

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the LAUDER
COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
held in the Convener's Office, Council
Headquarters, Newtown St. Boswells on 19
February 2019 at 2.00 p.m.

Present:- Councillors K. Drum, T. Miers
Apology:- Councillor D. Parker
In Attendance:- Treasury Business Partner, Solicitor (E. Moir), Estates Officer (A. Scott),
Democratic Services Team Leader.

1. CHAIRMAN

In the absence of Councillor Parker, Councillor Drum chaired the meeting.

2. MINUTES

2.1 There had been circulated copies of the Minutes of the meetings held on 27 August and 14 November 2018.

2.2 With reference to paragraph 1 of the Minute of 14 November 2018, it was noted that Lauder Community and Leisure Centre had agreed to sign the lease and that funds would be released once the signed lease had been received.

DECISION

NOTED for signature by the Chairman.

3. MONITORING REPORT FOR 9 MONTHS TO 31 DECEMBER 2018

There had been circulated copies of a report by the Chief Financial Officer on the income and expenditure 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, showing a projected deficit of £1,751 which was £5,400 more than the full year approved budget. Appendix 2 to the report provided a projected balance sheet as at 31 March 2019 and showed a projected decrease in the reserves of £13,244. The breakdown of the property portfolio showing the actual rental income for 2018/19 and actual property expenditure to 31 December 2018 was shown in Appendix 3. Appendix 4 provided details of the value of the Kames Capital Investment Fund to 31 December 2018. Ms Halliday advised that return on the Kames Capital Investment Fund was improving. Members noted the current financial position.

DECISION

(a) **AGREED the projected income and expenditure for 2018/19 in Appendix 1 to the report as the revised budget for 2018/19.**

(b) **NOTED:-**

(i) **the projected balance sheet value as at 31 March 2019 shown in Appendix 2 to the report;**

(ii) **the summary of the property portfolio as shown in Appendix 3 to the report;**
and

- (iii) **the current position of the investment in the Kames Capital Investment Fund as shown in Appendix 4 to the report.**

**4. 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 Paragraphs 1, 6, 8 and 9 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Act.

SUMMARY OF PRIVATE BUSINESS

5. LAUDER COMMON

Members discussed proposals for tree planting on Lauder Common and other grazing land and agreed to consult with the Community Council in the first instance.

The meeting concluded at 2.30 p.m.

**CONFIDENTIAL
NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

**LAUDER COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
19 FEBRUARY 2019
APPENDIX II
BUSINESS CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE**

5. LAUDER COMMON

- 5.1 There had been circulated copies of a plan outlining areas of proposed tree planting on Lauder Common. The Estates Officer, Ms Scott advised that she had met with Michael Middlemiss of the Lauder Sheep Company to discuss their proposals for tree planting. They, as tenants could apply for funding from the Forestry Commission but required landlords permission. A financial agreement was also required so that any excess grant money was shared 50:50 with the Common Good Fund and that maintenance money was also properly accounted for. Members agreed that the community council should be consulted and that a full report be submitted to the next meeting.
- 5.2 Ms. Scott advised that the condition of some fencing had also been raised. The fencing was beyond repair and a quote for £2360 had been provided. She would arrange for a second quote to check that this amount was reasonable. The sheep handling system was also beyond repair and the cost of this would be investigated for the 2019/20 budget.
- 5.3 With regard to Lauder Grazings there was potential to obtain grant of £7.5k from the Penmanshiels Wind Farm Fund to provide fencing, planting and water troughs.
- 5.4 Members were advised that it had been discovered that a servitude for a gas pipe over Lauder Common had not been signed off and once this had been done a payment of around £1.5k would be received. It was agreed that this would be completed by 31 March 2019.

**DECISION
AGREED:-**

- (a) **that the Estates Officer attend the next suitable meeting of Lauderdale Community Council to obtain their views on the various proposals and that a report on all outstanding items would be submitted to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee;**
- (b) **that the servitude in respect of the gas pipe be signed before 31 March 2019.**