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

**MINUTES OF THE 81/16 MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES HELD ON SEPTEMBER 22nd 2016 IN THE JAMES PARK BISTRO at THE PRESTOUNGRANGE GOTHENBURG, 227/ 229 HIGH STREEET, PRESTONPANS**

**PRESENT:**

Herbert Coutts [Joint Chairman in the chair]

Sharon Beck

Arran Johnston

Gordon Prestoungrange

Avril Wills

**APOLOGIES:**

Gareth Bryn-Jones

Sylvia Burgess [Secretary]

John Curtis

Sharon Dabell

Brett Fletcher

Richard Mackenzie

Baron of Dolphinstoun

Baron of Prestoungrange [Treasurer]

Pauline Jaffray

Pat O’Brien

**1 MINUTES of 80/16 Meeting** of the Trustees held on August 18th 2016 had been circulated by the Secretary and were certified correct.

**2 SCOTTISH POWER/ CONSULTATION & HARGREAVES RE BLINDWELLS & REPSOL/INCHCAPE**

1. That there have been no reported developments in respect of Blindwells/ Charlestoun.
2. Confirmed that the proceedings of the post-Power Station Consultation Group funded in part by Scottish Enterprise are now being Minuted; and that Arran Johnston continues to attend its meetings at which no substantive progress was yet been made. The recent Area Development Plan approved by ELC Council sows the whole of the lands in question as ‘awaiting’ future determination.
3. That Inchcape/ Repsol’s sale of their interest in the offshore windfarm and hence the putative SubStation is still unresolved, but the CRA has plans to launch a second CRtB application.
4. Noted that the Barons Courts had donated £1,000 as a contribution to CRA’s legal expenses for their retained QC.
5. Noted that the CRA had lost its Appeal to the Sheriff re the Scottish Government’s rejection of the CRtB the lands at Greenhills and the Battlesite.

**3** **JOINT WORKING** **PARTNERSHIP WITH ELC @ PRESTONGRANGE MUSEUM & HLF APPLICATION**

1. That the Joint Working Group [JWG] with ELC’s Cllr Tim Day in the chair had not met and resolved any issues despite the total commitment by leading politicians.
2. That Herbert Coutts had communicated the Trust’s frustrations to Cllr. Tim Day and a meeting between him with Arran Johnston and Cllr Willie Innes, Council Leader, had taken place. They had agreed that all efforts would now be directed to ensure that our HLF Application can be lodged no later than December 8th 2016.
3. That Darren Barker of Barker Langham LLP had meet in Newark with Gordon Prestoungrange on August 24th and was proceeding to finalise the HLF Application; and that the balance of £12,500 from the Restricted Funds of the Trust is being made available to fund their activities to December 8th. That schedule has been communicated to the two Councillors for ELC action.
4. That the Trust still very much wishes Cllr Willie Innes, as Leader of ELC Council, to make a formal public statement howsoever of its commitment to the Trust so that the Trust can proceed not only with HLF but more broadly across Government and private funders to seek the total £5m required for the requisite world class facilities.
5. That the sign off meeting of the Trustees will take place on October 14th when Darren Barker will present the draft HLF Application.

**4 VIRIDOR PROJECT/ BORD NA GAIDHLIG/ WALKERS**

.01 Doo’cot DVD installation within the Doocot is virtually complete and Paul Zochowski and Jackie Bell will represent Viridor at a Preview at 7pm on September 23rd; with Bankton Residents given their own Preview at 6pm on even date. Arran Johnston is optimistic that electrical and projection work will be finalised by mid October after which publicity can commence.

.02 That Keith Scott of ELC has completed the erection of the English/ Gaelic signage at the south end of the pathway, and the padlocking/ privacy notices; and that signage has also been erected along the Waggonway under the Paths for All Grant received by Prestoungrange Arts Festival. N.B. The Alan Brecks have agreed to voluntarily ensure Spring weed clearing for the next three years i.e. 2007/ 2018/ 2019 and hopefully well beyond then.

.03 That the chains installed by Strawberry Corner are still due to be replaced; the gates and railings at each end have been re-painted by the Alan Beck Regiment as contractors to Strawberry Corner.

.04 Eric Rosoman and colleagues at Atom Coding have completed the multiple APPlication – **Prestonpans 1745** available for free download at Apple & Android APP stores; it embraces [i] the battlefield’s walkers’ trail – short & long; [ii] the Prestonpans Tapestry, also in French & Gaelic; [iii] the Tranent/ Cockenzie Waggonway; The Bankton Doocot DVD/ YouTube links.

.05 That meetings continue with Jennifer Lothian of ELC’s Landscapes & Countryside Team to see how the new APP’d Walks can be integrated into the county’s existing provision and the guides thereto and a meeting held with Sandra King, Manager of the Preston, Seton & Gosford [GSF] Partnership.

.06 That Gardner Molloy confirms that the two Memorial Tables will be carved with all Regimental details by end September.

.07 Agreed, having considered many proposed alternatives and remaining determined they shall be on display well in advance of formal agreement re the battlesite, that Arran Johnston will now seek ‘Temporary’ Planning Consent to install the tables at the Prestonpans Community Centre; and that their ceremonial ‘unveiling’ shall take place in 2018 when the triennial battle cycle takes place in The Pans.

**5 PRESTONPANS ‘MODEST 2016 & 2017’ BATTLE**

**COMMEMORATIONS & LOOKING AHEAD TO 2018 IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SCOTTISH BATTLEFIELDS TRUST**

.01 The 2016 modest yet visible series of commemorative events is to be led the coming weekend by the Alan Brecks; it is confirmed they will include the ‘Battlefield Walk’ – with APP, visits to the outcomes of the Viridor/ Dolphinstoun/ Bord na Gaidhlig grants, to Colonel Gardiner’s putative plaque at Tranent and a short Memorial Service in Tranent Church; there shall also be a play of the Prestonpans War Game, as restored by Brett Fletcher.

.02 That wreaths will be laid at the several memorials.

.03 Whilst the Doo’cot will shortly be ready, whensoever it shall be ‘formally’ opened a key event shall be held, inviting the Chairman of HES to perform the task together with VisitScotland guests and the Trust should seek formal VisitScotland \*\*\* designation and appropriate signage from the A1.

.04 That when the major re-enactment event returns to Prestonpans in 2018 consideration should be given to a focus on the Clans who came out with The Prince in 1745, as previously targeted in 2008 for the 1st Year of Homecoming, with the Trust’s Committee of High Sponsors invited to assist in the occasion.

.05 That the outcome of the Scottish Battlefields Trust’s applications to LEADER, HES and National EventScotland for £305,000 would be known by year end and if successful will have a significant impact on many of the Trust’s activities.

**6** **SCHOOL VISITS/ BATTLE GAME BOARD/ WAR GAMES/ EXHIBITIONS**

.01 Arran Johnston reported that School Visits were proceeding with support from East Lothian Council and directly.

.02 That Brett Fletcher, in association with Warwick Louth and the Prestoungrange Gothenburg, was working in the Scottish Battlefields Trust to take further initiatives in the playing of War Games.

.03 That the Prestonpans Tapestry is currently on exhibition at The Prestoungrange Gothenburg in the Thomas Nelson Suite during August and September and has been accessible throughout the annual Commemorations.

**7** **TAPESTRY/ FRIENDS GROUP**

.01 That Jean Caever in St Nazaire had proposed that the Battle Tapestry should be exhibited at Lorient at the 2017 Festival InterCeltic which is themed in August that year for Scotland; contact has been made with the Scottish Team Leader Tom Johnstone to see how it might be arranged effectively and Gordon Prestoungrange will meet with Jean Caever in St Nazaire on September 29th and the day previous with Jean Migrenne in Ifs.

.02 That it remained the ambition to exhibit the Tapestry and artefacts elsewhere during coming months in Dundee and possibly once again at Dunblane Cathedral, as well as in Derby and Falkirk in due course.

.03 That with David Forsyth/ National Museums/ NTS emergent plans for Jacobite exhibitions with EventScotland support in 2017, it is also appropriate for the Tapestry and the Battle site to be embraced; but that if co-ordination might not eventuate, the Trust must definitely seek to exhibit on its own account.

**8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

.01 **Phonetic Lexicon for ‘Gaelic’ speaking Highlanders** is now with Beathag Mhoireasdan for literal and phonetic translation with the benefit of extant Bord na Gaidhlig funds; and it is planned to premiere the lexicon at the Alan Breck’s AGM in December.

.02 **Colonel Gardiner’s Plaque @ Tranent Churchyard** still requiresformalconsent from ELC which is responsible for the churchyard; funds are available to proceed, with details to be included on the Walkers’ leaflet and APP. Arran Johnston is progressing the matter and agreeing appropriate wording.

.03 **2016 Athelstaneford & Saltire Festival** have requested two Waverley Walks during the week long celebrations of Scotland’s National Flag; and Agreed that during this time in November the Saltire rather than The Prince’s Battle Standard should be flown on the Battle Bing following on from the now traditional flying on the 1707 Union Flag for one week in October.

.04 **Perspex cover replacement on the Bing Interpretation Boards** is seemingly required and Arran Johnston was asked to get an early quotation for installation possibly at the same time as the Interpretation Boards for the Waggonway under the Paths for All Grant.

.05 ‘**The** **Spirit of the Tartan ‘**,*a Song-Drama of The Gael* by Dr Arthur Geddes, son of Sir Patrick Geddes [himself remembered in The Scottish Diaspora Tapestry], which was first presented in the Music Hall on George Street Edinburgh in June 1932 and later in Rangoon, has been offered to the Trust by his granddaughters Marion & Claire for a possible revival production. It focuses on the proscription of the tartan in 1747 following the failure of the Prince’s campaign to regain the three Crowns for the Stuarts. Agreed that possible collaboration with the Scottish Tartan Authority, Sangstream choir and local schools should be explored for an Edinburgh Fringe production in 2018.

.06 **The Jacobite Trail** **1689/ 1745** had been proposed as a future ambition for the Scottish Battlefields Trust which would see a Walkers’ / Historical Guide, website url and even an APP created encompassing Killiekrankie, Dunkeld, The Boyne, Cromdale/ Bass Roc, Sheriffmuir, Preston [including Gardiner], Glensheil, Prestonpans, Clifton, Inverurie, Falkirk & Culloden; Agreed to give such an initiative the Trust’s support building as it does on an earlier suggestion from the NTS at Culloden.

**9 DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

.01 The Battle Trust’s 10th Anniversary will see ‘Modest 2016 Commemorations’ take place in Prestonpans from **September 23rd/25th 2016** including the Previews of the Bankton Doo’cot

.02 The Trustees’ Taskforce for the HLF Application will meet at 12.30 pm on **October 14th 2016** at Gordon’s Trattoria, Royal Mile, Edinburgh to sign off the Application with BarkerLangham

.03 The 5th Biennial Scottish National Battlefields Symposium will be convened in Perth by the SBT on **October 15th 2016**

.04 The next 82/16 Meeting of the Trustees & the 10th AGM of The Trust will both be held on Thursday **24th November 2016** at 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm respectively at The Prestoungrange Gothenburg.

.05 The Alan Breck Regiment under Colonel-in-Chief Martin Margulies will hold its 10th AGM and Regimental Dinner at The Prestoungrange Gothenburg on **December 10th 2016**

.06 The Trustees will hold their 83/ 17 Meeting on Thursday **19th January 2017.**