

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL CHAMBERS INSTITUTION TRUST

MINUTES of Meeting of the CHAMBERS
INSTITUTION TRUST held via MICROSOFT
TEAMS on Thursday, 21 March 2024 at 4.00
pm

Present:- Councillors R. Tatler (Chair), D. Begg, M. Douglas and J. Pirone

Apologies:- Councillors E. Small and V. Thomson

In Attendance:- Director Corporate Governance (from 16:30), S. Coe (Beneficiaries Group), J. Dyer, Democratic Services Officer (L. Cuerden)

1. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Chair 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. An additional matter was to be considered under Item 8.

2. MINUTES

There had been circulated copies of the Minute of the Meetings held on 24 January and 28 February 2024.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the Minutes for signature by the Chair.

3. BENEFICIARIES GROUP UPDATE

- 3.1 The Chair shared the main points from the meeting of the Beneficiaries Group on 20 March 2024, the Note of which was to be appended to this Minute. The public consultation drop-in event held on 18 March saw around 70 attendees give their feedback on the project vision document. A summary of these responses was to be appended to this Minute, along with the Community Consultation Report by Jason Dyer. A few key points were highlighted by Members: the need to ensure good Wi-fi for the hearing loop to operate effectively; concern around the proposal to open a café and its impact on local businesses; a large amount of the Levelling Up award was to be spent on the fabric of the building to make it more sustainable for the future.

DECISION

NOTED the update.

4. JOHN BUCHAN MUSEUM

- 4.1 Gareth Smith had no further update to provide on possible measures to improve the frontage and signage of the museum. The question of whether Estates was to take a lead on this was raised. A meeting with Planning officers and representatives of the John Buchan Museum was still to be arranged by Gareth Smith/Estates.
- 4.2 Gareth Smith provided an update on Burgh Hall works. Vents had been installed to the pipe box and were not to be painted. Their effectiveness was not known yet, but feedback was to be sought from the Peebles Pensioners Association who were regular users of the hall. There was to be no curtain hung in the balcony and the acoustic panels were to be installed by the end of April.

DECISION

NOTED

5. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR DECIDES IS URGENT**

The Chair requested that two standing items be included on the monthly agenda going forward: Levelling Up Fund Report and Financial Report.

6. **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.

7. **PRIVATE MINUTE**

Members considered the Private Minutes of 24 January and 28 February 2024.

8. **BURGH HALL FOYER CABINET**

Members considered the placement of the cabinet and shelving and agreed to arrange a site visit for measurements to be taken.

The meeting concluded at 4.30pm.