

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL HAWICK COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES of Special Meeting of the HAWICK
COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
held via Microsoft Teams on Monday, 12
September 2022 at 9.00 am

- Present:- Councillors C. Ramage (Chair), J. Cox, W. McAteer, N. Richards; Mr W. Fletcher (Burnfoot CC).
- Apologies:- Councillor A. Smart.
- In Attendance:- Principal Solicitor, Pension and Investment Manager, Property Maintenance and Building Services Manager, Estates Strategy Manager, Property Officer (S. Drummond), and Democratic Services Officer (W. Mohieddeen).

1. **MINUTE**

With reference to paragraph one of the Minute of the Meeting held on 15 December 2021, there had been circulated copies of a report by Principal Solicitor that advised on the outcome of the recent consultation under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, and to seek approval of the final Common Good Register for Hawick. The Hawick Common Good Fund Sub-Committee approved a draft asset register of Common Good property, required by the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, and agreed to the commencement of the public consultation on the register. The consultation ran from December 2021 to 31 March 2022. There were 65 responses to the consultation, seven of which related to Hawick. The majority of comments approved the draft register, however, substantive comments and officers' responses were set out in Appendix 1 of the report. The proposed final register was presented in Appendix 2 of the report. The Principal Solicitor summarised the report and answered Members' questions, and explained that consultation responses were likely to have been brief as the Hawick Common Good asset register had been well developed over time. Requests received for additions to the register related to Common Riding flags which the Principal Solicitor advised that the flags may be appropriate to add to the register however these may have to be considered on an individual basis and it may not be appropriate to add items to the register that were not in the control of Scottish Borders Council. The asset register would be considered an open register where items may be added when further information arises about the provenance or responsibility of assets, or whether assets are recommended to be disposed.

DECISION

- (a) **NOTED the consultation responses and officers' comments thereon, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report;**
- (b) **AGREED**
 - (i) **to approve the contents of the final list of heritable and moveable property assets held by the Council within the former Burgh of Hawick, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report; and,**

- (ii) **to recommend to Council the said final asset list for publication as a completed Common Good Register for Hawick.**

URGENT BUSINESS

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 make an early decision or to keep Members informed.

2. **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 Paragraph 9 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Act.

3. **PILMUIR FARM COTTAGE**

Members considered an update from Property Officer and Estates Strategy Manager on Pilmuir Farm Cottage.

The meeting concluded at 9.24 am.