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

**MINUTES OF 90/17 MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES HELD ON September 22nd 2017 IN THE JAMES PARK BISTRO AT THE PRESTOUNGRANGE GOTHENBURG, PRESTONPANS EH32 9BE**

**PRESENT:**

Herbert Coutts [Joint Chairman in the chair]

Sharon Beck

Gordon Prestoungrange of Lochnaw

Avril Wills of Lochnaw

Sean Wood

**APOLOGIES:**

Gareth Bryn-Jones

Sylvia Burgess

John Curtis

Sharon Dabell

Brett Fletcher

Pauline Jaffray

Mark Jardine

Arran Johnston

Richard Mackenzie

Pat O’Brien

Julian Wills of Dolphinstoun

Mathew Wills of Prestoungrange

1. **MINUTES of 89/17 Meeting** of the Trustees held on August 10th 2017 had been circulated by the Secretary and wereconfirmed as correct.

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

1. That no Gordon Prestoungrange had visited Iain Slater in Durham and confirmed the Trust’s intention to conduct a comparative evaluation of three sites close to the battlefield including Blindwells/ Charlestoun’s NW corner, with completion by Christmas 2017.
2. Hargreaves confirmed that they were ready to incorporate such an option in the revised plans for the NW corner which EMA have been asked to undertake making the plaza proposed and shopping centre an even stronger focus for the new community.
3. Susan Smith @ ELC confirmed that no further information is available on the Cockenzie Master Plan currently although The Provost and Council officers are still indicating ‘imminent’.
4. 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; Inchcape have since indicated that they do not expect any activity for at least three years.
5. That still no response had been received from Scottish Power re a putative crop rotation agreement with a local farmer.
6. That the suggestion that a Cruise Liner Terminal be built at Cockenzie has been given saliency at Prestonpans CC recently and possible developments thereof are being monitored.

**3 NEXT STEPS WITH HLF APPLICATION/ ELC ENGAGEMENT & OWN ORGANIC DEVELOPMENT**

1. That the Trustees had again met with the Development Manager, Diane Gray, at HLF on Wednesday September 20th and further discussion took place on her observations arising from the Trust’s Expression of Interest in Resilience Funding tabled after the July 10th meeting.
2. Agreed that Gordon Prestoungrange should follow through with HLF to create a formal application asap which would encompass scoping of the futures for the Trust taking cognizance of the critique provided by Tom IC when HLF rejected the proposal for a centre at the BathHouse at Prestongrange Museum.
3. That the critique [a] questioned the proposed location; [b] argued there was inadequate detailing or justification of the visitor experience intended for any centre; and [c] focused on the lack of heritage partners and match funding.
4. That Herbert Coutts and Arran Johnston had not been able to meet with The Provost of ELC and his Senior Officers in Economic Development and Tourism to identify how best to carry forward the evaluation 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. However a meeting had been held with Susan Smith as Manager of Economic Development and she has agreed to act immediately to identify an ELC appropriate team to address the issue with Herbert Coutts and Arran Johnston acting for the Trust in the matter; as well as engaging with Hargreaves.
5. That a most constructive initial meeting had been held at Newhailes House with Grace Martin, the Project Manager who has led the thus far successful HLF initiative for a National Maritime Centre alongside the Seabird Centre in North Berwick, and she has volunteered to give informal assistance as required.
6. Agreed to continue working with NTS and Visit-EventScotland in re-assessing our project, and seek to involve HES howsoever building on the SBT re-enactments at Newhailes House and possible tapestry exhibitions at Stanley Mills.
7. Agreed that Arran Johnston should *c*arry forward our thinking about the Battlefield Living History Centre from start November, 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.
8. 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.
9. Agreed that inter alia 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.
10. 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 remains 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.

**4 JACOBITE TRAIL/ VISIT SCOTLAND/ NTS UPDATES**

.01 That discussions have continued with VisitScotland re Growth Fund resources for the ‘permanent’ Jacobite Trail and with NTS to evaluate how the assets developed in 2017 might be conserved/ augmented – most especially the elements from NTS, HES and The Palace of Holyrood.

.02 That NTS had advised the website was to be taken down at end 2017 and agreed that the Trust with SBT should seek to take it over as feasible. VisitScotland, which has match funded the 2017 Jacobite Campaign has indicated it is for the Trust to work directly with the 2017 partners rather than themselves although they would be willing to convene a meeting to optimize outcomes once the evaluations are completed.

.03 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 October – 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 **Prestonpans 2017** has already seen a well attended launch of Arran Johnston’s new book, **Gladsmuir**, from Helion, at Cockenzie House; and the artwork commissioned for the cover has been gifted by Helion to the Trust.

.02 Wreath laying has included Capt Stewart [of Lascelles Regiment who remained like Gardiner until his death on the field of battle] at Prestongrange Church, being the only specific grave arising from the battle; a guided Battlefield Walk has been arranged followed by Objects Handing with the Alan Brecks and an Evening for the Alan Brecks in The Gothenburg on Saturday September 23rd.

.03 The putative Commemorative Plaque for Colonel Gardiner in Tranent Churchyard is not yet ready but it is hoped it can 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 at their AGM on Friday December 8th .

.04 That the major SBT re-enactment in Prestonpans in 2018 will begin with considerable focus on the ***‘Clans who Came Out with The Prince in 1745’*,** as previously targeted in 2009 for the 1st Year of Homecoming.

.05 The Trust’s Committee of High Sponsors has been invited to assist in the occasion and 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 followed by a formal Application for £5,000.

.06 Support is already forthcoming on behalf of the Standing Council of Clan Chiefs from Sir Malcolm MacGregor, from Clam MacGregor, Clan Cameron and Clan Donald and the Governor of Edinburgh Castle, Major General Riddell-Webster formerly of the Black Watch, has agreed to assist in mustering British Army representers.

.06 Details of residents in all eponymous street names after Clans along with Johnnie Cope Road and Gardiner Road & Crescent will be collated to encourage participation.

.07 That the Chief of Clan MacDonell of Glengarry will be contacted since the inscription on the memorial table for dedication in 2018 reads: MacDonald of Glengarry; if he insists on an amendment Gardner Molloy has indicated it is possible by cutting out the final the letters *-ald* to read *-ell* although the end result has a clear downside in discoloration over time.

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

.01 The Battle Tapestry has now returned after its month long exhibition in Lorient at the Festival Interceltique where it was visited by both Alex Salmond and Fiona Hyslop and the Maire.

.02 The Diaspora Tapestry had an extremely successful exhibition in Crieff with over £4,000 of book sales and donations and is now in Helmsdale. It will visit Irvine’s restored Townhouse in October and the Edinburgh Corn Exchange. Exhibitions in 2018 are already planned for Carlisle and possibly with HES in Stanley Mills.

.03 School visits proceed as requested with a recent talk at Saltoun Primary, and 1745 War Gaming is set to resume at this year’s commemorations led by Brett Fletcher for the Trust.

**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 will be brought to a fully operational state with a new clutch.

.04 That the plaque memorials to **Capt John Stewart** in Prestongrange Church, and to **Colonel Gardiner** at Tranent in Prestongrange Church await completion with funds available- wreaths were laid on September 21st at both this year.

.05 That supporters in Brittany continue their efforts to install a plaque commemorating Prince Charles’ departure there in July 1745 at **Bonne Asne.**

.06 That following a complaint re the littered condition of the **Battle Bing’s north face**, a request has been made via Stuart Pryde and Jennifer Lothian of ELC for action to improve the area.

**8 DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

.01 That the 91/17 Meeting of the Trustees be held on Thursday **October 26th 2017** at 6pm.

.02 That the 92nd Meeting of the Trustees followed by the 11th AGM of the Trust will be held commencing at 6pm on Thursday **23rd November 2017**

.03 That the 10th AGM of the Alan Breck Regiment of Prestonpans Volunteers will be held at the Prestoungrange Gothenburg on Friday **December 8th 2017** when Colonel in Chief Martin Margulies will be in attendance.