

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

**MINUTES OF 101st MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES HELD ON JANUARY 10th**

**2019 IN THE JAMES PARK BISTRO AT THE PRESTOUNGRANGE**

**GOTHENBURG, PRESTONPANS EH32 9BE**

**PRESENT:**

Herbert Coutts [Joint Chairman in the Chair]

Sharon Beck

Stephen Connolly [p/t]

Nicky Donald [p/t]

Arran Johnston

Gordon Prestoungrange of Lochnaw

Michael Taylor [p/t]

**APOLOGIES:**

Gareth Bryn-Jones [e]

Sylvia Burgess [e]

Kenneth Cameron

John Curtis

Sharon Dabell [e]

Brett Fletcher

Pauline Jaffray

Pat O’Brien

Avril Wills of Lochnaw [e]

Julian Wills of Dolphinstoun

Mathew Wills of Prestoungrange

Sean Wood

*The Meeting welcomed Drs Stephen Connolly and Michael Taylor for discussions and debate on their contributions to the Trust’s ongoing HLF Resilience Studies. Nicky Donald from DTA was welcomed for exploration of the potential opportunities afforded by the Community Empowerment Act 2015.*

**1. MINUTES of 100/18 Meeting** of the Trustees held on November 15th 2018,which had been circulated by the Secretary, were proposed/ seconded by Sharon Beck and Arran Johnston respectively and confirmed as a correct record subject only to correction of the reference to the missing US Diaspora panel which is US05 not US06 – Minute 9.04; also **Noted Minutes of the 12th AGM** held on even date.

**2 ACHIEVING THE ‘AGREED MANIFESTO’ WITH HLF RESILIENCE [1] SUPPORT**

01. That the extant designation ‘Manifesto’ will continue in use as the working title for this programme of HLF supported Resilience studies although alternative more evocative motivational phrase can be expected to emerge at PR/ Consultation stages reflecting Hope, Ambition, Victory

02. Welcomed, discussed and debated the Interim Reports on Element [i] and [ii] on schedule as already presented to the Taskforce; and invited the two authors, Dr Stephen Connolly and Dr Arran Johnston, to carry them to a second stage by end January – well before the next/ February meeting of the Trustees. In particular Arran Johnston would include additional overseas analysis and Recommendations for the quantum of the putative Living History Centre’s emergent core focus on the battle and its interpretation in the broad context of an agreed Jacobite scoping from 1686-1807.

03. Progress from the Nationally Agreed Manifesto to campaigning to achieve its implementation with continuing support from HLF is very much dependent on having identified a location for the Living History Centre to which end [a] meetings have been arranged for February 22nd with ELC and [b] prior to that on February 6th with Iain Slater of Hargreaves at Charlestoun. Gareth Bryn-Jones will be taking the lead for the Trust in respect of the architectural issues arising.

04. The additional mentoring for Elements [ii] and [iii] of the project over and above the advices of Tuula Pardoe re the tapestries is still under discussion and recommendations from the Taskforce include the services of Grace Martin, Michael Taylor and Martha Bryce.

05. Martha Bryce’s mentoring will include acting as lead PR adviser and she has already been briefed on the putative requirements for the project as it moves to Draft Manifesto public consultations, including Prestonpans/ Tranent/ Port Seton & Cockenzie CCs, in 2019.

06. That debate concerning **Stepping Up** [i.e. Resilience 2] to fulfill the Agreed Manifesto has begun focusing on the institutionalisation of the Trust’s existing and planned programmes for the Living History Centre through the earliest appointment of a core Team of Fulltime Officers, taking advantage of the pro bono facilities available to the Trust at The Prestoungrange Gothenburg. Their development will ensure the Trust was ‘battle ready’ for the subsequent opening of the Centre.

07. That any hiatus in the cash flows necessary for Sessional Staffing and ongoing activities must be carefully addressed as the project moves from the Agreed Manifesto to Resilience 2’s Stepping Up; in particular showing such alacrity as may be achievable in applying for further HLF support. This has become potentially more complex as HLF has announced the nationwide withdrawal of hypothecated Resilience Funds from January 2019. It is anticipated that the services of Stephen Connolly will be secured to assist this stage.

08. That Mathew Wills FCA, Treasurer of the Trust, would be asked to liaise with Arran Johnston to review as may be feasible the trading budgets/ management accounts of selected battle sites to accord insights into our own future operating plans.

09. That Interim Reports for Elements [i] and [ii] as updated to January 31st 2019 should remain unpublished pro tem but will be shared in confidence with ELC via Susan Smith in Economic Development for the meeting on February 22nd and as necessary with Tom Ingrey-Counter at HLF as the Trust requests draw down of the next tranche of grant aid i.e. 40%.

10. It was determined for the Draft Manifesto that the tapestries/ embroidery activities of the Centre should predominantly see them as a means to an end – i.e. the recounting and interpretation of the lead up to the battle and its consequences. Activities should be designed so as not to be deemed ‘competitive’ with the Centre in Galashiels; notwithstanding that the catalytic ‘originator’ role of The Prestonpans Tapestry and its community engagement objectives should always be honoured.

**3. BATTLEFIELD CONSERVATION/ MEMORIAL TABLES/ AGRICULTURE/ COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT ACT 2015**

01. That there are as yet no conclusions/ advice for the Minister

from the Reporter re InchCape’s plans for the Offshore Incoming Sub-Station close by the Forth, with an outcome expected later this month, January 2019.

02. That the Trust would continue to seek the earliest opportunity for agriculture to be resumed on the battlefield/ Zone 4 in discussions with ELC. This is now being actively explored under the provisions of the Community Empowerment Act 2015 where an ‘Expression of Interest’ has been registered for the Trust [ELC 070119 DT] to either take ownership or lease the relevant lands. To this end the advices of Nicky Donald and the DFTA Team were freely available to the Trust provided the Membership patterns of the Trust as extant or as they may be amended are deemed enable the Trust to qualify.

03. Noted that the land in question had been ploughed over Christmas/ New Year and resolved to ask for immediate authorisation to conduct a field surface search for any artefacts that might have been disturbed thereby. And that the Trust should in due course seek an archaeological survey of the battlesite to the immediate east and west of the Waggonway, and of the Waggonway itself, with particular reference to the Scheduled Monuments designations still remaining although this was not a priority at the present time - if feasible contact with NASA’s observations as recorded at St Andrew’s University should be deployed including appropriate measures of resistivity.

04. That the Trust should also enquire of Ray Montgomerie, ELC Manager responsible, what had occasioned the most welcome ploughing of the battlefield.

**4. ‘LIVING HISORY CENTRE’ DISCUSSIONS WITH HARGREAVES & JACOBITE CONTEXT OF ITS SCOPING OF ACTIVITIES**

01. That Gareth Bryn-Jones and colleagues were still awaiting the promised site visit with Iain Slater and the Charlestoun Design Team working for Hargreaves, exploring how the Trust’s Living History Centre might possibly be located at the NW corner of the new community; the Trust’s Secretary has now convened this for February 6th.

02. Discussions of ‘economic sustainability’ arising from the HLF sponsored Element [ii] Comparative Study of Battle sites, most especially the ‘putative broader context/ scoping/umbra’ that already includes The Jacobite Trail in partnership with the Scottish Battlefields Trust, The Scottish Diaspora Tapestry, The Alan Breck’s Regiment and all East Lothian’s battles, should never gainsay the benefits arising from proximity to the 1745 battlefield which is a priority.

03. That all schemes should include generous provision for temporary exhibitions and events since their income streams are major contributors to sustainability.

**5. THE JACOBITE TRAIL 2019 COLLOQUIUM**

01. That the Jacobite Trail project was continuing with the aim of convening a Colloquium of the interested parties early 2019 with a view to eliciting support for partnership along the Trail – at an appropriate venue in Edinburgh, perhaps The Storytelling Centre.

02. That Michael Taylor has agreed to assist with the scoping and

search for funding for an **International Register of Jacobite Assets**

-our *Domesday Jacobus* - as an essential element of the Trail enabling

both online exhibitions and a readily available source for physical

exhibitions across the Trail.

03. That the development of the Jacobite Trail was now a high priority

for the Trust in the light of the decision to set the **1745 Battle in its**

**Jacobite context** in the Draft Manifesto.

**6. PRESTONPANS 275th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION**

1. Noted that 2020 is the 275th anniversary of the battle, but that

will be the year SBT’s East Lothian cycle will focus at Pinkie Cleugh; accordingly resolved to explore possible ways in which Jacobite cultural aspects might be highlighted – song, literature, theatre and an exhibition in Prestonpans Town Hall preferably in partnership with ELC’s Museum Service and a possible Final Huzzah Tour of The Prince’s route to Victory in Prestonpans for the Prestonpans Tapestry before it reaches its permanent home.

1. To explore whether the Clan Chiefs and eponymous streets

initiative of 2018 might be built on howsoever via Clan Fund.

1. Agreed to postpone discussions of the framework for 2020 at the

102nd Meeting of the Trustees on February 21st 2019 within an initial budget of £2000.

**7.** **TAPESTRY EXHIBITIONS/ BATTLE BOARD WAR GAMING/**

**SCHOOL VISITS/ MOUNT FELIX**

01. Future plans for 2019 already include New Lanark Mills where dates are now agreed as March 2nd/ April 28th in the sum of £5,000 + sale or return on books and merchandise. Visitor arrangements are disappointing with staff at New Lanark declining to work with the Trust’s Sessional Staffs on activities howsoever but it is pleasing to note that Andrew Crummy will be making independent arrangements to work with the Mills which are also offering their own programme under the title: Introduction to Textiles. The Diaspora Tapestry then goes to Glasgow’s Episcopalian Cathedral during the West End Festival in June/ July for a two part exhibition with substantive on-ground support available.

03. 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.

04. School visits and occasional lectures and tour groups continue on

a regular basis with meeting with NTS in London at Crown

Court Church and in Scotland.

1. That agreement has been reached for the Mount Felix Tapestry

to be exhibited in Prestonpans in November 2019 with considerable publicity to the Friends of the Tapestries on its return to Walton-on-Thames from New Zealand. The Prestonpans tapestry was displayed in Walton during its stitching as an exemplar and presentations and support give there.

1. It is anticipated that the Prestonpans Tapestry will be exhibited at

The Garioch Centre Inverurie during 2019 alongside restoration there of the battle memorial to the Jacobite victory on December 23rd 1745.

**8. ASSET REGISTER @ DECEMBER 31st 2018**

1. That the Draft Asset Register at December 31st 2018 had been tabled and valuations at cost indicated in excess of £300,000 including the tapestries, paintings and books – final edited version to be ready for February 21st 2019 Meeting of the Trustees..
2. That these assets are not shown in the Trust’s Balance Sheet and their costs have been normally written off against trading income or met by donations-in-kind.
3. That consideration be given to publishing a 3rd Edition of the Official Guide to the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry [stocks now 700] later in 2019 and that Helen Sandilands had voluntarily already proofed and corrected the 2nd Edition which will, alongside updates already to hand, including panel’s stitched images missing in 2015 now with John Unwin, act as the basis for such 3rd Edition.
4. That Arran Johnston seek to sell the scaffolding held by the Trust at its warehouse.

**9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1. That a **replacement van for the Trust** will be available no later

than January 31st 2019, the long serving orange van having failed its MoT; Sylvia Burgess will liaise with Arran Johnston and Sharon Beck for a suitable vehicle spacious enough to carry the Diaspora Tapestry; the Alan Brecks Regiment, Scottish Battlefields Trust - and the Prestoungrange Gothenburg will continue to have access to the replacement vehicle on mutually agreed terms.

1. That an order will be placed shortly for **Colonel Stewart’s**

**Plaque** in Prestongrange Church Graveyard and that for **Colonel Gardiner installed at Tranent**.

1. That all necessary steps are now being taken led by Sharon Beck to complete Diaspora panel **US05** from Maine for which a budget of £500 has been made available; all materials including lightbox designs and wools to have been dispatched to the US by end February 2019.
2. Efforts are still in hand with Eric Roseman to restore the full

**online access to the Prestonpans Tapestry** which was lost when Raeltech replaced their main server. The PowerPoint access there is still functional.

1. That the creation of a new **East Lothian flag** will not be expected to affect the Standing Orders re-display at the Battle Bing.
2. That the **Wikipedia** site of the Trust and of its two tapestries should be kept under review and updated annually.
3. That the **paper file archives held by Gordon Prestoungrange in Milton Malsor** should be edited by Sylvia Burgess and Gordon Prestoungrange and transferred to Prestonpans in the coming months.
4. That the Alan Brecks 11th AGM held on December 8th 2018 had the largest attendance yet achieved and was once again presided over by **Colonel-in-Chief Martin Margulies** on a visit from the USA/ South Uist.

**10. DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

1. That the **102/19 Meeting** of the Trustees will be held on **Thursday February 21st 2019**
2. That the **103/19 Meeting** of the Trustees will be held on **Thursday March 21st 2019.**