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

**MINUTES OF 89/17 MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES HELD ON AUGUST 10th 2017 IN THE JAMES PARK BISTRO AT THE PRESTOUNGRANGE GOTHENBURG, PRESTONPANS EH32 9BE**

**PRESENT:**

Herbert Coutts [Joint Chairman in the chair]

Sharon Beck

Brett Fletcher

Gordon Prestoungrange of Lochnaw

Avril Wills of Lochnaw

Mathew Wills of Prestoungrange

Sean Wood

**APOLOGIES:**

Gareth Bryn-Jones

Sylvia Burgess

John Curtis

Sharon Dabell

Pauline Jaffray

Mark Jardine

Arran Johnston

Richard Mackenzie

Pat O’Brien

Julian Wills of Dolphinstoun

1. **MINUTES of 88/17 Meeting** of the Trustees held on July 5th 2017 had been circulated by the Secretary and werecertified correct.

**2 HARGREAVES RE BLINDWELLS/ COCKENZIE FUTURE MASTER PLAN/ INCHCAPE/ SCOTTISH POWER**

1. That no further actions had been taken re Hargreaves.
2. No further information is available on the Cockenzie Master Plan currently although The Provost and Council officers indicated it will be published ‘soon’.
3. That InchCape’s new approach to Planning Consent in Principle has reportedly been agreed with Scottish Power [but not yet ELC] and is unanimously opposed by Prestonpans Community Council.
4. That no response had been received from Scottish Power re a putative crop rotation agreement with a local farmer.

**3 NEXT STEPS WITH HLF APPLICATION/ VISIT SCOTLAND/ ELC ENGAGEMENT/ NTS COLLABORATION**

1. That the Trustees had met with the Development Manager, Diane Gray, at HLF on Monday July 10th and good discussion took place on how best to advance the Trust’s ambitions.
2. Agreed that Gordon Prestoungrange should prepare an Expression of Interest with HLF for a Resilience Funding Application that would [i] review the governance of the Trust and [ii] explore how to make the transition from Volunteer to Professional Organisation including capability to establish and manage a Living History Centre.
3. Agreed that Herbert Coutts and Arran Johnston should convene in the early future a further meeting with The Provost of ELC and his Senior Officers in Economic Development and Tourism to identify how best to carry forward [i] the evaluation before Christmas 2017 of three potential locations in close proximity to the battlefield viz. St Joseph’s to S; Coal Store at edge of battlesite to N; NW corner of Blindwells/ Charlestoun – including possible support from Resilience Funding to assess from first principles the pluses and minuses of each; and [ii] seek a meeting with the team leader[s][ in North Berwick who have led the recent successful HLF initiative for a National Maritime Centre alongside the Seabird Centre.
4. Agreed to continue working with ELC, NTS and Visit-EventScotland in re-assessing our project, and seek to involve HES howsoever.
5. Agreed to *c*arry forward our thinking about the Battlefield Living History Centre at this early stage, identifying in broad terms what we feel it should offer visitors – (a) views across the battlefield, with associated high quality Augmented Reality [A/VR] interpretation; (b) opportunity to see the Battle of Prestonpans Tapestry, displayed in its entirety, in an appropriate manner and environment to ensure its long-term conservation; (c) themed changing displays of panels from the Diaspora Tapestry; and(d) museum exhibits and works of art (both historic and contemporary) telling the Jacobite story in 1745/46.
6. Agreed that associated facilities we would expect in the Centre would include – (a) education plus performance room; (b) reserve collections store; (c) battle board gaming area; (d) café/shop; (e) administrative offices; (f) Scottish Battlefields Trust office and display space; (g) storage space to supplement offsite warehouse.
7. Agreed that our rotating themes would be – (a) literature/ storytelling and song; (b) drama; (c) embroiderers’ art; (d) Clans; (e) local family connections; (f) Hanoverian Regiments; and (g) International Jacobite Trail 1686/ 1807.
8. Agreed that external space would be used for cameo re-enactments and open air participation by school and other groups in aspects of life in 18th century Scotland.

09. Whilst not an essential feature of the initial project, it is our constant ambition also to raise funds to commission the first equestrian sculpture of Prince Charles Edward Stuart in Scotland, to be displayed in a location associated with the Battle Centre with the aim to create/ augment a visitor destination in its own right.

1. Agreed that Arran Johnston be asked to begin identifying in more detail all elements of the putative Centre above and exploring how the ‘previous week’s’ elements addressed in his forthcoming *Glasdmuir* title will be encompassed.
2. Agreed that the October Meeting of the Trustees should quite specifically debate the issues raised at 05/ 10 above

**4 BANKTON DOOCOT & VISIT SCOTLAND & UPDATES**

.01 That pruning of the ash tree branches as identified in our consultant arboriculturist’s detailed report re the path from the obelisk/ Doocot was still outstanding although Bankton Hose residents have all been notified and no disagreement expressed.

.02 That the tree management is of importance since one main bough has fallen across the pathway in recent bad weather.

.03 That Eric Rosoman and colleagues at Atom Coding have now completed updates of the GPS APP **prestonpans 1745** including the Prestonpans Tapestry in advance of its next exhibitions in Lorient, including QR tagging although this has not yet been added to the exhibition.

.04 That the Waggonway’s 3 x Interpretation Boards using Alan Braby’s images and the new Prestoungrange Gothenburg Board were still outstanding; the Leaflet dispenser at The Gothenburg car park is still to be replaced with guidance re the APPs and to promote access to the new, third APP for the **Prestonpans Murals and Arts Treasures Trail** by end August – with Sean Wood and Tom Ewing involved in its content.

.05 Resolved that formal application to VisitScotland to become a Registered & Graded venue should be made asap, together with a formal Opening with a senior HES officer in attendance.

**5 2017 & 2018 LIVING HISTORY & RE-ENACTMENTS**

.01 That in **2017** the Prestonpans Commemorations, after discussions with Andrew Robertson at ELC, will be linked to the County’s Archaeology Week as Pinkie Cleugh has traditionally been; and additionally with digs at Cockenzie Harbour re the 1722 Waggonway.

.02 Thus far, further plans for **Prestonpans 2017** include the publication of his new book, **Gladsmuir**, from Helion on the battle by Arran Johnston on Thursday September 21st at Cockenzie House [its jacket is given to a new painting of Brigadier Lascelles with a recently wounded hand as he prepared to flee the battle to Whitby], wreath laying including Capt Stuart [who was himself of Lascelles Regiment but remained like Gardiner until his death on the field of battle] at Prestongrange Church, guided Battlefield Walks, Objects Handing with the Alan Brecks and an Evening for the Alan Brecks in The Gothenburg.

.03 The putative Commemorative Plaque for Colonel Gardiner in Tranent Churchyard will also be unveiled and the 10th Anniversary of the establishment of the Alan Breck Regiment by The Prince’s Warrant at The Palace of Holyroodhouse celebrated.

.04 That when the major re-enactment event returns to Prestonpans in 2018 considerable focus will be on the ***‘Clans who Came Out with The Prince in 1745’*,** as previously targeted in 2009 for the 1st Year of Homecoming, with the Trust’s Committee of High Sponsors invited to assist in the occasion. An Expression of Interest for VisitScotland Clan Grant in support of the proposed Call to The Clans for the dedication of the memorial tables crafted by Gardiner Molloy has been lodged and discussions have continued.

.05 ELC [£46,500] and EventScotland have already given SBT’s East Lothian County Battle Cycle initial year support as a National Event [£12,000++] and HES has agreed £32,000 [2017/ 2020] in ‘Organisational Support’ for extensive Interpretation and Evaluation which will include Prestonpans 2018.

**6** **BATTLE GAME BOARD/ WAR GAMING/ TAPESTRY EXHIBITIONS**

.01 The stolen Diaspora Tapestry has now been returned by Police Scotland and the Trustees reaffirmed their strategy at exhibitions which is to allow maximum access to the panels in honour of the nature of the project as ‘community art’; the panel reappeared at the July exhibition in Crieff and thereafter as usual. Tea towels and bags merchandise of the panel have been created to respond to widespread interest created.

.02 School visits proceed as requested and 1745 War Gaming is set to resume at this year’s commemorations led by Brett Fletcher for the Trust.

.03 That the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry continues to attract great interest with exhibitions still to come at Helmsdale, Irvine and Edinburgh Art Fair in 2017; and Carlisle already confirmed for 2018 together with a putative Cruise in August 2018 and an HES-linked exhibition at Stanley Mills.

**7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

.01 ‘**The** **Spirit of the Tartan‘ as CD**,the *Song-Drama of The Gael* by Dr Arthur Geddes, son of Sir Patrick Geddes [himself remembered in The Scottish Diaspora Tapestry], remains on hold currently for absence of funding support which Greentrax require.

.02 **Spanish Civil War Theatre: 549** is being developed with support from ELC/ Brunton Theatre and SBT to be presented by Panner Robbie Gordon and Jack Nurse in late January 2018/ early February in Prestonpans Town Hall.

.03 That Sylvia Burgess is still exploring how best to procure a **‘jumbo sized’ van** to be a shared vehicle for the Trust and the SBT; nevertheless the extant Orange Citroen van has been brought to a fully operational state for travel to Lorient in August.

.05 That the **memorial to Capt John Stuart** in Prestongrange Church which has been badly affected by weather should be given to a plaque detailing the wording originally inscribed – which is available - asap.

**9 DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

**11th AGM & TAPESTRY EXHIBITIONS**

.01 That the 90/17 Meeting of the Trustees be held on Wednesday  **September 20th 2017** eat a time to be consulted on by the Chair.

.02 That the Prestonpans Tapestry will continue its 2017 displays in Lorient, Brittany until **September 2nd 2017** when Gordon Prestoungrange and Avril Wills will collect it.

.03 That the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry will continue its exhibition at Crieff until **Sunday August 13th** moving thereafter to Helmsdale, Irvine and Edinburgh before year end.

.04 That the 2017 ‘modest commemoration’ of the Battle in Prestonpans will take place between **September 22nd/ 24th.**

.05 That the 91/17 Meeting of the Trustees will be held on **Thursday October 26th** at 6pm at The Prestoungrange Gothenburg.

**.06 That the 91st Meeting of the Trustees followed by the 11th AGM of the Trust will be held commencing at 6pm on Thursday 23rd November 2017**