

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL 24 AUGUST 2017

STARRED ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MINUTES

HAWICK COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE - 20 JUNE 2017

7. MOVEABLE ASSETS INVENTORY

- 7.1 With reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of 15 November 2016, there had been circulated a report by Depute Chief Executive. The report concluded the work started in 2015 to produce a current definitive list of all items that should be agreed as constituting the Hawick Common Good Moveable Assets Inventory. The Inventory being recommended for approval had been prepared by consolidating: the original inventory held by Scottish Borders Council (SBC); recommendations to Hawick Common Good Sub-Committee on 25 May 2015 and 15 November 2016 regarding the potential Common Good ownership of heritage objects held in Hawick Museum and Hawick Town Hall; the outcome of a consultation exercise with a number of Hawick organisations; and, additional research undertaken during the period February to June 2017.
- 7.2 Mr Brown, Cultural Services Advisor, was in attendance and highlighted that the Burgh flags and a portrait of Provost Fisher had been added to the Inventory. He advised that a search of Hawick Town Hall had been undertaken by the Town Hall Caretaker and uncovered a number of additional items which were listed in Appendix 1 to the report. These items had been reclassified as being owned by Hawick Common Good and added to the Inventory. It was also proposed that the Hornshole Monument donated by Mrs Turnbull should be added to the Inventory and this was agreed.
- 7.3 The Sub-Committee thanked Mr Brown and his team for the comprehensive Inventory. Members also noted that if new evidence suggested other materials should be added to the list, officers would bring forward to the Hawick Common Good Sub-Committee for consideration.

DECISION

- (a) **NOTED the suggested reclassification of those moveable items shown in Appendix A to the Minute, as assets belonging to Hawick Common Good.**
- * (b) **AGREED to RECOMMEND to COUNCIL the moveable items shown in Appendix A as the Hawick Common Good Moveable Assets Inventory.**
- (c) **AGREED to commission a valuation report on the items so listed in Appendix A, to the Minute.**

AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 28 JUNE 2017

8. SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

- 8.1 With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of 9 May 2016, there had been circulated copies of a report by the Chief Executive, seeking agreement for the revised Local Code of Corporate Governance of Scottish Borders Council to be presented to Council for approval. The report explained that Scottish Borders Council was responsible for ensuring that its business was conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money was safeguarded, properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively. Corporate Governance was essentially to ensure openness, integrity and accountability across all aspects of Council business. The revised Local Code of Corporate Governance for the Council was consistent with the principles and requirements of the CIPFA/SOLACE framework "Delivering Good Governance in Local Government" and would help to ensure that proper arrangements continued to be in place for the Council to meet its

responsibilities. Members were advised of the seven core principles of good governance and of the changes included in the revised Code, as detailed in the report. The Code should be seen as a “live” document and reviewed annually to ensure that it continued to meet the requirements of the changing Council environment and Best Value principles.

- 8.2 Officers responded to questions by Members. It was acknowledged that there had been a number of new Members elected in May 2017 and it was therefore agreed that a presentation on Corporate Governance and the Local Code be offered to all Members at a suitable time during 2017. A copy of the Local Code would also be circulated to the Chairs of the new Locality Committees for information.

DECISION

- * (a) **AGREED TO RECOMMEND that Scottish Borders Council:-**
- (i) **approves the revised Scottish Borders Council Local Code of Corporate Governance as detailed in Appendix 1 to the Minute; and**
 - (ii) **approves the revised Scottish Borders Council Local Code of Corporate Governance being relaunched to ensure greater awareness across the Council.**
- (b) **AGREED:-**
- (i) **to request that the Chief Executive and Service Directors consider compliance with the Scottish Borders Council Local Code of Corporate Governance as part of the annual assurance statements on internal control and governance and implement actions to ensure full compliance to the elements of the Code; and**
 - (ii) **that a presentation on the Scottish Borders Council Local Code of Corporate Governance be arranged for all Elected Members in due course.**