doors did not fully open. The Estates Manager advised that the Rugby Club had never signed a formal lease for the property, the terms of which included all repairs to the garage. The Sub-Committee agreed that they would consider works to the property once a formal lease was signed. The Estates Manager was also asked to check if there were any other outstanding leases requiring signature.

DECISION

AGREED:-

- (a) that further consideration of works to the garage be given once the formal lease had been signed by the Rugby Club; and
- (b) the Estates Manager check that all other leases for land and property owned by Peebles Common Good Fund had been signed.

5. **RIVERSIDE PATH (KNOWN LOCALLY AS “THE HUMP”)**

Mr Alan Mackenzie of the Callant’s Club outlined their plans to upgrade the Riverside Footpath to make it fully accessible for pushchairs and wheelchairs. The path passed through land owned by the Common Good Fund and NHS Borders so permission was required to carry out the works. The project funding was the subject of a Locality Bid Fund application with the remainder to be met from Parking Income. It was noted that planning permission would be required and the Estates Manager advised that he would be happy to assist the group with their application. The Sub-Committee agreed that they would be happy to provide a letter confirming their support for the project.

DECISION

AGREED to provide a letter to the Peebles Callant’s Club confirming their support for the path improvement project.

6. **VICTORIA PARK PATH, PEEBLES**

The Chairman advised that the path in Victoria Park from Kingsmeadows Road was currently being used to access the new Baptist Church which was being built and the developers had asked if they could lay hard core as the path was in poor condition. Concern was expressed that this would allow cars to access the path if a barrier was not erected. Consideration also needed to be given as to whether or not the hard core should

be removed after the works were completed to prevent the path being used as a road. Members agreed that they would allow the works subject to a barrier being erected so the path could not be used by vehicles outwith working hours. The possible reinstatement of the path would be considered once works were complete. The Estates Manager advised that he would have the current condition of the park checked to ensure any damage was fully reinstated when works were complete and undertook to contact the developers.

DECISION

AGREED:-

- (a) **to allow the works subject to a barrier being erected so the path could not be used by vehicles outwith working hours; and**
- (b) **to reconsider the possible removal of the hard core once the work s were complete.**

7. TREE PLANTING BY CALLANT'S CLUB

With reference to paragraph 10 of the Minute of 30 August 2018, it was noted that the proposed meeting with the Callant's Club regarding tree planting had not taken place. It was noted that the planting might involve bushes rather than tree. However, Community Councillor Hayworth advised that there had been some interest from both the School and allotment holders to use part of the ground.

DECISION

AGREED that the Chairman and Councillor Bell pursue this matter in the first instance.

The meeting concluded at 5.40 pm