

MINUTES of the 20th Meeting of the Baron Courts of Prestoungrange and Dolphinstoun held at Haddington House, Green Craigs, Aberlady and the Malmaison, Leith Docks, Edinburgh on January 22nd /23rd 2001

Present: Much Hon Baron of Prestoungrange
Much Honoured Baron of Dolphinstoun
Baron Sergeand

In attendance: Matthew Boffin
Jane Bonnar
Peter Gray
Pat O'Brien, *Provost*
Margaret O'Connor
Karl Schutz

Apologies: Much Hon Baron of Westerlea
Lady Prestoungrange
Baron Bailie and Procurator Fiscal

1. Minutes of the 19th Meeting of the Court held on August December 14th 2000 at Green Craigs, Aberlady and the Edinburgh New Club

Confirmed: 1.1 That these were indeed a correct record.

2. Matters Arising

Repairs to the Foreshore Access

Reported: 2.1 (Minute 00/19/2.1) That David Smith had completed the manufacture of the cast iron steps and railings and they would be erected within 6 weeks.

Project 2000 Booklets

2.2(a) (Minute 00/19/2.2) That Jane Bonnar had now found new authors for the next booklets in the series, had commissioned them under the normal fee structures, and would table the list at the next meeting on February 13th.

2.2(b) That No 10 by the Baron of Dolphinstoun on the Geology and Environmental Impact of the Prestongrange mine was still behind deadlines but was being progressed in St Albans.

2.2(c) That the booklet for Children at the Museum was almost ready for printing and Agreed that Dolphinstoun should create the illustrations.

Architectural Drawings for Beehive Kiln

2.3 (Minute 00/19/2.3) That Chris Bonnar had made good progress with his research on architectural drawings for the rebuilding of the Beehive Kiln, and they would be ready in time for the discussions with the Provost on February 13th and for the Senior Planning Officer, Paul Zochowski.

Agreed: 2.3 That the Provost should be asked to give a final determination on February 13th of whether or not the kiln was consonant with the emergent Museum Plan.

Burke's Landed Gentry: Scotland Volume 2001

2.4 (Minute 00/19/2.4) That the Provost had confirmed it was acceptable for the first week of August 2001 launch to be held in a marquee at the Heritage Museum, and Jane Bonnar should proceed to get quotations for the full week in question.

Reported: 2.4 That discussions were now taking place with a view to the Prestonpans Historical Society and the Scottish Tartans Society both making use of the marquee during the week.

Dolphinstoun Doocot and Prestongrange House

Agreed: 2.5(a) (Minute 00/19/2.5) That no further action be taken for the time being as other projects advanced but that the putative meeting with Tom Hardie should be arranged during 2001.

Family Lineage

Reported: 2.6 (Minute 00/19/2.6) That full details of the children of Eric Gerald Wills had now been received from Judith Wills and proofs from Burke's Landed Gentry for final approval. Entries re Duncan Wills of York and his family were the only items outstanding, and then Dolphinstoun and Prestoungrange can both complete the matter.

Baronial Brooches for Lady Prestoungrange and Kathryn of Prestoungrange

2.7 (Minute 00/19/7.2) that Hamilton and Inches had completed the two baronial brooches for Lady Prestoungrange and Kathryn of Prestoungrange and they had been presented on December 16th. They will be worn for the first time at the Burns Supper 2001 at The Manor House, Milton Malsor.

3. Initiatives at the Heritage Museum

3.1 That Margaret O'Connor had not been able to recommend facilities at the Museum for the Scottish Tartans Society, and had been disapproving of the temporary storage of materials from the Hall of Records at North Berwick, for which she envisaged an invoice being raised.

3.2 That she had also felt unable to host the Briefing Meeting arranged by Jane Bonnar at Prestoungrange House, which had accordingly been cancelled.

3.3 In lieu of these original arrangements the time available for Karl Schutz had been allocated to individual briefings of Margaret O'Connor and the Provost, the outcomes of the individual briefings had been satisfactory, and the Provost had agreed a next meeting for February 13th at 10 am.

Agreed: 3.1 That the Provost would be asked to commit or decline at the meeting on February 13th to three projects for location at the Museum site, viz. the rebuilt kiln; the micro-brewery for Fowler's ales; and one mural on the BathHouse wall.

3.2 To ask Jane Bonnar to proceed as already agreed with the Provost to erect a marquee at the Museum for the week commencing August 1st, making use of it for 2/ 7 days with BLG Scotland and the STS, the remainder for other invited local users.

4. Advancing the Murals Project

Received: 4.1 the most thorough briefing on the way in which Murals Projects had been commenced elsewhere from Karl Schutz.

Agreed: 4.1 To appoint Jane Bonnar as Director: Prestoungrange Murals Project with immediate effect, with the mandate to create and deliver 5 Murals, one at the Museum, 2 on the SeaWall and two in Prestonpans within a budget of £ 50 000.

4.2 That the following policies must be applied throughout:

- Local artists shall be used and they shall paint to pre-agreed themes from approved outlines, their recruitment to be accomplished fairly and as may be possible by competition/ tender
- Themes used shall be agreed in consultation with the owners of each wall
- Copyright on the paintings shall be vested in the Baron Courts through its Murals Project Division
- A local Panel of Advisers shall be recruited by the Baron Courts to provide the historical background and the commitment
- Maintenance shall be the responsibility of the Murals Project Division
- Preparation of walls shall be accomplished where possible with the financial support of the owner thereof

4.3 Publicity for the Murals to attract visitors must be implicit in all the activities undertaken, and a Plan shall be prepared to that end.

4.4 That the Baron Courts should join the Global Association for Arts and Tourism forthwith as nominated by Karl Schutz.

4.5 That Jane Bonnar should in consultation with the Baron of Dolphinstoun design a logo for the Murals Project that combines the Association's and the Barony's motifs.

4.6 That Jane Bonnar should visit Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan in October 2002 for the Global Conference there on Arts and Tourism.

5 Prestonpans Historical Society

Agreed: 5.1 To follow up the contacts made by the Provost and Jane Bonnar with James Forster, Chairman of the Prestonpans Historical Society, and in particular:

- to offer one of the marquee days for the Society's use
- to offer to publish the recent History of Prestonpans on the Web and to consider reprinting also
- to seek the Society's support on the history of the town and the search for town centre walls to paint
- to offer space for the Society's records and meetings at the Baron Court's new facilities in Cockenzie.

6. Project 2000

Reported: 6.1 That Jane Bonnar was planning to ensure all School Visits to use the published resources would be completed by April 2001.

7. Micro-Brewery for Fowler's Beers

7.1 That Bruce Little of the Frog Island Brewery in Northampton had volunteered to provide initial assistance on January 26th in getting started on the Micro-Brewery project, with full information on the several options, on the Society of Independent Brewers, and on establishing how Fowler's formulae can be accessed.

Agreed: 7.1 That the Baron Sergeand would carry forward the initial investigations and approach Customs and Excise. John Rollo's fine collection of old bottles should also been traced and photographed if possible. But that thereafter a local Prestonpans enthusiast will be required if the project is to proceed.

8. The Scottish Tartans Society (STS)

Reported: 8.1 That the Baron of Prestoungrange had been elected at the Annual General Meeting of the STS to be a Council Member, and invited to take responsibility for relocating and developing the Hall of Records from Pitlochry.

8.2 The records had been temporarily housed by East Lothian Council Museum Service in North Berwick but must be removed on February 15th.

Agreed: 8.1 That the Baron Courts would provide rent and rates free high standard accommodation for the Hall of Records for an initial period of 5 years at the Cockenzie Centre, on Edinburgh Road, Cockenzie, provided the STS met all its own running Expenses.

8.2 That the Baron Courts would sponsor Jane Bonnar & Co to provide self employed services to the Hall of Records as Research Fellow for the STS at Cockenzie provided the role did not conflict with the other duties arising, recognising that members of her team might well be the specific providers at any one time.

8.3 To talk a comprehensive lease, and to refurbish and furnish under the direction of Baron of Dolphinstoun and the Baron Sergeand, for 1200 sq ft, plus an option on the further 600 sq ft shortly becoming available on the 1st Floor at the Cockenzie Centre with immediate effect; and to move the materials from North Berwick to Cockenzie on February 15th without fail.

8.3 To work in liaison with Mike Cross and the IRDC Limited team that was developing the STS WebSite and tartans online database in collaboration with Burke's landed Gentry - Scotland.

9. Any Other Business

Accommodations at Winton House

Reported: 9.1 That the Baron Sergeand had investigated whether it would be more economic for the Courts to have a rented apartment at Winton House than make continuous use of hotels, and to this end was in discussions with Sir Francis Olgilvy.

Agreed: 9.1 That if suitable arrangements can be made, she should proceed in consultation with Lady Prestoungrange and the Baron of Dolphinstoun including any and all necessary arrangements for decorations and furnishing.

Role of Project 2000's Consultant Director from May 1st 2001

Reported: 9.2 That from May 1st Jane Bonnar & Co, Project 2000's Consultant Director, would be extending the range of its activities to work additionally with IRDC Limited re Burke's Landed Gentry - Scotland and the Scottish Tartans Society; and in the conduct of her work for the Baron Courts, as for all others, she would not necessarily undertake all the work required herself.

Agreed: 9.2 That it would be in order for Jane Bonnar & Co to rent accommodation and buy services from the Baron Courts at Cockenzie to undertake all compatible activities in consultation with the Baron Sergeand. As such, she would continue as a Consultant and not in any manner as an employee.

Burns Suppers 2001 and 2002

Reported: 9.3(a) That all arrangements for the Burns Supper at The Manor House had now been completed for January 26th with haggis provided from Cockenzie. Some 50 Clan members were scheduled to attend with Gerald Park, cousin to the Baron and sometime Sheriff of Bedford, as Guest of Honour.

9.3(b) That the two new stained glass windows, bearing the Arms of Prestoungrange 1998 and of Dolpinstoun 1999, were now installed and would be officially opened before then haggis was taken.

Agreed: 9.3 That the 2002 celebration should be held on the Orient Express Northern Belle on January 26th also, departing Manchester at 6.30pm.

Virtual, Reproduction & Millennium Collection Pottery

9.4 That all decisions should be implemented during 2001 but that the priority was to complete the Virtual Exhibition at the WebSite as soon as possible and to this end Matthew Boffin was liaising with Jane Bonnar.

10. Forthcoming Meetings

Confirmed: 10.1 That the 21st Meeting of the Courts would be held at 6.30pm at Browns, George Street, Edinburgh on Tuesday February 13th.

10.2 That the Courts would be hosting the launches of Burke's Landed Gentry - Scotland and of the Scottish Tartans Society's new Hall of Records and Virtual Register of All Publicly Known Tartans on August 1st and 2nd at the Heritage Museum.