

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

**MINUTES OF 106th MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES HELD ON JUNE 27th**

**2019 IN THE JAMES PARK BISTRO AT THE PRESTOUNGRANGE**

**GOTHENBURG, PRESTONPANS EH32 9BE**

**PRESENT:**

Herbert Coutts [Joint Chairman in the Chair]

Sharon Beck

Martha Bryce [p/t/e]

Sylvia Burgess [e]

Stephen Connolly [p/t/e]

Sharon Dabell [e]

Joe Goldblatt

Pauline Jaffray [e]

Arran Johnston

Gordon Prestoungrange of Lochnaw

Michael Taylor [p/t/e]

Avril Wills

Mathew Wills of Prestoungrange

**APOLOGIES:**

Gareth Bryn-Jones

Kenneth Cameron

John Curtis

Brett Fletcher

Pat O’Brien

Julian Wills of Dolphinstoun

*Warmly welcomed Emeritus Professor Joe Goldblatt as a Trustee bringing most*

*extensive experience of events management and evaluation and, arising from*

*his recent tenure at Queen Margaret University, extensive contacts nationally in*

*cognate fields.*

**1. MINUTES of 105/19 Meeting** of the Trustees held on May 9th 2019, which had been circulated by the Secretary, were proposed/ seconded by Arran Johnston and Sharon Beck respectively and confirmed as a correct record subject to the incorrect spelling of *scheduled* in Minute 7.01.

**2. HLF ROJECT ENQUIRY & ELC PETITION [2]**

01. Confirmed that the Final Report/ Evaluation of the HLF Resilience Project had been submitted and following that the Project Enquiry for the Path to Victory 2019-2023.

02. That Michael Taylor is continuing his role as Mentor in respect of the Jacobite contextualisation for the Living History Centre including the Jacobite Asset Register/ Trail and Colloquium on November 5th against a residual budget of £2000.

03. That a **Petition to ELC** **[2]** seeking support for the Living History Centre should be tabled and its terms circulated for agreement immediately with signatures from those Trustees present and in the collective names of the Friends of The Prince, Friends of the Tapestries and the Alan Breck Regiment for consideration by ELC on September 12th.

04. That formal contact be made with our extant NLHF/ HLF Lead Tom Ingrey-Counter as soon as the 10 day Response to the Project Enquiry was received to arrange for ‘guidance discussions’ to take place on July 11th.

**3. CHARLESTOUN PETITION TO EAST LOTHIAN COUNCIL [1]**

01. That a Petition to ELC seeking the name Charlestoun for the Blindwells new town should now be submitted for consideration by the Council on September 12th , the wording as tabled being approved and signatures added by all Trustees present.

02. That details of the Petition had been made available in advance to *East Lothian Courier* which was carrying front page/ p2 extensive coverage of the Trust’s ambitions on even date.

03. That Martha Bryce be asked to issue a Press Release to the national media embargoed for Wednesday July 3rd.

**4. PUTATIVE LOCATIONS FOR THE LIVING HISORY CENTRE -PRESTONPANS**

01. That the meeting with ELC led by Head of Communities Sharon Saunders with Planning, Economic Development, Archaeology and Museum colleagues earlier in the day had been largely inconsequential with no details forthcoming of the putative Master Plan for Prestongrange Heritage Museum and no alternative locations proffered after three years of asking.

02. Susan Smith from Economic Development had confirmed willingness to provide a letter of support as appropriate which would be followed through.

03. Agreed to continue not to take no as the answer at the BattleBing and to ask Herbert Coutts to persist with ELC’s Depute CEO/ Finance Director and/ or Cllr. Norman Hampshire Chair of ELC’s Planning Committee.

04. Resolved after the meeting on June 26th with Iain Slater of Hargreaves, to officially release details of the MoU by Wednesday July 3rd.

05. Noted that under the terms of the MoU it was expected that Gareth Bryn-Jones in consultation with Arran Johnston will meet with Hargreaves Town Centre planners and begin to develop visual concepts for the Living History Centre there which was now likely to proceed from September.

**5. THE JACOBITE CONTEXT/ TRAIL/ 2019 COLLOQUIUM**

01. That the Jacobite Trail project now envisaged convening the **Colloquium** of the interested parties on November 5th 2019 with a view to eliciting further support for partnership along the Trail – at an appropriate venue in Edinburgh, either at The Storytelling Centre or the Saltire Society.

02. That Joe Goldblatt would offer such advice as he could to Michael

Taylor for the Colloquium who would now proceed to make all

arrangements for that occasion.

03. That preparation of an **Application for funding to HES for Organisational Development** of this aspect for submission by September 28th 2019 should continue although no funding could be available until April 2020 from HES.

**6. PRESTONPANS 275th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION**

1. Noted that the 275th anniversary of the battle would occur during

the Path to Victory and that it would focus on ways in which cultural aspects might be highlighted – musical evening, songs, poetry, literature, theatre, 3/4 Prestonpans Tapestry exhibitions across Scotland including **Inverurie** [which has its own 275th Anniversary Commemoration and an Alan Breck re-enactment planned], and Dunblane Cathedral; a programme of Battlefield Walks and School Visits will also be presented.

1. To ask Sylvia Burgess and Gordon Prestoungrange to explore

how the Clan Chiefs and eponymous streets initiative of 2018 might be

built on howsoever inter alia via **VisitScotland’s Clan Fund**; and at the same time to brief all and update membership of the Committee of High Patronage.

1. Reported that the **John Gray Centre** in Haddington had offered

its Temporary Exhibition space to the Trust for a three month exhibition at the end of 2020 to include several Diaspora Panels.

1. To commemorate the significance of The Thorntree in 1745, and

in the Trust’s logo, possibly with High Profile Dedication of the extant

wild **copse in Thorntree Field.**

1. That the request for the 1930s tapestry ‘**Prayer for Victory’** as

An exhibit had been successful and it is hoped some collaboration with

**Preston Mill** might also be arranged.

1. That SBT Publisher Helion Books has now confirmed that a

**Jacobite Conference** will be convened in Prestonpans on September 20th at the Prestoungrange Gothenburg.

1. That a **Gaelic Song/ Poetry Cultural Event** was being

evaluated possibly in Glenfinnan format.

1. That discussions with **VisitScotland** had already taken place to

explore promotional support for the keynote events in 2020.

1. That the triple links **of Gardiner’s Obelisk close by**

**Prestonpans Station, Waverley Station and the Scott Memorial** should be embraced howsoever.

**7.** **TAPESTRY EXHIBITIONS/ SCHOOL VISITS/ MOUNT**

**FELIX/ ICELANDIC SAGA PANELS/ US 05**

01. That the Diaspora Tapestry was currently on display at Glasgow Episcopal Cathedral and scheduled by year end at **Summerhall** in Edinburgh.

02. That **Dundee’s Verdant Works** werenow expected to exhibit

in 2020.

03. That several Prestonpans **Interpretation BattleBoards**, a

capex of £18,000, require restoration and that plans for this should be advanced as soon as possible as should the repairs to the **flag pole** on the Bing.

03. School visits and occasional lectures and tour groups continue on

a regular basis.

04. Confirmed that the **Mount Felix Tapestry** will be exhibited in Prestonpans in November 2019 with considerable publicity to the Friends of the Tapestries on its return to Walton-on-Thames from New Zealand – exemplifying our community art strategy.

1. It is anticipated that the Prestonpans Tapestry will be exhibited at

The Garioch Centre Inverurie during 2019/ 2020 alongside restoration there of the battle memorial to the Jacobite victory on December 23rd 1745 now proceeding.

1. That the Icelandic panels had been formally handed to the Trust

in the persons of Yvonne Murphy and Gordon Prestoungrange in the Robert Burns Room at the Scottish Parliament with some 50+ present including most of the stitchers themselves and would shortly be exhibited at the Prestoungrange Gothenburg, ideally in the Thomas Nelson Suite.

1. That feedback from the USA indicates US05 is being stitched

currently and a delivery date is being sought from John Mann there.

**8. ‘FRIENDS OF THE PRINCE’**

01. Reaffirmed that it was a vital success factor for the future Living History Centre that an audience of Friends of The Prince be established connected via social media to ensure high levels of repeat visits and also opportunities to recruit Supporters/ Volunteers/Event Convenors.

02. That professional advice based on comparative research should be undertaken to identify how best to move forward including the creation of the social media framework; exploratory discussions have already been held with Kirstie Pirie of Source Marketing.

03. That the opportunity of the Consultation had been taken to begin recruitment of ‘Friends of The Prince’ and that approaching 100 new contacts have been made.

04. That an integrated/ interactive structure diagram should be prepared for an early meeting and to this end a meeting might be arranged with Adam James who had masterminded a similar initiative for The Edinburgh Fringe/ Scottish Chamber Orchestra.

**9. RECRUITMENT OF TRUSTEES & SUCCESSION PLANNING**

01. Trustees agreed to consider before the next meeting what additional skills/ competences could strengthen the Trust as it follows its Path to Victory and then the Opening of the Living History Centre.

02. Agreed that a Skills Matrix of extant Trustees might be prepared extending beyond the earlier HLF Strengths Audit.

03. That the gender balance of the Trustees be considered as well as representation of a cognate politician.

04. That the Trust might next year more suitably convene Trustees four times each year with a Vision Executive Taskforce meeting monthly.

05. That succession amongst the executive Trustees would be facilitated and eased by the putative appointees under the Path to Victory strategy.

**10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

01. That John Unwin is progressing the **3rd Edition of the Official**

**Guide to the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry** for publication year end as

stocks are exhausted; it will have an updated Introduction in English

and Gaelic as well as the final two chapters in English only. The

opportunity presented for myriad grammatical corrections and inclusion

of all missing images for panels completed since 2014 will be taken.

**11. DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

01. That the NLHF Guidance meeting re Path to Victory will at 12.30pm on July 11th 2019.

02. That the **107/19 Meeting** of the Trustees will be held at 6pm on **Thursday August 15th 2019.**

03. That the **Petitions Committee of ELC** meets in Haddington on **September 12th 2019**.

04. That the **108/19 Meeting** of the Trustees takes place on **Thursday 12th September** **at 6pm in Dunbar**

05. That the **6th Biennial Symposium:** Beyond Designation takes place at the Engine Shed in Stirling on October 25th 2019

06. That the **Jacobite Trail Colloquium** takes place on November 5th 2019 in Edinburgh.