

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL LAUDER COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES of Meeting of the LAUDER
COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
held in Council Chamber, Council
Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells on
Tuesday, 19 June 2018 at 4.00 pm.

Present:- Councillors K. Drum and T. Miers.
Apologies:- Councillors D. Parker. Community Councillor A Smith.
In Attendance:- Capital and Investments Manager (K Robb), Principal Solicitor (H Macleod),
Estates Officer (A Scott), Democratic Services Officer (P Bolson).

1. **WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **MINUTE**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of 15 May 2018.

DECISION

NOTED for signature by the Chairman.

3. **FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT FOR 12 MONTHS TO 31 MARCH 2018**

There had been circulated copies of the income and expenditure for the twelve months to 31 March 2018, including the balance sheet values for the period and proposed budget for 2018/19. Ms Robb highlighted the main points of the report and appendices. Appendix 1 to the report provided the actual Income and Expenditure position for 2017/18, showing a surplus of £576. This was a variation from the projected surplus figure reported previously and was due to additional dividend income and lower than anticipated grant expenditure being offset by costs associated with the transfer of the investment fund to a new fund manager. Also detailed was the projected depreciation charge of £11,493 which was offset by a corresponding contribution from the Revaluation Reserve at the end of the financial year. Appendix 2 to the report detailed the closing balance as at 31 March 2018 and the projected Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2019. The breakdown of the property portfolio showing the actual rental income and property expenditure along with the depreciation charge to 31 March 2018 was shown in Appendix 3. Appendix 4 provided details of the value of the Investment Fund at 31 March 2018 and noted that the Fund was now with Kames Capital PLC. Further details on various aspects of the Lauder Common Good Fund were detailed in the report. Discussion followed and Ms Robb responded to Members' requests for information. She provided further clarification in terms of the apportioning of the fee paid to KPMG for the company's role in the selection of Kames as the new Fund Manager, explaining that the proportion of the overall fee was calculated on the basis of assets held by the Common Goods Funds. In respect of the removal of the SBC grant of £5,531 from 1st April 2018 (previously paid to the Lauder Common Good Fund towards central service support costs), Ms Robb reported that this had resulted in a proposed budget for Running Costs of £9,762 for Lauder Common Good Fund.

DECISION

(a) **NOTED:-**

(i) **the actual income and expenditure for 2017/18 in Appendix 1;**

- (ii) the final balance sheet value as at 31 March 2018 in Appendix 2;
- (iii) the summary of the property portfolio in Appendix 3; and
- (iv) the current position of the investment in the Kames Capital Investment Fund in Appendix 4.

(b) AGREED the proposed budget for 2018/19 as shown in Appendix 1.

4. LAUDER WOODLAND/TREE PLANTING

Ms Scott provided Members with a verbal update on the tree planting on Lauder Common. A meeting had been arranged between the Agent appointed by Lauder Sheep Company and Ms Scott for 4 July 2018 in order to further progress conditions of the agreement. Members referred to previous discussions and noted that it had been the intention to commence planting in August 2018. It was agreed that a further detailed update would be provided to the Lauder Common Good Fund Sub-Committee following the above meeting on 4 July 2018.

(a) NOTED the update.

(b) AGREED that a further update would be provided to the Lauder Common Good Fund Sub-Committee following the meeting between Ms Scott and the Sheep Company Agent on 4 July 2018.

The meeting concluded at 4.25 pm