

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

**MINUTES OF 110th MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES HELD ON JANUARY 16th 2020 IN THE JAMES PARK BISTRO AT THE PRESTOUNGRANGE**

 **GOTHENBURG, PRESTONPANS EH32 9BE**

**CONTRIBUTING:**

Herbert Coutts [Joint Chairman in the Chair]

Sharon Beck

Sylvia Burgess [e]

Joe Goldblatt

John Home-Robertson

Arran Johnston [e]

Gordon Prestoungrange of Lochnaw

Michael Taylor [e]

Avril Wills of Lochnaw [e]

Julian Wills of Dolphinstoun [e]

**APOLOGIES:**

Gareth Bryn-Jones

Kenneth Cameron

John Curtis

Sharon Dabell

Brett Fletcher

Pauline Jaffray

Pat O’Brien

Mathew Wills of Prestoungrange

*Apologies for absence were tendered by Arran Johnston by reason of participation in the Killiekrankie A9 Dualling Public Inquiry*

 **1. MINUTES of 109/19 Meeting** of the Trustees held on November 21st 2019, which had been circulated by the Secretary, were proposed/ seconded by Joe Goldblatt/ Sharon Beck respectively and confirmed as a correct written record.

**Minutes of the 13th AGM** held on even date were Noted.

**2. JACOBITE TRAIL**

01. That Michael Taylor had circulated his November 5th 2019 Colloquium Notes/ Recollections to all who had attended and those unable so to do but who expressed a wish to be kept informed; and that with the active encouragement of Dr Alan Hobson was championing further entries to the *Jacobite Studies Gazeteer.*

02. That steps should now be taken as follow up and notified to all concerned: [i] the creation of a website map and referencing pattern for Jacobite Scotland; [ii] that an exploratory meeting be held with VisitScotland by end March/ April to see how a scheme similar to that introduced for *Outlander* locations might be developed.

03. Agreed that in taking matters forward with VisitScotland it would be appropriate to suggest an initial consortium of sites outwith HES/ NTS although both these have indicated a longstanding willingness to be included on the proposed map. Funding might also be sought from HES itself and NLHF.

04. Agreed to explore whether a Jacobite Festival Weekend might be included in the 275th Anniversary programme during 2020/2021 not least if The Jacobite Story becomes a salient theme for the planned Living History Centre.

**3. PATHTOVICTORY1745.ORG + NLHF PROJECT ENQUIRY [2] + FUNDING**

01. Confirmed that the National Heritage Lottery Fund [NLHF] had agreed to provide 49% of the funding for the 2020/ 2021 Cultural Celebrations Programme amounting to £95,500 and that 51% matching funds were now promised so the whole programme can be advanced. NLHF specifically identified its Expected Outcomes placing particular emphasis on the development of The Friends and the Legacy of the programme as captured in the Trust’s repertoire and archives.

02. That **Taskforce 275: Path to Victory** would now take responsibility for the conduct of the programme with an immediate requirement to advertise and recruit Sessional Staffs.

03. Reaffirmed that the 2 year programme must act as the backcloth and context for the Trust’s Fund Raising efforts to create the Living History Centre since £50,000/ £91,000 of **Restricted Funds** were included in the budgets and a further £20,000 provided as underwriting against Ticket/ Merchandise Sales and EventScotland shortfall.

0.3 That all steps necessary to commence **Fund Raising** at all the 2020/ 2021 activities, readied by the second quarter of the year, must be explored, furthering the issues debated at the well received Workshop for the Trustees led by Pam Judson earlier in the day. Her Report is awaited [Appendix].

04. That Gordon Prestoungrange and Michael Jeffrey, Vice Principal **Edinburgh College, had signed a formal 3 year partnership agreement** and held extended discussion on its effective conduct. Arran Johnston is immediately liaising with Head of Business Development Jane Grant and IT Curriculum Manager Sam Blyth at Edinburgh College for a sustained programme of collaboration in the development of the Trust’s web presence and social media. Additional opportunities for partnership have also emerged in the Gaelic language and the emergent Built Environment at Blindwells. Sharon Beck has agreed that she will act as Rapporteur to the Partnership and that quarterly review meetings with engaged Faculty should be held.

05. That in order to resource the Gaelic elements of the 2020/2021 programme an application had been submitted to **Bòrd na Gàidhlig** for £5,000 focusing on bilingual signages and translations to Gaelic especially for the 10/17 year old invitations to create new poetry/ prose/ visuals of the battle story.

**4. ‘CONVERSATIONS’ WITH EAST LOTHIAN COUNCIL**

01. That notwithstanding the Trust’s conclusion that there is no MasterPlan for Prestongrange Museum and that discussions in that respect are pointless there are of course myriad areas where conversation and collaboration are appropriate.

02. In the immediate future these certainly include the 10/17 year old invitation project; the exhibition at the John Gray Exhibition and use of Gaelic for interpretation and ‘pop ups’ thereat; the possible joint development of Gaelic lessons for adults; ongoing maintenance of the Battle Bing; use of Council facilities.

03. That there is still no news of any future invitation to tender re agriculture on the battlefield for 2020 but the Trust remains committed to reapply. ELC was unable to identify where the funding from rental of the battlefield for growing Brussels sprouts has been harvested.

05. That a formal written request for Benefit in Kind support from ELC in 2020 for the Trust’s warehousing has been sent to Sharon Saunders the Head of Communities; hypothecation of the rental from the battlefield by internal accounting offset has been suggested as one source of funding for such a request and a response has been promised but none yet received.

**5. OUR LIVING HISTORY CENTRE at NW BLINDWELLS**

01. That under the terms of the existing MoU with Hargreaves all focus must now been given to locating the Living History Centre at NW Charlestoun and a meeting with Iain Slater took place on December 11th in Edinburgh with Gareth Bryn-Jones attending. Gordon Prestoungrange has since written to Iain Slater indicating that our time scales now require progress to a Right of First Refusal to locate the Centre in the Town Centre complex until December 31st 2023 and initial visuals to be created for the Fund Raising Appeal.

02. That a site meeting has now been arranged for January 30th at which such agreed next steps to ensure the location will be debated.

03. Despite the Trust’s best efforts the online consultation run by ELC for naming the new community has overwhelmingly supported retaining the name Blindwells and that has been confirmed by full Council. As previously agreed, the Trust will sustain its campaign in the anticipation that a significant area can be known as the Charlestoun Quartier.

04. That contact will be maintained with EventScotland’s Regional Director Neil Christison who met with the Trustees viewing the battlefield and Living History Centre locations from the Battle Bing as plans evolve.

05. That is now the overarching goal of the Trust to create such a Centre telling **The Jacobite Story – *and the especial role of the Battle of Prestonpans in September 1745***

**6. TASKFORCE 275: Path to Victory 1745**

1. That the 1st Meeting of the Takforce would be held

In Peterborough on January 27th to recover quickly from the delay occasioned by the Killiekrankie Public Inquiry and to agree timescales.

1. The specifics to be managed by the Taskforce of the 2020/ 2021

programme being co-ordinated across the 2 year project to mark 275th anniversary of the battle, 300th birthday of Charles Edward, and 10th anniversary of The Prestonpans Tapestry – are as follows:

• Nationwide project for **10-17 year olds** to create in English, Scots or

Gaelic poetry, prose or visual art, increasing relatability of heritage and encouraging young audiences to contribute to its legacy. Resulting in exhibitions and publication.

• Development of **Friends** support network with Edinburgh College, recruiting and training new volunteers and guides, with a rejuvenated online presence which is visitor-focused and makes both battlefield and activities more accessible.

• Renovated travelling exhibition of **The Prestonpans Tapestry**, reaching at least 4 relevant communities across Scotland.

• **“Prestonpans 275” Exhibition at John Gray Centre**, exploring changing landscape and cultural interpretation of the heritage; bringing a unique collection together through new partnerships with loaning collections; supported by workshops and related events.

• **Songs of War:** community theatrical/musical/poetic performances highlighting works relating to the heritage in English, Scots and Gaelic, creating alternative entry points for interest in the history.

• **275th Anniversary events** reaching diverse audiences: concert, costumed battlefield walks for both local schools and general public, historian’s conference with Helion publishing, new exhibition panels on the clans and regiments.

• The **‘Legacy’** plan harnesses momentum through 2021, creating sustainable networks and resources.

1. That Sylvia Burgess and Gordon Prestoungrange are exploring

how the Clan Chiefs and eponymous streets initiative of 2009 Homecoming then 2018 Memorial Tables Dedication might be

built on with support inter alia via **VisitScotland’s Clans and Historic Figures Fund** from which £5,000 has been granted; and at the same time to brief all and update membership of the Committee of High Patronage.

1. That SBT Publisher Helion Books has now confirmed its

**Jacobite Conference** will be convened in Prestonpans on September 20th 2020 at the Prestoungrange Gothenburg.

1. That a **Gaelic Song/ Poetry Cultural Event** is being

evaluated possibly in Glenfinnan format in partnership with Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

**7.** **TAPESTRY EXHIBITIONS/ SCHOOL VISITS/ MOUNT**

 **FELIX/ US 05/ AOB**

01. That the Diaspora Tapestry is now contracted and scheduled for **Dundee’s Verdant Works June 13th - September 12th 2020** and enquiries received from **Angus/ Abroath** and from the **Migration Centre in London** for limited panel displays.

02. That several Prestonpans **Interpretation BattleBoards** require

restoration and that plans for this are proceeding initially with the

board opposite the Memorial Tables on the Waggonway.

03. That **School visits and occasional lectures** and tour groups

continue on a regular basis with plans in 2020 to train and induct further Guides.

04. That a fully booked out **Nocturnal Battlefield Walk** took place on November 28th under the auspices of the Saltire Festival.

05. Confirmed that the **Mount Felix Tapestry** will be delivered to Prestonpans on January 28th and plans for its exhibition and collaboration with the local Kiwi community at the Gothenburg are proceeding including the opportunity to display the **Scottish Diaspora’s New Zealand panels.**

 06. That feedback from the USA indicates that it will be best if the

 **US05** panel is now returned to Scotland for completion here.

 currently and a further revised completion date of April 2020 has been

 targeted by John Mann so that the image can be included in the 3rd

 Edition of the Official Guide now due Spring 2020.

07. The **Alan Brecks** held their AGM and Annual Dinner on December 14th but regrettably Colonel in Chief Martin Margulies was indisposed and therefore unable to attend for the first time since his appointment.

**8. DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

01. That the first meeting of **Taskforce 275** will take place in Peterborough on January 27th 2020.

02. That the Trustees will meet with Iain Slater, MD **Hargreaves** [Blindwells] Limited at the NW Corner of Blindwells at 2.30pm on Thursday January 30th 2020.

03. The **111/20 Meeting** of the Trustees will take place on **Thursday 20th February 2020** **from 6pm** at The Prestoungrange Gothenburg.

04. That the **Mount Felix Tapestry** from Walton on Thames will be exhibited in the Thomas Nelson Suite from Monday February 24th / Thursday March 12th 2020. Local Kiwis and Friends of the Tapestries will be invited to a Viewing Night and selected NZ Diaspora panels might also be displayed.

05. That the **112/20 Meeting** of the Trustees will take place on **Thursday 12th March 2020 from 6pm** at the Prestoungrange Gothenburg.

**APPENDIX: Proposal for Pam Judson re Funding Appeal**

Battle of Prestonpans Trustees have approved the following remit for you.  We will contract after 11 December 2019 when we should have stronger clarity on a potential site for the Battlefield Visitor's Centre.

Here is the remit that is required:

1.  You would be appointed as a fundraising consultant and expected to review the web site and all of the links below,

2.  You would conduct a one day fundraising workshop for the trustees and others,

3.  From the inputs you receive at the workshop you would prepare a detailed fundraising plan as well as a role and scope, salary and benefits for a position holder in a senior fundraising role to begin as soon as possible, and

4.  You would help the Trust recruit 3- 5 qualified candidates - applicants for the role and participate with the trustees in the interviews to help us select the best person to hold the position.

The Trustees have allocated £5000 for your fee to be payable in two instalments.  50% shall be paid upon acceptance of your proposal - agreement and 50% shall be paid at the completion of the work identified above.

Our time frame would be for you to be contracted (if we have agreement on the site) in mid December 2019 and then conduct your secondary research (review of our links below and the programme attached) and then conduct your workshop in January 2020 and by the end of February 2020 present to us your recommendations for the final interview candidates and participate in the interviews.