

**SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
HAWICK COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE**

MINUTES of Meeting of the HAWICK
COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
held in Lesser Hall, Town Hall, Hawick on
Tuesday, 26 November 2019 at 4.00 pm

Present:- Councillors G. Turnbull (Chairman), S. Marshall, W. McAteer, C. Ramage,
N. Richards, Mrs A Knight (Burnfoot) and Mr J Campbell (Hawick)

In attendance:- Pension and Investments Manager, Managing Solicitor, Estates Surveyor,
Property Officer (F Scott), Cultural Services Advisor, Democratic Services
Officer (J Turnbull).

1. **WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Mr Jock Campbell, Hawick Community Council's new representative on the Sub-Committee.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

2. **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The Chairman 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.

3. **MINUTE**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the meeting held on 20 August 2019.

DECISION

APPROVED the Minute of the Meeting held on 20 August 2019 for signature by the Chairman.

4. **URGENT ITEM**

Under Section 50B(4)(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the Chairman was of the opinion that the item dealt with in the following paragraph should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency, in view of the need to keep Members informed.

5. **FUTURE HAWICK - WELCOME HOSTS**

With reference to paragraph 5.1 of the Minute 19 March 2019, the Chair welcomed Mr Tait, Chair of Future Hawick, who was in attendance to provide an evaluation on the Welcome Hosts. Their report on Hawick Welcome 2019 had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting. Mr Tait advised that there had been 5,000 visitors to the town, which had exceeded expectations. The number of coaches, first time visitors, camper vans to the town had also risen. The Sub-Committee thanked Mr Tait for the evaluation and congratulated him on the continued success of the project.

**DECISION
NOTED.**

6. **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

6.1 **Hawick Pantomime Group**

There had been circulated copies of an application for financial assistance from Hawick Pantomime Group requesting £1,040 towards the cost of storage and transportation of costumes, scenery and advertising. The Chairman asked that Hawick Pantomime Group also consider applying for a community grant.

DECISION

AGREED to award a grant of £1,040.00 to Hawick Pantomime Group towards the cost of storage and transportation of costumes, scenery and advertising,

6.2 **Hawick Congregational Community Church Reaching Out Project**

There had been circulated copies of an application for financial assistance from Hawick Congregational Community Church Reaching Out Project for £4,000.00. The funding would be used to assist with, develop and sustain their day to day activities in particular Souplaunch and the Friendship Afternoon during 2020. It was noted that this application was not eligible for a community grant.

DECISION

AGREED to award a grant of £4,000.00 to Hawick Congregational Community Church Reaching Out Project to assist with, develop and sustain their day to day activities in particular Souplaunch and the Friendship Afternoon.

6.3 **Hawick in Bloom**

There had been circulated copies of an application for financial assistance from Hawick in Bloom (a sub group of Hawick Community Council) for £1,779.35 to purchase bedding plants for the area surrounding the War Memorial in Wilton Lodge Park. An estimate for the cost of the plants was attached to the application. Following discussion it was agreed to award the grant and also to grant funding for the cost of the 2021 and 2022 summer and winter bedding plants. Hawick in Bloom would provide details of the amounts required.

DECISION

AGREED:

- (a) **To award a grant of £1,779.35 to purchase summer and winter bedding plants for the area surrounding the War Memorial in Wilton Lodge Park; and**
- (b) **To award further annual grants for 2021 and 2022 to purchase summer and winter bedding plants for the area surrounding the War Memorial in Wilton Lodge Park.**

(Note: Following the meeting, Hawick in Bloom advised that the amount required for 2021 was £1,832.74, and, for 2022 £1,887.72. This covered the cost of summer and winter bedding plants).

6.4 **Hawick Reivers Association**

There had been circulated copies of an application for financial assistance from Hawick Reivers Association requesting £3,000.00 towards the overall running costs of the festival including insurance, marketing, venues etc. This would allow Hawick Reivers Association to continue to provide many of the events free of charge to the local population and visitors alike. The Sub-Committee discussed the application and unanimously agreed that as the Hawick Reivers Festival was of economic benefit to the town, it should receive annual funding from the Council's Community Fund.

DECISION

- (a) **AGREED to award a grant of £3,000.00 towards the overall running costs of the festival including insurance, marketing, venues etc.**

- * (b) **AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL that Hawick Reivers Association receive annual funding from the Council's Festival budget.**

6.5 **Hawick Honorary Provosts Council**

There had been circulated copies of an application for financial assistance from the Honorary Provost's Council requesting £2,500.00 for their continued running costs.

DECISION

AGREED to award a grant of £2,500.00 for the continued running costs of the Hawick Honorary Provosts Council.

6.6 **50th Anniversary Celebration Group**

There had been circulated copies of an application for financial assistance from the 50th Anniversary Celebration Group requesting £200.00 towards a specimen tree and materials, anniversary plaque, invitation cards and refreshments for the 50 years of youth work celebration of the former Hawick Youth Centre.

DECISION

AGREED to award £200.00 to the 50th Anniversary Celebration Group towards specimen tree, anniversary plaque, invitations and refreshments.

6.7 **Future Hawick (Town of the Horse)**

There had been circulated copies of an application for £2,000 to employ an architect to create 3D visual drawings of the proposed redevelopment of Hawick Moor for a public consultation. The Sub-Committee were advised that this application was not eligible for a community grant which could not pay salaries.

DECISION

AGREED to award £2,000.00 toward employment of an architect to create 3D visual drawings of the proposed redevelopment of Hawick Moor for a public consultation.

6.8 **Cycling without Age Scotland – Hawick Chapter**

There had been circulated copies of an application for £7,000.00 towards a second Trishaw through the Cycling without Age Scheme. It was noted that the organisation had received community grant funding for their first Trishaw, on the condition of an operation pilot to ensure there were no issues for other users.

DECISION

AGREED to award £7,000.00 to obtain funding for the purchase of a Trishaw through the Cycling without Age Scotland scheme.

7. **APPLICATION FOR USE OF COMMON HAUGH**

With reference to paragraph 5 of the Minute of 11 December 2018, an application had been received from K Stuart, Family Fun Fair requesting permission to lease part of the Common Haugh on two weekends in March 2019 for a Fun Fair.

DECISION

- (a) **AGREED to grant a lease of the Common Haugh to K Stuart, Family Fun Fair as follows:-**

(i)	Thursday	26 March 2020	6.00 pm to 9.30 pm
	Friday	27 March 2020	6.00 pm to 10.00 pm
	Saturday	28 March 2020	1.00 pm to 10.00 pm
	Sunday	29 March 2020	2.00 pm to 4.30 pm.
(ii)	Thursday	2 April 2020	6.00 pm to 9.30 pm
	Friday	3 April 2020	6.00 pm to 10.00 pm
	Saturday	4 April 2020	1.00 pm to 10.00 pm

- (b) **To request that K Stuart Family Fun Fair and Hawick Reivers Association are advised of any impact the flood protection works might have on the Common Haugh during the Reivers Festival weekend.**

8. **MONITORING REPORT FOR NINE MONTHS TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2019**

With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of 20 August 2019, there had been circulated copies of a report by the Chief Financial Officer providing details of the income and expenditure for the Hawick Good Fund Sub-Committee for the six months to 30 September 2019, a full year projected out-turn for 2019/20 and projected balance sheet values as at 31 March 2020. Appendix 1 to the report provided the projected income and expenditure position. This showed a projected surplus of £134,211 for the year which included a proposed increase to the budget for grants and donations. Appendix 2 provided a projected balance sheet value as at 31 March 2019 and showed a projected decrease in reserves of £94,620. Appendix 3 provided a breakdown of the property portfolio showing projected rental income for 2019/20 and actual property expenditure to 30 September 2019. Appendix 4 showed the value of the Kames Capital Investment Fund to 30 September 2019. Mrs Robb advised that with the grants awarded above, the surplus would be reduced to £120k for 2019/20 and it was agreed to increase the grants budget to £80k.

DECISION

- (a) **AGREED the projected income and expenditure for 2019/20 in Appendix 1 to the report, as the revised budget for 2019/20.**
- (b) **NOTED within the appendices to the report:-**
- (i) **The projected balance sheet value as at 31 March 2020 in Appendix 2;**
 - (ii) **The summary of the property portfolio in Appendix 3; and**
 - (iii) **The current position of the Kames Capital Investment Fund in Appendix 4.**

9. **TREE FELLING AND COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

The Chair advised that at a Members briefing on 5 November 2019 by the Flood Protection Team. Members present had requested that any trees felled as a result of the protection scheme works, be sold by the project team. Any money arising from the sale would be ring fenced for community benefit projects. The details of which would be confirmed e.g. project type, suitability.

DECISION

AGREED that any trees felled by the Flood Protection Team be sold, with any money arising to be ring fenced for community benefit projects.

(Note: A member of public raised a query regarding trees that bordered Violet Woods. As this was not a Common Good matter the Ward Councillor advised he would facilitate a meeting with officers out with the meeting).

10. **PROPERTY UPDATE**

10.1 **Williestruther Reservoir**

With reference to paragraph 4.2 of the Minute of 14 November 2017, the Property Officer confirmed that Williestruther Reservoir had passed the annual inspection.

DECISION

NOTED.

11. **PRIVATE BUSINESS**
AGREED exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the business detailed in the Appendix to the Minute on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.
12. **PRIVATE MINUTE**
Members approved the Private Minute of the Hawick Common Good Fund Sub-Committee held on 20 August 2019.
13. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTE**
There was a discussion on the Wee Haugh, Hawick
14. **HAWICK COMMON HAUGH**
The Sub-Committee considered a report by the Service Director Assets & Infrastructure.
15. **MOVEABLE ASSETS INVENTORY - ADDITIONAL ITEM**
The Sub-Committee considered a report by Executive Director.
16. **PROPERTY UPDATE**
The Property Officer and Estates Surveyor gave a verbal update on matters pertaining to Common Good properties.

The meeting concluded at 6.00 pm