**Battle of Prestonpans (1745) Heritage Trust**

**Minutes of the 47/12 Meeting of Trustees held on 18th May 2012**

**Attendance:** Herbert Coutts; Gordon Prestoungrange; Arran Johnston

**Apologies**: Adam Watters; Gareth Jones; Sharon Dabell

1. **Minutes of Trustees’ Meeting 46th Meeting – April 17th 2012**

Minutes approved by acclamation

**2. Any Matters Arising not addressed below**

None

1. **Progress with ELC / Petitions/ Locations C/F [GBJ/HC]**

The Trust had a promise of a post-election meeting with Paul McLellan, which it now needs to rearrange to be with Willie Innes. We will ask to meet the relevant politicians to discuss our relationship with ELC. Gareth will be asked to follow this up, as it can be done in response to Willie Innes’ letter of support prior to the election. The meeting should also include the new chair for tourism as well as for culture/wellbeing. It was proposed that we would go to the councillors rather than inviting them to visit us, and that it would be best to deal directly with the politicians at this stage rather than the officials.

It was agreed that the Trust needs to agree a deadline for an agreement over moving to the Prestoungrange site.

**4. HS/ Visit by Fiona Hyslop June 14th 2012**

Minister has been invited to visit on the day of the Symposium (14th June); no official confirmation of how long the Minister can stay, but it is hoped that there will be an early meeting at the Goth prior to the symposium. It was suggested that Willie Innes etc should be informed of the visit.

1. **Momentum Funding & £2m Appeal: Proposals [AJ/DB/GP]**

The momentum funding application has been presented at pre-application, and is approved by the Trust in its current form.

The Appeal fund options were discussed at considerable length. The options were considered to boil down to either (i) the employment from our own restricted funds of a professional fundraiser, or (ii) the results-based approach proposed by BarkerLangham. It was felt that the former option represented a considerable risk to the funds we had managed to raise to date and offered no guarantees of success. Option ii was supported by Gordon and Arran, on the lines expressed in the latest correspondence from BarkerLangham. Herbert’s concerns over the HLF’s perception of such an unorthodox approach had been addressed in BarkerLangham’s letter also.

It was agreed that we should not expose our exisiting 100k (approx) at this stage. Therefore it was voted that Option ii was the preference. Gordon proposed, and it was agreed, that BarkerLangham should be invited to prepare a clear proposed plan for the Appeal as a result of our agreement in principle, which can be then approved by the Trust at the next appropriate stage before continuing. This stepping-stone approach was approved in the anticipation of a larger attendance by trustees at that later stage. BarkerLangham will be presenting on the possible options at the Symposium.

1. **HLF - Additional Boards [AJ]**

The proposal for additional interpretation boards was approved, to complete the previous HLF grant. Arran has arranged for a grant extension to October, for full costings, and has written the boards. The next step will be to identify precise sites and submit planning applications. It was agreed that the proposed “link” board at the cairn should include some Gaelic. Arran is also awaiting costings from ELC about changing the sign at the battlefield to “Battlefield Viewpoint”.

1. **School Visits Futures / Story Telling – Alan Brecks [AJ/AW/GV]**

The Alan Brecks have officially taken over operational control of school visits. Fewer bookings are expected now (peak season is autumn/winter), but we are getting bookings for school visits to the Tapestry at St Mary’s in June.

1. **Tapestry Touring 2012 & 2013 & Staffing [AJ/GP]**

The current bookings were explained, including the plans to visit Bayeux in 2013. Herbert has agreed to continue thinking about Glasgow after it proved not possible to display at the Catholic Cathedral, and to consider approaching Aberdeen University.

Arran has taken on a work experience volunteer to help him over the summer by staffing the cathedral display five days a week. Initial feedback from the volunteer appeal by flyer has been positive.

1. **Revenues so far against Budget 2012 [AJ/AW]**

It was explained that donations had reached in excess of £98,000 and that we are on target with most of our expected revenues.

1. **Webmaster and Boutique Sales [SB/AJ/SD]**

Over the coming months Arran will be taking over responsibility for the online shop, and in due course the Trust and Tapestry websites also.

1. **3rd Biennial Symposium June 14th [HC/All]**

Arran agreed that if necessary he will do the setting up whilst the other trustees meet the Minister at the Goth. He will also arrange projectors etc. The Goth is expected to produce meal tickets, and possibly also the tea/coffee. Arran will send info to Sarah Cowie and the relevant ELC departments.

1. **Lord Commissioner/ Sir Garth Morrison Tapestry Visit May 19th**

The details for the LHC’s visit were discussed, in anticipation of his arrival the following day. Arran has had several meetings in the run-up and believes it should proceed smoothly.

1. **Riggonhead Defile Medal**

Gordon proposed that a medal be struck as a reward for those who successfully walk the Riggonhead Defile in September. He will progress this in consultation with Arran.

1. **AOB**

Historic Scotland have opened up consultation on increasing the Battlefields Inventory, including the addition of Dunbar I (1296). The Trust supports the addition and Arran will respond.

**15. Next Meetings @ Lord Mayor’s Bar: Tuesday June 12th and June 28th**

**Meeting Closed 9:35pm**