

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

MINUTES of Meeting of the PEEBLES
COMMON GOOD FUND SUB-COMMITTEE
held via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, 7th
March, 2023 at 4.00 pm

Present:- Councillors R. Tatler (Chair), D. Begg, M. Douglas, J. Pirone, E. Small. V. Thomson
In Attendance:- Acting Chief Corporate Governance Officer, Estates Surveyor (T. Hill), Democratic Services Team Leader

1. **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 6 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Act.

2. **MINUTE**

There had been circulated copies of the private section of the meeting held on 23 November 2022.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the Minute for signature by the Chairman.

3. **HAYLODGE PATH REPAIRS**

It was noted that no information had been provided regarding the costs so this item could not be considered.

DECISION

AGREED to defer until the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

4. **PEEBLES BOWLING CLUB**

There had been circulated copies of a briefing note by the Estates Surveyor regarding an area of land at Peebles Bowling Club which belonged to the Common Good Fund. The land was currently a maintained area of grassland/garden ground adjacent to the bowling green with a couple of benches and wooden storage sheds situated on the land. The bowling club occupied this land under an agreement dating from 1906. This agreement included a rental payment of 15 shillings per annum. The bowling club were planning to renovate and extend their current club house and had requested to use the Peebles Common Good land to install a soakaway in connection with this development. Additionally a timber summer house already at the bowling green would be relocated onto the Common Good land. Plans showing the proposed works were contained in the briefing paper. Members discussed the request and were in agreement in principle that it be approved. However, the Acting Corporate Governance Officer advised that if planning permission was required for a change of use of the land then there would be a requirement under the Community Empowerment legislation to carry out a public

consultation. The Estates Surveyor confirmed that the Bowling Club had applied for planning permission for the full scheme and she would check if this covered a change of use. Members agreed to grant delegated powers to the Acting Corporate Governance Officer and the Estates Survey to approve the request if it was ascertained that a change of use was not required. With regard to the rental it was suggested that a new rent of £100 per annum be included in the Minute of Amendment. In response to a question, Ms Hill advised that when looking at rents for sports clubs across the Borders this was the suggested amount which would cover administration costs. It was noted that the Golf Club currently paid a more commercially based rent and Members asked that the rents of all sports clubs using land owned by the Peebles Common Good Fund should be reviewed to ensure equality of treatment.

DECISION

AGREED:-

- (a) to delegate powers to the Acting Corporate Governance Officer and the Estates Survey to approve the request to allow the uses of a soakaway and siting of a summer house on the land owned by the Common Good Fund if it was ascertained that a change of use was not required;**
- (b) subject to (a) above, to issue a Minute of Amendment to the current Agreement to cover these uses;**
- (c) to include a new rent of £100 per annum in the Minute of Amendment;**
- (d) that a review of rents for all sports clubs occupying land owned by the Common Good Fund be carried out.**

The meeting concluded at 4.15 pm