**BATTLE OF PESTONPANS [1745] HERITAGE TRUST**

**MINUTES OF THE 80/16 MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES HELD ON AUGUST 18th 2016 IN THE JAMES PARK BISTRO at THE PRESTOUNGRANGE GOTHENBURG, 227/ 229 HIGH STREEET, PRESTONPANS**

 **PRESENT:**

Herbert Coutts [Joint Chairman in the chair]

Sharon Beck

Keith Cameron

Brett Fletcher

Mark Jardine

Arran Johnston

Gordon Prestoungrange

Avril Wills

**APOLOGIES:**

 Gareth Bryn-Jones

 Sylvia Burgess [Secretary]

 Alastair Cleeton

 John Curtis

 Sharon Dabell

 Richard Mackenzie

 Baron of Dolphinstoun

 Baron of Prestoungrange [Treasurer]

 Pauline Jaffray

 Pat O’Brien

*The Chairman welcomed Keith Cameron and Mark Jardine as incoming Trustees. The Secretary will be in contact with them both in the coming weeks to induct them and arrange their Guarantee as required by the Charter.*

**1 MINUTES of 79/16 Meeting** of the Trustees held on July 14th 2016 had been circulated by the Secretary and were certified correct.

**2 SCOTTISH POWER/ CONSULTATION & HARGREAVES RE BLINDWELLS & REPSOL/INCHCAPE**

1. That there have been no reported developments in respect of Blindwells/ Charlestoun but Hargreave’s Iain Slater has agreed to a future meeting which Sylvia Burgess will seek to arrange later this year.
2. Confirmed that the proceedings of the post-Power Station Consultation Group funded in part by Scottish Enterprise would in future be Minuted; and that Arran Johnston had attended ts latest meeting at which no substantive progress was made beyond the determination that the draft Plan from Callum Millar re Prestonpans Community Council was just that and that a formal consultation was in progress. Agreed that at the next formal meeting of the Consultation Group Arran Johnston would table the Trust’s Vision statement which has already been appended to the Minutes.
3. That Inchcape/ Repsol had reportedly sold their interest in the offshore windfarm and hence the putative SubStation although the future of that windfarm had now been cast in doubt by the Court of Sessions determination that the Scottish Government’s decision thereon had been illegal in a case brought by RSPB Scotland. Developments are accordingly awaited.
4. That the Coastal Regeneration Alliance had appealed to the Sheriff re the Scottish Government’s rejection of the CRTB the lands at Greenhills and the Battlesite and an Opinion thereon was awaited.

**3** **JOINT WORKING** **PARTNERSHIP WITH ELC @ PRESTONGRANGE MUSEUM & HLF APPLICATION**

1. That the Minutes of the second formal meeting of the Joint Working Group [JWG] with ELC’s Cllr Tim Day in the chair were still not available.
2. That no response has still been received from the JWG Chairman Cllr Tim Day re the putative In Kind contribution @ £10,000pa to the project costs by ELC which has been outstanding now for 24 months. The rental on the Workshop that had been withheld as a contra item has now been paid after polite but firm threats of eviction by ELC Estates.
3. That Herbert Coutts had communicated the Trust’s frustrations to Cllr. Tim Day and a meeting betweeen him with Arran Johnston and Cllr Willie Innes, Council Leader, had now taken place. They had agreed that all efforts would now be directed to ensure that our HLF Application can be lodged no later than December 8th 2016.
4. That Darren Barker of Barker Langham LLP would meet in Newark with Gordon Prestoungrange on August 24th to finalise the schedule; and that the balance of £12,500 from the Restricted Funds of the Trust be made available to fund their activities to December 8th. That schedule would then be communicated to the two Councillors for ELC action and appended to the next Meeting’s Minutes.
5. That the Trust still very much wishes Cllr Willie Innes, as Leader of ELC Council, to make a formal public statement howsoever of its commitment to the Trust so that the Trust can proceed not only with HLF but more broadly across Government and private funders to seek the total £5m required for the requisite world class facilities.

**4 VIRIDOR PROJECT/ BORD NA GAIDHLIG/ WALKERS**

.01 Doo’cot DVD installation will be proceeding in the coming weeks in time for the September Commemorations.

.02 That Keith Scott of ELC has now completed the erection of the English/ Gaelic signage at the south end of the pathway, and the padlocking/ privacy notices; and that Residents of Bankton House and Steadings are well pleased with the pathway improvements by John Sheddon. The Alan Brecks have agreed to voluntarily ensure Spring week clearing for the next three years i.e. 2007/ 2018/ 2019 and hopefully well beyond then.

.03 That the Preview of the DVD in Bankton Doo’cot will be arranged for Residents of Bankton House and Steadings on Friday September 23rd and that Viridor’s local Committee Members and other appropriate guests will be invited to a parallel session to avoid overcrowding.

.04 That Mark Jardine of Bankton House had accepted the invitation to become a Trustee and, together with Alastair Cleeton of The Steadings, agreed to be ‘Watchmen’ on site.

.05 That the chains installed by Strawberry Corner were being replaced; the gates and railings at each end have been re-painted by the Alan Beck Regiment as contractors to Strawberry Corner and padlocks will be attached at Christmas tide each year as required. .

.06 Eric Rosoman and colleagues at Atom Coding were proceeding with the multiple APP embracing [i] the battlefields walkers’ trail – short & long; [ii] the Prestonpans Tapestry; [iii] the Tranent/ Cockenzie Waggonway; The Bankton Doocot/ YouTube links. Translations are now completed using Gaelic and French as well as English for [i] and [ii] with the additional translations provided by Beathag Mhoireasdan and Jean Migrenne of Ifs/ Bayeux.

.07 That meetings had taken place with Jennifer Lothian of ELC’s Landscapes & Countryside Team to see how the new APP’d Walks can be integrated into the county’s existing provision and the guides thereto and arrangements are being made to meet with Sandra King, Manager of the Preston, Seton & Gosford [GSF] Partnership in September.

.08 That Arran Johnston is liaising with Gardner Molloy on the two Memorial Tables and all Regimental details have been provided. It is still hoped they can be completed but not installed by September 23rd. No decision on their temporary location has yet been taken but Gardener Molloy has proposed the Waggonway on each side of the Interpretation Board already in place there and Arran Johnston is evaluating that option.

**5 PRESTONPANS ‘MODEST 2016 & 2017’ BATTLE**

**COMMEMORATIONS & LOOKING AHEAD TO 2018**

.01 The 2016 modest yet visible series of commemorative events will be led by the Alan Brecks as is now customary. It is confirmed they will include the by-then-completed/ signed ‘Battlefield Walk’ – with APP, visits to the outcomes of the Viridor/ Dolphinstoun/ Bord na Gaidhlig grants, to Colonel Gardiner’s putative plaque at Tranent and the two Memorial Tables. It is also very much scheduled that the Prestonpans War Game, by then restored by Brett Fletcher, will be played - possibly in tournament format.

.02 That wreaths will be laid at the several memorials including on the battlefield where the Memorial Tables will eventually be placed; and at Prestonpans and Tranent Churches.

.03 Whilst the Doo’cot will be ready by then, whensoever it shall be ‘formally’ opened a key event shall be held, inviting the Chairman of HES to perform the task together with Viridor and VisitScotland guests.

.04 That once the Viridor Project is complete the Trust should seek formal VisitScotland \*\*\* designation and appropriate signage from the A1.

.05 Looking forward to 2017, EventScotland have designated it as the nation’s Year of History, Heritage & Archaeology; it is envisaged the Trust should make provision for a ‘special’ event during the ‘Modest 2017’ re-enactments September 22nd/ 24th [immediately after the SBT’s Triennial Re-enactment in Pinkie Cleugh on September 15th/ 17th 2017 at which the Alan Breck’s will appear as Home’s Lothian Levy].

.06 That when the major re-enactment event returns to Prestonpans in 2018 consideration should be given to a focus on the Clans who came out with The Prince in 1745, as previously targeted in 2008 for the 1st Year of Homecoming, with the Trust’s Committee of High Sponsors invited to assist in the occasion.

.07 That the Trust would continue to give its unstinting support in all manners possible to the Scottish Battlefields Trust’s plans for the East Lothian County Battles Triennial Cycle and for all its applications for funding via LEADER, ELC, HES and National EventScotland.

**6** **SCHOOL VISITS/ BATTLE GAME BOARD/ WAR GAMES/ EXHIBITIONS**

.01 Arran Johnston reported that School Visits were proceeding with support from East Lothian Council and directly.

.02 That Brett Fletcher, in association with Warwick Louth and the Prestoungrange Gothenburg, was working in the Scottish Battlefields Trust to take further initiatives in the playing of War Games.

.03 That the SBT Triennial County Battle Re-enactments will involve schools across the county and Dunbar Grammar [for 2016] has been ready to support and Lorretto has already stepped forward to share in the Pinkie Cleugh events in 2017.

.04 That the Prestonpans Tapestry is on exhibition at The Prestoungrange Gothenburg in the Thomas Nelson Suite from during August and September and will of course be thus accessible throughout the annual Commemorations.

**7** **TAPESTRY/ FRIENDS GROUP**

.01 That Jean Caever in St Nazaire had proposed that the Battle Tapestry should be exhibited at Lorient at the 2017 Festival InterCeltic which is themed in August that year for Scotland; contact has been made with the Scottish Team Leader Tom Johnstone to see how it might be arranged effectively and Gordon Prestoungrange will meet with Jean Caever in St Nazaire on September 29th and the day previous with Jean Migrenne in Ifs.

.02 That it remained the ambition to exhibit the Tapestry and artefacts elsewhere during coming months in Dundee and possibly once again at Dunblane Cathedral, as well as in Derby and Falkirk in due course.

.03 That with David Forsyth/ National Museums and NTS emergent plans for Jacobite exhibitions with EventScotland support in 2017, it would also be appropriate for the Tapestry and the Battle site to be embraced and Arran Johnston had made contact with EventScotland to explore how that might be achieved; confirming that if co-ordination might not eventuate, the Trust would definitely seek to exhibit on its own account. would be in touch with Marie Christie to see what might be appropriate.

**8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

.01 **Phonetic Lexicon for ‘Gaelic’ speaking Highlanders** is able to proceed with the benefit of Bord na Gaidhlig funds.

.02 **Colonel Gardiner’s Plaque @ Tranent Churchyard** still requiresformalconsent from ELC which is responsible for the churchyard; funds are available to proceed, with details to be included on the Walkers’ leaflet and APP. Arran Johnston is progressing the matter and agreeing appropriate wording.

.03 **Jacobite Exhibition at The National Museums of Scotland: June/ December 2017** – resolved to support this exhibition in all possible ways not only through the offer to exhibit The Prestonpans Tapestry; we would willingly also display of our artworks, possibly offer the Trust’s two Andrew Dallmeyer plays at The Fringe, and so far as possible offer ‘authentic’ tales from the ’45 for *Outlander* fans including Guided Tours and the Walkers APP.

**9 DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

**.**01 The Triennial East Lothian County Battle sequence in partnership with the Scottish Battlefields Trust [SBT] will commence for 2016 in **Dunbar on September 16th/ 18th 2016**

.02 The next 81/16 Meeting of the Trustees will be held from 6pm on Thursday 22nd September 2016 at The Prestoungrange Gothenburg or earlier on the call of the chair.

.03 The Battle Trust’s 10th Anniversary will see‘Modest 2016 Commemorations’ take place in Prestonpans from **September 23rd/25th 2016** including the Previews of the Bankton Doo’cot

.04 The 5th Biennial Scottish National Battlefields Symposium will be convened in **Perth** by the SBT on **October 15th 2016**

.05 The Trustees will hold their 82/ 16 Meeting on **November 24th 2016** followed by the Trust’s 10th Annual General Meeting.