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

**MINUTES OF 91/17 MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES HELD ON October 26th 2017 AT THE PINE MARTEN, DUNBAR**

**PRESENT:**

Herbert Coutts [Joint Chairman in the chair]

Arran Johnston

Gordon Prestoungrange of Lochnaw

Steve Catterall [p/t by invitation]

**APOLOGIES:**

Sharon Beck

Gareth Bryn-Jones

Sylvia Burgess

John Curtis

Sharon Dabell

Brett Fletcher

Pauline Jaffray

Mark Jardine

Richard Mackenzie

Pat O’Brien

Avril Wills of Lochnaw

Julian Wills of Dolphinstoun

Mathew Wills of Prestoungrange

1. **MINUTES of 90/17 Meeting** of the Trustees held on September 22nd 2017 had been circulated by the Secretary and wereconfirmed subject to the correction that Arran Johnston *had* been present there and wrongly listed as Absent.

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

1. That Herbert Coutts had met with Susan Smith at ELC Economic Development and agreed that as soon as a specification re the putative Living History Centre was available she would convene the appropriate meeting of relevant Council Officers to carry forward the assessment of the three potential sites close by the battle field. 0.2 Agreed that Herbert Coutts and Arran Johnston should progress this asap so that the Provost’s proposed deadline of Christmas for arriving at a preferred choice can be made.
	1. Agreed that regardless of where the preferred location might be the specification would include ample scope for community engagement and educational activities.
	2. That Scottish Power had announced that ELC was its preferred bidder for the Power Station lands and that once that was determined the Master Plan for the entire area will be made available.
	3. That the Trust could now be tentatively optimistic that the battlesite might be ready to receive the two Memorial Tables by September 2018 under the Planning Consent already given by ELC [which might need updating shortly]; and that agriculture might soon be resumed.

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

1. That Gordon Prestoungrange had held further conversations with HLF and will now create a formal application to 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.
2. 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.
3. That constructive discussions were continuing 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, after she volunteered to give informal assistance.
4. 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 now agreed twin-tapestry exhibition at Stanley Mills.
5. Confirmed that now his Diaspora Research is tabled, Arran Johnston will immediately *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.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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 had continued re VisitScotland Growth Fund resources for the SBT’s ‘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 Claire Willis at NTS had agreed to put the SBT into contact with the contractors for the 2017 Jacobite website. 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.

**5 PRESTONPANS RE-ENACTMENT SEPTEMBER 15/16 2018**

.01 That Kirk approvals have been received for Commemorative Plaques for both Colonel Gardiner in Tranent Churchyard and Captain Stewart in Prestongrange Churchyard and the budget of £720 was agreed; it is hoped they can be unveiled as early as the 10th Anniversary of the establishment of the Alan Breck Regiment by The Prince’s Warrant at The Palace of Holyroodhouse, which is to be celebrated at their AGM/ Dinner on Friday December 8th when Martin Margulies, Colonel-in-Chief will be in attendance.

.02 That the major SBT re-enactment in Prestonpans in September 2018 [most probably at Greenhills] will begin with considerable focus on the *‘Clans who Came Out with The Prince in 1745’,* as previously targeted in 2009 for Scotland’s 1st Year of Homecoming.

.03 The Trust’s Committee of High Sponsors had assisted in the Expression of Interest for VisitScotland’s Clan Grant in support of the proposed Call to The Clans for the dedication of the 2 Memorial Tables crafted by Gardiner Molloy with Viridor funding; now lodged as a formal Application for £5,000.

.04 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.

.05 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.

.06 A Memorial/ Dedication Procession is proposed at 9.30am/ 10.45am from the Gardiner Crescent/ Terrace by the Miners’ Memorial to Greenhills, which activity will replace the traditional Riggonhead Defile Walk at 5am on the Saturday morning.

.07 That the Chief of Clan MacDonell of Glengarry has expressed the wish that his Clan name be correctly recorded; and the omission of Clan MacDonald of Glencoe will also be rectified.

.08 Gardner Molloy also wishes to make a sculptural adjustment to the legs of the tables to improve appearance and, subject to agreement with Gareth Bryn-Jones, that was agreed.

**6** **SCHOOL VISITS/** **LECTURES/** **BATTLE BOARD GAMING/ TAPESTRY EXHIBITIONS & CONSERVATION**

.01 School visits / lectures have continued including sessions at the NMS where the Jacobite Weekend Residence by the Alan Breck’s attracted great interest; a third annual visit to Longniddry Primary is scheduled; a weekend session at Holyrood is also to be held; the annual St Andrew’s/ Saltire Festival will see a nighttime walk; and the 1745 Battle Board was again in use at the September Commemorations at the Gothenburg.

.02 Diaspora Tapestry exhibitions had continued at Irvine and were next scheduled for Carlisle Border Kirk and Stanley Mills in 2018 and for New Lanark early in 2019.

.03 That there were no current plans for exhibition of the Battle Tapestry currently beyond Stanley Mills and it was agreed that this was an appropriate moment to consider a halt to its touring programme. It was agreed this should be considered for Summer 2018 with one final Farewell Exhibition perhaps after which it should be restored and held appropriately until it could be placed on permanent exhibition in its eventual home.

.04 Agreed that the opinion of a ‘professional textiles conservationist’ be sought as to what might be most appropriate.

.05 Noted with thanks that Dorrie Wilkie, Lead Stitcher for the Tapestry in 2009/ 2010, had volunteered to bring together a team of stitchers from the community as early as Autumn/ Winter 2018 to undertake such cleaning/ restoration/ mending as *might* be required before being placed in appropriate storage e.g. should the 5m runs be dismantled in favor of 1m solo panels and fresh stretching and backing undertaken.

.06 Noted that QR tags linking the panels to the APP have now been provided by the APP’s creator Eric Rosoman.

**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], still remains on hold currently for absence of funding support for Greentrax.

.02 **Spanish Civil War Theatre: 549** is finalizing plans with ELC/ Brunton Theatre and tabling an application to CreativeScotland for presentation by Panner Robbie Gordon and Jack Nurse in late January 2018/ early February in Prestonpans Town Hall; the Trust having pledge a donation of £1,000 towards its production here.

.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 is now fully operational with its new clutch.

.04 That supporters in Brittany continue their efforts to install a plaque commemorating Prince Charles’ departure there in July 1745 at **Bonne Asne** but the Maire has not been supportive yet, suggesting that a Conference / Symposium might be convene there in 2018 – with the Trust’s support.

.05 That following a complaint re the littered condition of the **Battle Bing’s north face**, the request via Stuart Pryde and Jennifer Lothian of ELC for action had met with success and it will be undertaken shortly; noted also that other aspects also required attention.

.06 That consideration be given to arranging a commemoration of the 230th **anniversary of the death of Prince Charles Edward** on January 30th 2018.

.07 That, following discussions, an invitation be made to **Steve Catterall FCA** to join as a Trustee at the forthcoming AGM of the Trust.

**8 DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

.01 That the 92/17 Meeting of the Trustees followed by the 11th AGM of the Members of the Trust will be held on Friday **November 24th 2017** at 6pm.

.02 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.

.03 That the 93/18 Meeting of the Trustees will be held on Thursday **January 25th 2018**