



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
MUSSELBURGH COMMON GOOD COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY 17 MAY 2016
REGENT ROOM, BRUNTON HALL, MUSSELBURGH**

Committee Members Present:

Councillor J McNeil, Chair
Councillor J Caldwell
Councillor J Williamson
Councillor S Currie
Councillor A Forrest
Councillor F McAllister

Council Officials Present:

Ms S Fortune, Service Manager, Business Finance
Ms P Maciver, Senior Accountant
Mrs F Stewart, Clerk

Applicants Present:

Ms Z Murdoch (Item 4a – Brunton Theatre Trust)
Ms R Sweetnan (Item 4b – Musselburgh Grammar School Production)
Ms S Russell (Item 4c – Burgh Primary School Parent Council)
Ms J Durham (Item 4d – Grace Notes)
Ms S Harkins (Item 4g – Pinkie Primary School)

Apologies:

None

Declarations of Interest:

None

1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

a) Meeting of 15 March 2016

The minutes of the meeting on 15 March 2016 were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

2. MATTERS ARISING

The Chair advised that the Musselburgh Common Good (MCG) logo had been prepared some months ago and that the new logo now appeared on the billboard of Lewisvale Park in Musselburgh to indicate that the MCG had helped to fund the new tennis courts there. The Chair also advised that a copy of the Service Level Agreement between East Lothian Council, Enjoy Leisure Ltd and Musselburgh Tennis Club had been circulated to Members.

The Chair advised that the Council's Principal Amenity Officer had begun the tendering process for the Fireworks Display which would take place on Saturday 5 November.

The Chair advised that the Fisherrow Users Committee were soon due to meet with members of the Fisherrow Waterfront Group to discuss the repairs to Fisherrow Harbour.

Following a request from Councillor Currie at the last meeting, Pauline Maciver, Financial Adviser to the Committee, circulated information on MCG assets to Members. She also advised that, under new legislation, the Committee would soon be obliged to publish a list of its assets. The Chair asked if Members could be informed if there would be a charge for the Council checking and updating Common Good Assets. The Finance Service Manager advised that valuations of the assets were carried out approximately every 5 years and she could provide updated valuations for information.

In relation to valuations, Councillor Caldwell enquired if consideration was given to costs when significant sums had to be spent which were well in excess of the value of an asset. The Finance Service Manager replied that such costs would always be taken into account and that a new valuation would be arranged prior to any work being carried out.

Councillor Currie requested if Members could be consulted on any developments concerning Common Good Land. Generally, the Committee was not informed of any changes, as approval for this was given by the Council.

3. FEEDBACK FROM ORGANISATIONS IN RECEIPT OF GRANT FUNDING

A letter dated 4 April 2016 had been received from Jenny Dougall thanking the Committee for granting funds of £2,500 to upgrade the play area at Newhailes. The letter included an invitation to Committee Members to visit the play area later in the year, when project workers would welcome the opportunity to thank Members personally and to show them the positive impact the project had had on the community.

4. APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

4a Application for Assistance – Brunton Theatre Trust

The Common Good Committee considered an application from Zoe Murdoch on behalf of the Brunton Theatre Trust for funds of £1150 to enable 4 members of East Lothian Youth Theatre to attend the National Festival of Youth Theatre, 1-4 July 2016, in Fife.

Decision

The Common Good Committee unanimously agreed to grant the application.

4b Application for Assistance – Musselburgh Grammar School Production

The Common Good Committee considered an application from Rohini Thomas on behalf of Musselburgh Grammar School Production for funds of £500-£1000 to support the production of a musical to be performed by pupils on 22 June 2016.

Decision

The Common Good Committee agreed to grant the application in the sum of £1000 and to pay for the hire of the school hall for the period of the production.

4c Application for Assistance – Burgh Primary School Parent Council

The Common Good Committee considered an application from Stacey Russell on behalf of Burgh Primary School Parent Council for funds of £8,000 to celebrate the end of the Reading is Braw project on 29 June 2016.

Decision

The Common Good Committee agreed to grant the application in part, awarding £6,000.

4d Application for Assistance – Grace Notes

The Common Good Committee considered an application from Julie Durham, owner of Grace Notes for funding to provide up to 6 pupils with instrumental lessons and provision of an instrument, at no cost to them, for one year.

Decision

The Common Good Committee agreed to defer the application in order to obtain further information.

4e Application for Assistance – New Year Sprint

The Common Good Committee considered an application from Frank Hanlon, Promoter, for funding of £3,000 to support the New Year Sprint event in 2017, held at Musselburgh Racecourse.

Decision

The Common Good Committee agreed to grant the application in full.

4f Application for Assistance – Musselburgh Grammar School

This application was withdrawn by the applicant.

4g Pinkie Primary School

The Common Good Committee considered an application from Susan Harkins on behalf of Pinkie Parents for funding of £900 to purchase 17 cameras, one for each class in Primary 2-7 and one for each Primary 1 and Nursery class to support learning.

Decision

The Common Good Committee agreed to grant the application in full.

4h Our Lady of Loretto and St Michael RC Church

The Common Good Committee considered an application from Rev Basil J Clark on behalf of Our Lady of Loretto and St Michael RC Church for funding of £28,808 to replace the heating system in Church and Loretto Institute (Parish Halls).

Decision

The Common Good Committee agreed to recommend to Council on 28 June 2016 that this application is awarded in full.

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The Chair announced at the end of the meeting that the Financial Adviser to the Committee, Pauline MacIver, would be leaving the Council at the end of May. He thanked her, on behalf of the Committee, for all her assistance at meetings and wished her well in her new career.

Signed

Councillor J McNeil
Convener of Musselburgh Common Good Committee