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

**MINUTES OF 96th MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES HELD ON May 17th 2018 IN THE JAMES PARK BISTRO AT THE PRESTOUNGRANGE GOTHENBURG, PRESTONPANS EH32 9BE**

**PRESENT:**

Herbert Coutts [Joint Chairman in the chair]

Sharon Beck

Brett Fletcher

Gordon Prestoungrange of Lochnaw

Sean Wood

**APOLOGIES:**

Gareth Bryn-Jones

Sylvia Burgess

Kenneth Cameron

John Curtis

Sharon Dabell

Brett Fletcher

Pauline Jaffray

Mark Jardine

Arran Johnston

Richard Mackenzie

Pat O’Brien

Avril Wills of Lochnaw

Julian Wills of Dolphinstoun

Mathew Wills of Prestoungrange

*Although Arran Johnston was necessarily absent from the meeting the Trustees noted with great pleasure that he had been confirmed successful with his doctoral studies of the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry at the University of the West of Scotland; and with even greater pleasure that after the conclusion of the meeting his wife Fiona gave birth to a son, Archer.*

1. **MINUTES of 95/18 Meeting** of the Trustees held on April 19th 2018, which had been circulated by the Secretary, were proposed/ seconded and confirmed as a correct record.

**2 COCKENZIE ‘FUTURES’ MASTER PLAN/ LIVING HISTORY CENTRE LOCATION/ ELC PLANNING CONSENT RE MEMORIAL TABLES**

1. Agreed that the Trust must remain implacably opposed to any return of the SubStation to the earlier HS/ Prestonpans CC/ ELC approved site on the battlefield.
2. Reported that contact has been made with Iain Slater at Hargreaves seeking to arrange early discussions with Gareth Bryn-Jones, Herbert Coutts and Arran Johnston to explore how a Concept Study might be carried forward for the putative Living History Centre at Charlestoun.
3. Agreed to invite Pollack Hammond / Gareth Bryn Jones to prepare a quotation for an architectural Concept Study of the Living History Centre against the specification approved by the Trustees in December 2017.
4. Took comfort from ELC confirmation that Zone 4 is expected to return shortly to agriculture and that recent work on the land had been designed to make it ‘tidy’.
5. Confirmed that Pollack Hammond had now submitted the Trust’s Planning Application to ELC for the Memorial Tables to be placed at the northern edge on the battlefield close by the Waggonway with a decision expected shortly.
6. That should such decision be in the affirmative every effort should be made to install them before the Parade and Re-enactment with appropriate sculptural emendments by Gardner Molloy thereby avoiding any need for revised storage arrangements. Additional support had been promised for landscaping and foundations from farmer Jim Meikle who has been continually updated.
7. That a request be made to ELC for the addition of a Gaelic/ English signpost from the off road parking area at the northern end of the Waggonway to the Memorial Tables.
8. Response was still awaited from East Lothian Council concerning the Trust’s readiness to purchase/ lease and farm the battlesite.
9. Noted that Ray Montgomery has been placed in overall charge by ELC of the developments taking place at the old Cockenzie Power station and that an early meeting be sought with him via the offices of Susan Smith.

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

1. Noted that the response time of 8 weeks to the Application falls at June 19th .
2. Noted that in acceptance of HLF’s rejective comments on the initial Resilience application, the original Stage [iv] i.e. Implementation had not been included. Discussions with Tom Ingrey-Counter at HLF had concluded that any such request would be appropriate as a follow-on application for Resilience – for which decisions are made in-house in Scotland.
3. Confirmed that the Trust remained wholly committed to its strategic approach for a permanent Living History Centre and home for the tapestries close to the battle site notwithstanding that [i] the Trust was determined to evaluate all options for its future with the benefit of external counsel and [ii] to set in hand comparative studies of other successful battlesite and tapestry conservation groups internationally to optimize its approach using current best practice.
4. Agreed to continue working with NTS and Visit-EventScotland in such reassessment and strategy, and seek to involve HES howsoever building [a] on the SBT re-enactments at NTS’ Newhailes House, [b] current SBT HES Organisational Development Grant re Dunbar Interpretation/ National Template, and [c] the current Diaspora Tapestry exhibition at its Stanley Mills April/ June 2018.
5. That 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 Living History Centre with the aim to create/ augment a visitor destination in its own right. The % for the Arts attributable at Charlestoun should be pursued as a potential source of support.

**4 JACOBITE TRAIL/ VISIT SCOTLAND GROWTH FUND**

.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 Gail Williamson from HES had visited the Trustees in Prestonpans to evaluate whether HES Organisational Development funding might be appropriate as the Trail evolves. Her initial reaction was that there were some aspects that might be appropriate but that it might be more appropriate to engage with the Properties Division of HES. She agreed to consult back at HQ including with Martin Ross who has just moved across to HES Policy Division.

.03 That collaboration with HES/ NTS must be a key vector in the future development and that open debate should be held howsoever at SBT’s 6th Biennial Symposium in October 2018 if not before.

.04 That the putative design of the Trail, appended to these Minutes, was of course open to discussion and change as the participating members made their views apparent but that that design was sufficient as the basis for the next phase.

.05 That Arran Johnston continue the identification of ‘other’ key supportive partners [regardless of funding issues at this juncture] and report to the Trust’s 97th meeting on July 5th 2018.

.06 That application to HES for support would necessarily follow on from the feedback from Gail Williamson and Arran Johnston and once an emergent list of participants emerges.

.07 That Gordon Prestoungrange was visiting Jean Cevaer and Hubert in St Nazaire to identify the broadest key elements there for inclusion in the Trail from 1688 onwards.

**5 PRESTONPANS SEPTEMBER 14/ 15/16 2018**

.01 That the major SBT re-enactment in Prestonpans in September 2018 planned for Greenhills will be preceded by the BPHT’s focus on the *‘Clans who Came Out with The Prince in 1745’,* as previously targeted in 2009 for Scotland’s 1st Year of Homecoming; and with representation from the British Army.

.02 The two week’s straddling the re-enactment will see the Prestonpans Tapestry on display at Cockenzie House and a Paper Soldiers exhibition of 2500 combatants on each side in the Thomas Nelson Suite at The Prestoungrange Gothenburg.

.03 Martha Bryce, who so ably led the Pinkie Cleugh PR, is already leading PR/ and Marketing Contact for the Dedication phase which must be kept discrete from the SBT re-enactment per se [where she has also been appointed to a similar role by SBT.]

.04 The initial PR has commenced with the primary schools’ project creating banners/ flags to be carried in the Parade from 9.30am September 15th from Meadowmill/ Greenhills with reports from Aberdeen and in the *East Lothian Courier*.

.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 The publicity in *East Lothian Life* Summer 2018 Edition will include an 8pp insert that will have a run-on of 6,500 copies for distribution by the Post Office across The Pans immediately preceding the re-enactment and to the eponymous streets when recruiting for the Clan/ Regiment Nights at The Gothenburg.

.07 Dates are to be agreed for the Clan/ Regimental Nights at The Goth by the July 5th meeting and they will also be advised by the *East Lothian Courier* across the county to eponymous individuals.

.08 Aadam Mohammed has been invited by SBT to take responsibility for the enhanced food/ drinks provision with a major marquee and beer ‘festival’ provision by The Prestoungrange Gothenburg/ Archerfield under consideration.

**6** **SCHOOL VISITS/** **TAPESTRY EXHIBITIONS/ BATTLE BOARD WAR GAMING**

.01 Schools starting with Hanover Street in Aberdeen and across the county are being invited to create the flags/ banners for the Clans and Regiments in September 1745, to be carried in the opening Procession/ Parade in September.

.02 Diaspora Tapestry exhibitions continue, currently with HES at Stanley Mills and then for three months in the summer at Garrioch Heritage Centre. Plans for 2019 already include New Lanark Mills and Glasgow’s Episcopalian Cathedral during the West End Festival throughout June.

.03 Sharon Beck has worked at Stanley Mills with Fiona Davidson to provide support for key visitor groups and during International Mills Weekend but the lateness of communications has hindered what support could be provided – a lesson for future agreements with venues that are *not stitchers driven* e.g. New Lanark Mills and Glasgow Cathedral in 2019.

.04 There *is* ‘good news’ from Stanley Mills however involves the creation of its ‘own’ embroidered panel on the initiative of local stitchers following in an emergent tradition from Picinisco, the Scottish Schools Project, Scarborough/ Toronto and most spectacularly Iceland.

.05 That the possibility for a *stitcher-driven* Hong Kong Exhibition is being explored although a much broader plan for the USA/ Caribbean/ South America and Southern Asia is probably more appropriate for 2019/ 2020 visiting the stitchers there.

.06 That Arran Johnston has completed a slim-line version of the Diaspora Tapestry Tale drawing on his PhD thesis to be published in the summer entitled ***What Wouldn’t We Do for Scotland.***

.07 Noted with gratitude the funding provided by the University of the West of Scotland of the order of £40,000 to enable the evaluative analysis of the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry’s creation and display from 2014/2018 – which would be conveyed to Dr Duncan Sim, project research sponsor there. The full thesis will be made accessible online in due course.

.08 That Brett Fletcher is proceeding well with the carry-easy Battle Game Boards for all three locations in partnership with SBT and HES Interpretation Fund support; the large scale Prestonpans Board will be used for major exhibition and play purposes – e.g. the 2018 Re-enactment.

**7 TAPESTRY CONSERVATION & ONLINE ACCESS**

.01 That Herbert Coutts had approached Hopetoun’s Scottish Conservation Studio and Tuula Pardoe, Textiles Conservator there, is willing to make an initial assessment of the likely requirements for such work; carrying such work forward would be a part of the revised HLF Resilience Application under Minute 3 Above. Such initial observation will be arranged by Herbert Coutts as appropriate ideally during the September exhibition at Cockenzie House.

.02 That Dorrie Wilkie, Lead Stitcher for the Tapestry in 2009/ 2010, has 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.

.03 Efforts are still in hand to restore the full online access to the tapestry which was lost when Raeltech lost when it replaced the main server. The PowerPoint access there *is* still functional.

.04 Final stitchers’ detailing at the Scottish Diaspora website was in hand.

**7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

.01 **1745 Association Gathering’s Visit to Prestonpans September 8th – full day:** two short articles for the Jacobite magazine in Spring and Winter issues to be prepared, the first has now appeared. The Members will be hosted by the Trust throughout the day with sustenance at The Gothenburg.

.02 Noted that the Auditor expects an update of the **Asset Register** by early Summer most particular to ensure full insurance cover and adequate re-ordering of merchandise and Official Guides.

.03 That an excellent additional website has been created by the SBT @ **www.battleofprestonpans.info** with matching sites for Pinkie Cleugh and Dunbar to complement the triennial East Lothian Battles Cycle.

.04 That the sum of £450 each for the commemorative plaques for **Colonel Gardiner** at Tranent Churchyard and **Captain Stewart** at Prestongrange Church be approved and installation can now go ahead.

.05 That a Grant of £10,000 had now been made to the **Re-enactment Weather Protection ‘Restricted’ Fund of the Scottish Battlefields Trust [SBT]** in appreciation for the arrangements in hand for September 2018.

.06 That no response had yet been received from the invitation to be co-opted as a Trustee by issued to **Tom Shearer MBE**, retiring Head of Communities with ELC who has been a longstanding facilitator of the Trust’s activities.

**8 DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

.01 That the 98/18 Meeting of the Trustees will be held on Thursday **July 5th 2018** – during the 3 Harbours Festival

.02 That the 99/18 Meeting of the Trustees will provisionally be held on **August 9th 2018** with variation on the Call of the Chair as necessary to address Charlestoun/ HES/ HLF priorities.

.03 That the **1745 Association will visit Prestonpans on September 8th 2018** to tour the battlefield and tapestry taking lunch at The Prestoungrange Gothenburg.

.04 That the Trust’s **Parade & Remembrance** **will take place on September 15th 2018** – 9AM/ 10.45AM

.05 That the SBT’s **Encampment &** **1745 Re-enactments will take place on Saturday and Sunday September 15th and 16th** from 11AM/ 5PM – Admissions till 12 noon £3/ £1.50; then £6/ £3.

.06 That the **Official Dedication of the Memorial Tables in the Field of Remembrance** following installation/ landscapingwill take place ideally on Friday September 21st September if the presence then of clergy can be arranged.