

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

MINUTES of Meeting of the PEEBLES
COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
held in via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday,
19th April, 2023 at 1.30 pm

Present:- Councillors R. Tatler (Chairman), D. Begg, M. Douglas, E. Small and Ramsay

Apologies:- Councillors J. Pirone and V. Thomson, Acting Chief Financial Officer, Acting
Chief Officer Corporate Governance

In Attendance:- Principal Solicitor G. Sellar, Democratic Services Officer (L. Cuerden)

1. 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.

2. MINUTE

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting held on 22 March 2023.

DECISION

AGREED the minute.

3. APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

- 3.1 There had been circulated copies of two funding applications from Peebles Youth Voice and Peebles Bowling Club. Peebles Youth Voice had requested £3,000 to help stage a series of teen events at the Eastgate Theatre. A project plan had been provided which detailed administrative arrangements and a financial plan. A draft plan of six events had been drawn up in collaboration with Eastgate Theatre which aimed to provide a safe place for the local youth to meet with friends and listen to music or watch films of their choice. The grant requested was to enable the launch of the initiative at a discounted price for the first year of operation.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the funding application from Peebles Youth Voice for £3,000 to fund a series of six youth events at Eastgate Theatre

- 3.2 There followed a brief discussion on the application from Peebles Bowling Club for a grant of £10,000. The Club were to embark on a major refurbishment programme, total expenditure £367,064, and had already applied to a number of other funding sources. In line with advice from the Acting Chief Financial Officer, it was agreed in principle to approve the application, pending the outcome of the external funding bids. The Club were to return to the Sub-Committee once other funding was in place to confirm the contribution from the Common Good Fund. Gillian Sellar informed members that under the Community Empowerment Act there was a statutory requirement for an 8 week community consultation exercise regarding the proposed change of use, due to it being sited on Common Good land.

DECISION

AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO APPROVE the funding application from Peebles Bowling Club for £10,000, on condition of the outcome of the external funding bids.

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

- 4.1 With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of 22 March 2023, the Chair advised members that the process of designing and producing the pop up panels for the Peebles Common Good Fund Exhibition was underway. The proposed designs were to be circulated to members for approval via email given the timescales involved.
- 4.2 The Chair informed members of the offer of a small number of additional fruit trees to be planted in Haylodge Park. There had been a number of fruit trees already donated and planted near the playpark and Rae Burn with a view to creating a community orchard. There was general agreement to the planting. There followed a brief discussion on how to proceed with all future tree planting opportunities with a proposal that the responsibility be delegated to officers within the Parks Service. It was suggested that due consideration was given to the site and extent of each planted area and its biodiversity. To that end it was proposed that members apportion areas of Haylodge Park for specific types of planting under the guidance of the appropriate officer. It was agreed that the matter be added to the agenda for the next meeting of Peebles Common Good Fund Sub-Committee on 24 May 2023, with input from relevant officers where possible.

DECISION

AGREED:

- (a) to designs for the pop up panels to be circulated for approval via email;
- (b) to the additional planting of fruit trees at the site near the playpark and Rae Burn, Haylodge Park; and
- (c) to add an item to the agenda of 24 May 2023 to discuss areas for planting in Haylodge Park with input from relevant officers where possible.

5. **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.

6. **MINUTE**

Members considered the Private Section of the Minute of the Meeting held on 22 March 2023.

7. **PEEBLES RUGBY CLUB**

Members considered a presentation by Peebles Rugby Club.

The meeting concluded at 2.25 pm