

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL
CHAMBERS INSTITUTION TRUST

MINUTE of MEETING of the
CHAMBERS INSTITUTION TRUST held
via Microsoft Teams on 14 September
2022 at 4.00 p.m.

Present:- Councillors R. Tatler (Chairman), M. Douglas, J. Pirone, E Small.
Apologies:- Councillor D. Begg, V. Thomson.
In Attendance:- Chief Legal Officer, Capital and Investments Manager, Estates
Strategy Manager, Estates Surveyor (T. Hill), Democratic Services
Team Leader.

1. **MINUTE**

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meeting held on 3 August 2022.

DECISION

APPROVED for signature by the Chairman.

2. **BENEFICIARIES GROUP**

The Chairman reported on the most recent meeting of the Group held the previous evening and shared a copy of the Actions that the Group wished to be taken forward, a copy of which is appended to this Minute. As Live Borders managed the property the Chairman agreed to write to the Chief Executive, Ewan Jackson to raise the requests for work to be carried out. It was noted that the Director Resilient Communities should also be copied in as she had oversight of Live Borders. The Chairman advised that he had spoken to the Acting Chief Executive regarding support for the Group who would hopefully be able to identify some resource.

DECISION

AGREED to support the actions contained in Appendix I to this Minute.

3. **PROPERTY UPDATE**

The Estates Strategy Manager advised that Listed Building Consent had now been approved for the works to the ceiling although some conditions had been attached which needed to be resolved e.g. the colour scheme. He was currently discussing with his manager who would be responsible for project managing the works. In response to a question by the Chairman on how quickly the works needed to be carried out, Mr Curtis advised that there were timescales attached to the grant funding and there was also the issue of build price inflation.

DECISION

NOTED the update.

4. **PRIVATE BUSINESS**

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 II 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.

SUMMARY OF PRIVATE BUSINESS

5. MINUTE

The private section of the Minute of the meeting held on 3 August 2022 was approved.

6. LEASE UPDATE

The Chief Legal Officer gave Members an update on the lease of 25 High Street..

The meeting concluded at 4.25 p.m.

CHAMBERS INSTITUTION TRUST
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APPENDIX i

NOTE OF ACTIONS AGREED BY CHAMBERS INSTITUTION BENEFICIARIES GROUP ON 13/9/22

1. Wi fi to be installed in the Burgh Hall
2. Administrative support from SBC is to be arranged for the Chambers Institution Beneficiaries Group.
3. Series of “walk through” events to be arranged for interested parties to view the Chambers Institution buildings and the areas that could be changed. Fiona Colton of LIVE Borders has agreed to assist with this process.
4. Following the visits above there will be a presentation and discussion with Page and Park who will explain their proposed approach to developing the Chambers Institution.
5. After both of these events have taken place there will be a Workshop arranged with an independent facilitator who will lead a discussion involving members of the Chambers Institution Beneficiaries Group and the Chambers Institution Trustees. The focus of this discussion will be to agree a shared vision for the way forward for the Chambers Institution buildings. From this it is hope will come a renewed SWOT analysis, an agreed overall Project Plan, suggested funding sources, a series of small/medium and large targets and a project GANT chart (timetable).
6. The aim in all of this is that the two bodies – Chambers Institution Beneficiaries and Chambers Institution Trust – will work as one to achieve a shared vision of achieving the best outcome for the buildings to benefit the people of Peeblesshire/Tweeddale.
7. An article outlining the agreed process above will be prepared by Councillor Tatler in agreement with members of the Chambers Institution Beneficiaries Group and will be published in Peebles Life and the Peeblesshire News. It will encourage people to actively engage in this process.