



**MINUTES of the 6th Meeting of the Baron Court of
Prestoungrange held at Bankton Steadings & The Industrial
Heritage Industrial Museum, Prestonpans, East Lothian
Scotland on July 15th 1999**

Present: Much Honoured Baron of Prestoungrange
Baron Sergeand & Secretary

In attendance: Jane Bonnar*
Adam Johnston*
Lady Prestoungrange
Annette McTavish*

Apologies: Baron Bailie & Procurator Fiscal

* *part time as appropriate*

**1. Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the Court held on June 18th
1999 at Bankton Steadings and The Prestoungrange
Industrial Heritage Museum, Prestonpans, East Lothian**

Confirmed: 1.1 That these were a correct record.

2. Matters Arising

Ceremonial Regalia

Reported: 2.1(a) (Minute 99/5/2.1) That A visit had been made to Sally Green and Duke Henry Plantagenet in North Lopham and assistance on the preparation of regalia was now to hand.

2.1(b) That the Court had commissioned Ms Sally Green of North Lapham, Norfolk IP22 2HR as costumier for the robes of the Baron Bailie and Baron Sergeand with measurements to be forwarded to her forthwith so that they could be made by end October latest.

Repairs to the Foreshore

2.2(a) (Minute 99/5/2.3) That it transpired the concrete pathway was to cover an ash slurry being pumped from Cockenzie Power Station towards Musselburgh.

- 2 -

2.2(b) That Roy Shearer had not yet received a response from the East Lothian Council concerning Rights of Way or repairs to the concrete pathway and steps, and placing of marker plates at each end, and that this would be pursued together with the proposal for a School's graffiti competition in 2000.

Prestoungrange Household

2.3(a) (Minute 99/5/2.4) That progress had still yet to be made on the research re Clan Chieftainship but that further nominations to the Household had been made, namely Jane Bonnar who would be leading the Museum's 2000 Project.

2.3(b) That arrangements were being made with Scotcrest for the bottling and labelling of single malt whiskies for the Household and that Scotcrest could also supply plaques with the Prestoungrange pinset surrounded by strap and buckle in due course once the final details of the crest are delivered by Lyon Court.

2.3(c) That all Members of the Household would shortly be invited to the Opening of the Prestoungrange at 21 Beaumont Street, Oxford on September 16th by the Baron Sergeant assisted by Sylvia Burgess, and the three paintings on CyberFeudalism by Janice McNab were also expected by that date.

Registered Office for the Baron Court of Prestoungrange

2.4 (Minute 99/5/2.5) That the offer of £ 110 000 had been accepted by Mr Mackie to acquire the buildings known as Bankton Steadings and associated land, and Adam Johnston had agreed outline plans for 4 housing units with the Planning Officers of east Lothian Council at an additional cost of some £ 350 000.

Agreed: 2.4(a) That unless the visual amenity for the Bankton Steadings to the west could be protected, the sale should not be proceeded with, and that Roy Shearer be so informed.

- 3 -

Confirmed: 2.4(a) That the problem lay with the East Lothian Preservation Trust's apparent determination to sell the paddock area directly in front of the Bankton Steadings Cottage to a resident of Bankton House for equestrian use despite the fact that the sale had not yet been concluded.

Agreed: 2.4(b) That Roy Shearer be asked to make one final effort to convince the Trustees that it was in the best interests of Historic Scotland and the whole Bankton House site for the proposed development to go ahead and that the proposed purchaser be asked to be content with the much larger paddock to the north west and linked guarantees about use of the paddock to be acquired by the Court.

Confirmed: 2.4(b) That if the visual amenity can be assured and the development proceeds, that The Bankton Steadings Cottage be redeveloped as the Baron Court and the Registered Office.

Facsimile Edition of the full extent of the Countess of Hyndford's baronial lands in 1796

Reported: 2.5(a) (Minute 99/5/2.6) That Rayprographics had undertaken an excellent job of creating facsimile copies of the Countess of Hyndford's 1796 maps of her lands in Prestoungrange and Dolphinstoun, and these would be delivered in early August.

2.5(b) That two sets were matt laminated and bound whilst the third set was mounted ready for framing as may be required.

3. Access to Dolphinstoun

Agreed: 3.1 That Roy Shearer had written to Mr. Hastie at Dolphinstoun to make an offer to acquire requisite lands and had no thus far made contact with Historic Scotland to offer to restore the Dolphinstoun Doocot.

3.2 That the impending legislation before the Scottish Parliament (appended) concerning land ownership and the abolition of the feudal link between land and baronial titles made it important that the matter proceeded with some urgency.

- 4 -

4. Prestoungrange Tartan on the Net

Reported: 4.1 (Minute 99/5/4) That Keith Lumsden was still being necessarily chased for the tartan to appear on the Register of Scottish Tartans at <http://www.tartans.scotland.net> but that their computer difficulties apparently continued unabated.

4.2 That the tartan was to be used in the Prestoungrange at 21 Beaumont Street Oxford for curtaining.

5. Project 2000 & Development of the Court's Website

Reported: 5.1 (Minute 99/5/5) That formal agreement had been reached with the East Lothian Museums service and its Education Officer, Annette McTavish, with Jane Bonnar MA accepting the post of Project 2000 Director reporting to the Baron Sergeand, viz.:

- 12 Prestoungrange Resources for School use with linked Visits to the Museum to be published with open access on the Internet and as paper based guides for sale.
- A general brochure on the Museum to appear on the Internet and for sale on paper
- The sponsorship of an Annual Graffiti Contest at the Seawall.

5.2 That IRDC was now proceeding as contractor to the Court to develop the web site required.

5.3 That the Baron and Baron Sergeand would visit the barony again on 8th/ 9th/ 10th September with monthly progress reports due throughout the period October to June 2000 from Jane Bonnar.

Agreed: 5.1 The outline budget of £ 55 000 inclusive of building the WebSite and printing with incidental expenses.

6. Burke's Peerage 2000 edition of Scottish Landed Gentry

Reported: 6.1 (Minute 99/5/6) That the Baron and Baron Bailie had now reached a satisfactory conclusion and publication was targeted for June 2000, with IRDC as Management Contractor for the project and Peter Dewar as Editorial Director.

- 5 -

7. Commissioning of Pictures to Celebrate the Millennium

Reported: 7.1 That Janice McNab was making good progress with the three paintings which were expected to be ready on time, on the theme of *CyberFeudalism*.

Noted: 7.1 That the planned focus for each was as follows:

- Image of foreshore a high tide in rain
- Prestoungrange ceiling with skull and egg-timer/hourglass
- Miners showers at the colliery

8. Prestoungrange Whisky

Agreed: 8.1 Following the Court's visit to Glenkinchie Distillery at Pentcaitland, that its Lowland 10 Year Old Single malt should be endorsed by the Barony and used on all ceremonial occasions and as gifts.

8.2 To work with Iain Clark at Scotcrest to ensure best prices and supply is maintained with appropriate labelling with a minimum order of £ 1000 required.

9. Summer Meeting of the Convention of the Scottish Baronage

Reported: 9.1 That the Baron and Lady Prestoungrange had attended the Summer Meeting at Fountainhall and Smeaton-Hepburn on July 17th at which reports on titles and useages and the proposed repeal of the linkage between land ownership and feudal title were discussed. They had met some 40 other members of the Convention and agreed to assist in the creation of the Convention's WebSite.

10. Forthcoming Meetings

Confirmed: 10.1 That the next meeting would be held at Prestoungrange Industrial Heritage Museum on September 9th 1999, convened by the Baron Sergeand, and followed by the Opening of Prestoungrange in Oxford on September 16th.