

**MINUTES of 1st Meeting of Taskforce 275 held at The Lodge, Milton Malsor, Northamptonshire on January 27th 2020**

Present: Gordon Prestoungrange [Chairman], Sylvia Burgess [Trust Secretary], Arran Johnston, Avril Wills, Julian Wills [p/t]

**1: Clarification of Role & Responsibilities of the Taskforce**

* 1. The Taskforce has delegated responsibility from the Trustees to plan and execute the 2020/ 2021 Project as tabled with NLHF and to which that organisation is contributing 49% and which has delineated its ‘6 Approved Purposes’ progress towards which will necessarily be described via formal reporting.
  2. Formal reporting by the Taskforce to the several other funders of the Project including EventScotland Clans and Historic Figures Fund and Bòrd na Gàidhlig must be made according to the assurances given as the basis for those resources.
  3. In particular the allocation of Restricted Funds by the Trust hypothecated for a future ‘permanent home for the Prestonpans Tapestry’ must in every respect be justified by the deliberate and integrated pursuit of that ambition at all stages of the Project.

**2: Sessional Staff Resources for the Project**

2.1Public advertising for Sessional Staffing has already been initiated with NLHF agreed

Specifications. Explications from those interested are invited by the deadline of March 6th for

consideration and contract offers by the Trustees on March 12th for commencement as may be

feasible from April 1st 2020.

2.2 The unavoidable timescale of the Project requires interim temporary resources to carry

details forward until April 1st 2020 and the Trustees are most grateful that the individuals who

worked with the Trust to formulate the Project, Arran Johnston and Sharon Beck, have agreed

to carry it forward on such a temporary basis until that date, as self-employed contractors.

2.3 The Project’s hypothecated budget for ‘new’ staffing resources is £70,000 occasioning £2917

per month over 24 months. Contractors providing such resources might also be expected to

provide additional hypothecated inputs in respect of digital services, training and evaluation

as well as recharging travel costs and incidental expenses. It remains to be seen how attractive

such funding might be to contractors and there should be willingness to allocate some 50%

of the Contingency budget if necessary to secure appropriate fulfilment.

**3: AUDIT OF PROJECT 275 @ 27.01.2020**

3.1 The state of development on each element of the Project was assessed and Arran Johnston

and Sharon Beck enjoined to carry them forward to March 31st.

* 1. **Invitation to 10/ 17 year olds to create new cultural contributions:**
* Details are online @ htps://visionforvictory1745.org/learning-schools/ and the Gaelic

translation is being created

* ELC and EducationScotland are both collaborating in broadscale announcements to

schools and particular Gaelic contact made with Bun-Sgoil Taobh na Pàirce, Gillespie High School Edinburgh and Dr Mark Jardine of Bankton House

* Full information is expected to be ready by March 31st and 10/17 year olds invited to

work to a deadline of December 20th 2020.

* The outcomes are promised ‘publication’ together with online space and

opportunities for pop-up presentations and exhibition

3.3. **Digital Development:**

* Partnership over an initial 3 years with Edinburgh College has been formally signed

and is intended as the fundamental basis for the enhancement and integration of the

Trust’s digital presence including the specific development of Friends of the Prince and support for the planned Living History Centre

* Sharon Beck has accepted responsibility for ensuring the College Partnership

proceeds effectively with quarterly review meetings – initially in the IT field led by Arran Johnston as a ‘comprehensive’ structure is agreed but also with potential for the Boutique, Gaelic language and Built Environment initiatives.

* 1. **Slighe gu Buaidh – Path to Victory:**
* Beathag Mhoiresdan’s translation services have again been contracted by the Trust @

10p per word and will be used throughout including bilingual interpretation at exhibitions

* Former bilingual Founder Trustee Peter MacKenzie has been invited to join in several

initiatives including a Gaelic Battle Walk, Literary Evening and pop-up activities during the John Gray Centre exhibition; it is to be hoped that Ronald Black and Gaelic speakers in the Alan Breck Regiment will also contribute.

* Application for £5,000 support has been tabled with Bòrd na Gàidhlig presenting the

Trust’s steps as a logical extension of the existing signages and interpretation. It is further hoped that a small language learning initiative might be developed in partnership with ELC and discussions are planned with Sharon Saunders/ Paolo Vestri to this end.

3.5 **Blindwells NW Corner for Living History Centre:**

* That a site meeting with Iain Slater, Hargreaves Blindwells MD, on January 30th 2020

will seek to ensure First Refusal on the NW Corner until December 2023 and enable Gareth Bryn-Jones to proceed with visuals for inclusion in the Fund Raising Campaign.

* That an online site for the Fund Raising and a flyer leaflet must be prepared at the

earliest opportunity updating the extant leaflet for the earlier location at Prestongrange Museum

* 1. **Publicity and PR:**
* That Martha Bryce has been appointed PR and Publicity Consultant to Project 275 on

the basis of outstanding past performance and will be a regular member of the Taskforce. She will be invited by end February to submit her proposals in that role with an initial budget of £4,000

3.7 **Prestonpans Tapestry 10th Anniversary Tour:**

* The anchor for the Prestonpans Tapestry in 2020 will be Inverurie from April/ June

which community is celebrating the second Jacobite Victory that year on 23rd December.

* Inverurie has excellent display space and a strong track record with the Trust from its

Scottish Diaspora Tapestry exhibition. The local cairn is being restored and a battle game board has been created along with a series of local activities including appearances from the Alan Breck Regiment.

* Proposals have been made for short pop-up exhibitions of the Prestonpans Tapestry

as it returns south after Inverurie with a significant concluding exhibition in Dunbar – where Sir John Cope landed in 1745 and where HMS Fox was subsequently lost in a December storm. The 10th Anniversary Celebrations of the Prestonpans Tapestry for The Friends will also be held during that exhibition.

3.8 **275th Anniversary Weekend – Saturday 19th/ Monday 21st** **September:**

* The Clans that Came Out with The Prince at Prestonpans will be invited to the whole

weekend of activities in line with the EventScotland Clans and Historic Figures Grant of £5,000; an opportunity for a Clan gathering will be included and the ‘2009 Homecoming’ Clan Panels will be updated in English and Gaelic, and ‘donated’ Clan Banners requested.

* Helion Books’ Jacobites Historians Conference will take place 10/ 5 on September 19th

in The Prestoungrange Gothenburg and will include Updates on The Jacobite Trail.

* Saturday Evening 19th will occasion a Storytelling Song Drama/ Concert ideally in

Prestongrange Church, recalling in particular the role there of Carlyle and other local participants in the battle; it is hoped that contributions can be made by Coreen Scott, from QMU, Edinburgh College and the Alan Brecks.

* Sunday 20th will focus on Family Day at the Town Hall for the Clans and Historic Figure

theme. The Alan Brecks will officiate and Barbara will be on parade. Gaelic battle cries and shouts will be rehearsed with War Game tables, embroidery and digital developments highlighted and books/ merchandise on sale. A Clan Gathering howsoever can ideally set the day rolling and publicity for the Fund Raising Appeal and Living History Centre. Early entries from the Invitation to 10/17 year olds can also be given a platform.

* Monday 21st is indeed the Anniversary and Battlefield Walks for School Groups will be

the focus with a final rally at the Memorial Tables on the 1722 Waggonway ending with a *Thank You Reception* at The Prestoungrange Gothenburg for all who have contributed to the weekend.

3.9 **John Gray Centre Exhibition in Haddington from 3rd October:**

* The exhibition will focus on the 275 year evolution of battle interpretation and

Cultural memory including song, literature, artistry from Kate Hunter, Andrew Hillhouse and more, artefacts including the Thorntree, ‘Prayer for Victory’ and own embroidery, costume, Bankton Doocot video, David Niven in film and Outlander tv

* The exhibition will see a programme of pop-up events and ‘school’ days.
* The exhibition will use bilingual interpretation whensoever possible.

3.10 **Our 275th Anniversary’s Legacy:**

The 275th Anniversary Celebrations have been designed from the outset to add to the

Repertoire of the Trust thereby furthering enriching the Legacy already in place in 2006 and

built on since then by the Trust. Legacy building is intended as a demonstration of the

competence of the Trust to create and manage a Living History Centre to which the local

community will have good reason to return again to benefit from the diverse programmes

provided. It also intended to demonstrate that such a Centre will offer world class services

for successive school groups and visiting tourists.

* The 10/17 year old output in English and Gaelic will be captured and published
* The 2009 Homecoming Clan Panels will be updated and bilingual and complemented

with Clan banners

* The John Gray Exhibition will have been captured and bilingual
* Volunteers and Guides will have been trained
* Strong bonds with schools and groups nationwide will have grown
* Friends of The Prince will have sustained support
* Edinburgh College will have engaged its students with our heritage
* The website and digital presence will have been updated and enhanced
* Much new interpretation will have been captured as video and accessible
* Inverurie’s resurrection will have been assisted with banners and cairn
* The Prestonpans Tapestry will have been shared wider still across the nation
* Nationwide awareness will have been heightened through media impacts and PR
* Gaelic will have heightened visibility and awareness across East Lothian

4. **Next Steps:**

* The Taskforce will hold its 2nd Meeting in Prestonpans during the period February 19th/ 20th as schedule can be arranged.