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

**MINUTES OF THE 82/16 MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES HELD ON November 24th 2016 IN THE JAMES PARK BISTRO at THE PRESTOUNGRANGE GOTHENBURG, 227/ 229 HIGH STREEET, PRESTONPANS EH32 9BE**

**PRESENT:**

Herbert Coutts [Joint Chairman in the chair]

Sylvia Burgess [Secretary]

Sharon Beck

Brett Fletcher

Arran Johnston

Gordon Prestoungrange

Avril Wills

Sean Wood

**APOLOGIES:**

Gareth Bryn-Jones

John Curtis

Sharon Dabell

Mark Jardine

Richard Mackenzie

Baron of Dolphinstoun

Baron of Prestoungrange [Treasurer]

Pauline Jaffray

Pat O’Brien

**1 MINUTES of 81/16 Meeting** of the Trustees held on September 22nd 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.
2. Confirmed that the proceedings of the post-Power Station Consultation Group continue, Minutes, Arran Johnston attending; no substantive progress was yet been made. N.B. The recent Area Development Plan approved by ELC Council sows the whole of the lands in question as ‘awaiting’ future determination.
3. That Inchcape/ Repsol’s sale of their interest in the offshore windfarm and hence the putative SubStation is still unresolved, but the CRA has launched a second CRtB application.

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

***[Darren Barker & Dean Kirkwood in attendance here]***

1. That the Joint Working Group [JWG] with ELC’s Cllr Tim Day in the chair had not met, but a Briefing Session at John Muir House for with Cllrs. Willie Innes and Tim Day had confirmed ELC’s complete support for the BathHouse proposal at Prestongrange Museum and the Draft Memorandum of Understanding between ELC and the Trust.
2. That BarkerLangham LLP will now proceed to table the Trust’s Round 1 application to HLF for £3.7m by the deadline of December 8th 2016 as tabled, discussed and agreed at the informal/ un-minuted meeting of Trustees held with BarkerLangham LLP at Gordon’s Trattoria on the Royal Mile on October 14th.
3. Confirmed that the balance of Restricted Funds available at £12,500 + VAT will be payable to Barker Langham LLP at December 8th .
4. That messages of support had been forthcoming from ELC’s Leader, Cllr. Willie Innes, Iain Gray MSP, George Kerevan MP and Barbara Cummins Head of Heritage at HES. The Scottish Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Fiona Hyslop MSP, had indicated it was not protocol for Ministers to issue such statement at Application stages.
5. That a Press Release will be issued for December 8th with any formal conference with the media in the New Year.

**4 VIRIDOR PROJECT/ PATHS FOR ALL**

.01 That Viridor representatives Paul Zochowski and Jackie Bell has attended along with Residents from Bankton House and Steadings at the Preview of the Doo’cot project.

.02 That final difficulties were still being encountered for the electrical and projection work but all endeavours are in hand to complete asap.

.03 The Paths for All Grant element received by Prestoungrange Arts Festival has been integrated with the Viridor project and of late great success has been had with archaeological research at Cockenzie Harbour.

.04 The Alan Brecks have agreed to voluntarily ensure Spring weed clearing for the next three years i.e. 2007/ 2018/ 2019 and hopefully well beyond then for the Battle Trail.

.05 That the chains installed by Strawberry Corner still await replacement by Strawberry Corner Landscapes.

.06 That a final tranche of work including an additional bench is now scheduled to complete the Viridor Project using Strawberry Corner as contractors.

.07 Eric Rosoman and colleagues at Atom Coding have completed the multiple APP – Prestonpans 1745 - available for free download at Apple & Android APP stores; it is scheduled to have one update in Spring 2017 when additional details are to hand for the Waggonway, including a commissioned artwork from Andrew Hillhouse, and corrections/ emendments for the other two elements.

.08 That meetings continue 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 a meeting has been held with Sandra King, Manager of the Preston, Seton & Gosford [PSG] Partnership prior to their creation of a new Walkers’ / Cyclists’ Guide for PSG.

.09 That Gardner Molloy has completed the two Memorial Tables carved with all Regimental details and these are now instore with him pending determination of their temporary location;

.10 Agreed, having considered many proposed alternatives and remaining determined they shall be on display well in advance of formal agreement re the battlesite, that Arran Johnston will now seek ‘Temporary’ Planning Consent to install the tables at the Prestonpans Community Centre; and that their ceremonial ‘unveiling’ shall take place in 2018 when the triennial battle cycle takes place in The Pans.

.11 That once all is complete, and application to VisitScotland to become a registered venue be made – hopefully early in 2017 and a formal Opening with a senior HES officer in attendance.

**5 PRESTONPANS ‘MODEST 2016’ BATTLE**

**COMMEMORATION & LOOKING AHEAD TO 2018 IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SCOTTISH BATTLEFIELDS TRUST**

.01 The 2016 modest yet visible series of commemorative events was successfully led by the Alan Brecks; it included the Living History ‘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 a short Memorial Service in Tranent Church; there shall also play of the Prestonpans War Game, as restored by Brett Fletcher.

.02 That wreaths were laid at the several memorials.

.03 That in 2017 the Commemorations, after discussions with Andrew Robertson at ELC, will be linked to the County’s Archaeology Week as Pinkie Cleugh has traditionally been.

.04 That when the major re-enactment event returns to Prestonpans in 2018 great focus will be 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.

.05 That the outcome of the Scottish Battlefields Trust’s applications to LEADER, HES and National EventScotland for £300,000+ would be known by year end and if successful will have a significant impact on many of the Trust’s activities.

**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 Prestonpans Tapestry had a successful Summer exhibition at The Prestoungrange Gothenburg in the Thomas Nelson Suite and James Park Bistro during August and September, and was been accessible throughout the annual Commemorations.

.04 Plans are afoot for a 10 day exhibition in Lorient, Brittany, in August 2017 as part of the Scottish contribution to their *Festival InterCeltic Lorient [FIL]*; it attracts over 500,000 visitors and local support there is once again forthcoming from Jean Cevaer and Hubert of St Nazaire/ Pornichet.

.05 Gordon & Avril Prestoungrange held meetings with Jean Migrenne at Ifs as well as Jean Cevear and Hubert in Pornichet and undertook a reconnaissance in Lorient in early October; and discussions continue with Tom Johnstone who is the Scottish Government’s representative.

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

.01 That it remained the ambition to exhibit the Tapestry and artefacts elsewhere during 2017 in Dundee and possibly once again at Dunblane Cathedral, as well as in Derby and Falkirk in due course.

.02 That with David Forsyth/ National Museums/ NTS emergent plans for Jacobite exhibitions with EventScotland support in 2017, it is also appropriate for the Tapestry and the Battle site to be embraced; but that if co-ordination might not eventuate, the Trust must definitely seek to exhibit on its own account during 2017.

**8 STATUTORY REPORT & ACCOUNTS TO**

**OCTOBER 31st 2016**

.01 Received the accounts tabled by the Secretary showing year end outcomes as follows: Total Income £80,402 [2015=£63,235]; Total Expenditure £108,630 [2015 £57,541]

.02 Balances at year end: Unrestricted £1,172 [2015 £6,784]; Restricted £113,062 [2015 £135,678]

.03 Noted that the major movements have arisen from drawdowns to fund BarkerLangham LLP from Restricted Funds

.04 The Annual Report pays particular tribute to the work of Arran Johnston sponsored by Barons’ Courts over the past decade when so much has been achieved; it also emphasises the continuing concern for the protection of the battlesite itself.

.05 Approved the 2016 Report and Accounts for tabling at the AGM of the Members on even date.

**9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

.01 **Phonetic Lexicon for ‘Gaelic’ speaking Highlanders** has now been completed with Beathag Mhoireasdan providing literal and phonetic translation with the benefit of the balance of extant Bord na Gaidhlig funds; and it is planned to premiere the lexicon at the Alan Breck’s AGM in December.

.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 **2016 Athelstaneford & Saltire Festival** request for two Waverley Walks during the week long celebrations of Scotland’s National Flag has been honoured with good attendances; and the Saltire rather than The Prince’s Battle Standard was flown on the Battle Bing following on from the now traditional flying on the 1707 Union Flag of The Elector, King George II, for one week in October.

.04 Since ‘**The** **Spirit of the Tartan ‘**,the *Song-Drama of The Gael* by Dr Arthur Geddes, son of Sir Patrick Geddes [himself remembered in The Scottish Diaspora Tapestry], which was first presented in the Music Hall on George Street Edinburgh in June 1932 and later in Rangoon, was been offered to the Trust by his granddaughters Marion & Claire for a possible revival production, Gordon Prestoungrange has followed up in discussion with Marion and Iain Green; it remains the hope that a revival may be feasible in 2018 possibly in collaboration with Kinloch Andersen, the Scottish Tartan Authority, Sangstream choir and local schools, even reaching the Edinburgh Fringe.

.05 **The Jacobite Trail** suggestion has been included as an SBT initiative in the Trust’s Round 1 Application to HLF, as being hubbed from Prestonpans.

.06 **5th Biennial National Battlefields Symposium** , pioneered by the Trust with HLF support since 2008, took place in Perth on October 15th under the revised aegis of the SBT and received further reports on the Dunbar soldiers interred at Durham and on new initiatives across Scotland.

**9 DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

.01 The Alan Breck Regiment under Colonel-in-Chief Martin Margulies will hold its Annual Regimental Dinner at The Prestoungrange Gothenburg on **December 10th 2016**

.02 The Trustees will hold their 83/ 17 Meeting on Thursday **19th January 2017.**

.03 The Trustees will hold their 84/17 Meeting on Thursday **March 2nd 2017** or earlier on the Call of the Chair.