

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
KELSO COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTE of MEETING of the KELSO
COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
held in Howdenburn Primary School,
Jedburgh on 26 November 2014 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:- Councillors T. Weatherston (Chairman), A. Nicol, S. Mountford.
Community Councillor Mr John Bassett.

In Attendance:- Capital and Investment Manager, Legal & Licensing Services Manager,
Democratic Services Officer (F. Henderson).

Members of the Public:- 0.

MINUTE

1. There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Kelso Common Good Fund Sub-Committee of 4 June 2014.

DECISION

AGREED to note the Minute.

OUTTURN FOR 2013/14, BUDGET SETTING 2014/15 & MONITORING REPORT FOR 6 MONTHS TO END OF SEPTEMBER 2014

2. There had been circulated copies of a report by the Chief Financial Officer which set out the outturn for 2013/14, variances from the final budget and the effect on revenue and capital reserves at 31 March 2014. It also set out a budget for the year to 31 March 2015 for which approval was sought, together with details of transactions for the 6 months to 30 September 2014 and their projected impact upon reserves at 31 March 2015. The report explained that during 2013/14 the Common Good Fund had total expenditure of £33,266 and income of £6,882 supplemented by £29,281 from the Revaluation Reserves, resulting in an outturn net revenue surplus of £2,897. Appendix 5 brought together key financial data on the revenue performance and balance sheet for 2014/15 while Appendices 6 to 9 provided details on the revenue budget in an extended format, showing grants paid and payable, revenue and capital reserves and property income and expenditure. Projected income from interest and dividends for 2014/15 incorporated the dividend distribution from the Newton Fund made in September and a second distribution in respect of dividends was expected to follow in February 2015, although interest was not added until the end of the year and was therefore dependent on interest rates over the remainder of the year. Taking all of the above into consideration the Common Good Fund projected expenditure was £33,926 and income of £6,913 supplemented by £29,281 from the Revaluation Reserve, resulting in an outturn of net income of £2,268 in 2014/15.

DECISION

(a) APPROVED the budget for 2014/15 as shown in Appendix 6.

(b) NOTED:-

- (i) the key outturn figures for 2013/14 shown in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (ii) the financial performance for 2013/14 as shown in Appendix 2;
- (iii) the Grants Analysis provided in Appendix 3 to the report; and
- (iv) the balances on Revenue and Capital Reserves at 31 March 2014 as shown in Appendix 4 to the report;
- (v) the key figures for 2014/15 shown in Appendix 5;

- (vi) the donations and contributions paid and approved 2014/15 in ; and in Appendix 7 of the report;
- (vii) Projected movement in reserves for year to 31 March 2015 in Appendix 8 of the report; and
- (viii) the Assets, Rent Generated and Property Costs in 2014/15 in Appendix 9 of the report.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Weatherston declared an interest in the following item of business in terms of Section 5 of the Councillors Code of Conduct and left the Chamber during the discussion.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

KELSO CHRISTMAS DECORATION FUND

3. There had been circulated copies of an application for Financial Assistance from the Kelso Christmas Decoration Fund. It was explained that the application was in respect of electricity and putting the Christmas lights up in Kelso in the sum of £750.

DECISION

AGREED to support the application for financial assistance for Kelso Christmas Decorations Fund for 2014 in the sum of £750.

KELSO OVER 60s CLUB

4. There had been circulated copies of an application for Financial Assistance from Kelso Over 60s Club. It was explained that the Club provided Outings, Entertainment and an Annual Christmas Dinner for Over 60s within the Kelso area. The application presented to the Sub Committee was a request for £250 towards the cost of the Annual Christmas Dinner.

DECISION

AGREED to support the application for financial assistance for Kelso Over 60s Club in the sum of £250 towards the costs of the Annual Christmas Dinner.

The meeting closed at 6.00 p.m.

At the conclusion of the meeting an informal update was given to the Sub-Committee.

CULTURE TRUST

As part of the proposed move to a Culture Trust, Anne Isles and Ian Brown gave an informal update on the proposals for the transfer. The Sub-Committee were advised that the management of Tait Hall , a common good asset which was managed by SBC through Cultural Services was in scope to transfer. The proposals were detailed in reports to the Council meetings held on 27 February and 26 June and 20 November 2014. The SBC Staff managing the property would transfer to the Trust and the transfer agreement would make arrangements for these services to continue. The Project Board and the Members/Officer Working Group overseeing the transfer project had been advised of no direct financial impact on the Common Good Fund in connection with the proposals as the local authority met the capital and revenue costs of these Common Good Assets and this would move to the Trust through the transfer agreement. However as several of the proposed properties were Common Good Assets, and as a question may arise as to the alienability of these through the granting of a lease to the Trust , it was the legal position was that the Council would require to seek consent from the Sheriff to grant a lease over these properties to the Culture Trust. A full report would be presented to the Council later in the year which would outline the workstream further, and members were asked to note the update on the transfer proposals.