

Musselburgh Conservation Society
Minutes of the 278th meeting held on 21st January 2019
Executive Committee Meeting
Planning & Correspondence Secretary's home, 8A Hope Place.

Present: Alan Armour (Chairman & Treasurer), Alan Stevens (Planning & Correspondence), Gavin McDowall (Membership & Trips), Barry Turner, Andrew Coulson (Minutes), Bryon Liddle.

1). Apologies for Absence.

There were no apologies.

2). Minutes of the Last Meeting.

The Minute of the 277th meeting was approved as a correct record. Proposed, Membership & Trips Secretary, seconded Planning & Correspondence Secretary.

3). Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising that were not otherwise on the Agenda.

4). Treasurer's Report.

A copy of the latest financial position of the Society was distributed to the members present and the Treasurer detailed the payments made and asked for the following cheques (nos. 1 – 5 below) to be countersigned:-

OUTGOINGS

- 1) Refund to the Treasurer of balance of wine at December lecture £29.92
- 2) Refund to the Treasurer of cost of projector screen £223.21
- 3) Refund to the Treasurer of cost of fees for lecturers at December lecture - £60. (£30 was paid in cash to Conor Price but the payment of £30 to Gail Donald was made to the Royal Blind Asylum at her request).
- 4) Refund to the Treasurer of cost of lectern £53.99
- 5) Payment to Alison Butler to cover cost of renewing the web page £124.55
- 6) Payment to Church for hall rent balance 2018 £75
- 7) Public Liability Insurance £208.38

INCOME

Refund by the Treasurer for returned screen (unsuitable) £104.39
Subscriptions, donations and visitors fees since last committee meeting £334.00
Teas £5.43

5). Membership Report.

GMcD reported that 98 people had now renewed their membership, and that this represented a small reduction in the total numbers. Attendance at the monthly meetings, however, remained at a very high level, nearing the comfortable capacity of the hall.

6). Planning Matters.

Applications.

18/01187/P: Ship Inn, 184 North High Street. Erection of public house, restaurant 15 flats & associated works. This involves the complete demolition & removal of the existing Ship Inn. The Committee strongly regretted the loss of a historic and iconic

building, which marks the western entry to the Burgh. The style of building is in marked contrast to its surroundings, and the increased height is at variance with the other buildings on the southern side of the High Street. It is regrettable that the Ship Inn itself is not subject to any kind of planning protection. The Planning & Correspondence Secretary agreed to draft an objection to the proposal making these points, and raising the issue of the Landscape policy in the East Lothian local plan. The Committee made no comment on the following applications:

18/01273/LBC & 18/01274/P: 2 Windsor Gardens. Replacement windows. Timber sash & case.

18/01228/P: 2 Ashgrove View. Formation of dormer windows.

18/01158/LBC & 18/01159/LBC: 8 Albert Terrace. Replacement windows, timber sash & case replacing uPVC. E-mail sent supporting this application. The application has been approved.

18/01156/LBC: 176 North High Street. Alteration & extension to building inc. ramps at front.

18/01299/P: 34/36 Carberry Road. Erection of porch. This is on front elevation & of a "rustic" character.

18/01405/P: Musselburgh Racecourse. Raising of ground level, erection of fencing. The site of this is at Loretto corner.

18/01371/P: Flats 1-8, 21 North High Street (former Co-op store building).

Replacement windows. Timber sash & case replicating existing style & patterns.

Other News

17/00721/PPM: Goshen farm site. Revised master plan submitted. This site is not included for housing development in the new Local Plan & should not be considered as sufficient land for the housing development required by the Government has already been included in the new Local Plan.

7). Speakers for the 2019 – 2020 session.

The Chairman reported he had contacted Pauline Jaffray of East Lothian Life magazine and she is happy to do a short talk on the magazine. She would also bring back numbers which can be purchased by members on the night for a small sum. The Chairman has had no luck by e-mail with the Gullane and Dirleton History Society despite making contact three times and sending them a copy of our 2017-18 syllabus of lectures. He noted they had started their latest series of lectures from an advert in the Musselburgh Courier. However, he has since contacted by telephone their membership secretary who is happy to help with a couple of names. He does have the names of two other likely lecturers as mentioned previously but was waiting until February to make contact as it would be lectures for 2020. Any help from the committee for other contacts would be greatly appreciated. GMcD passed across a leaflet on a recent archaeology conference with names which might be suitable. To recap the Chairman has lectures organised as shown below.

Lecturers organised are:

10th October – AGM - Pauline Jaffray – a talk on "East Lothian Life" magazine

14th November – L. Bruce Keith - "Bridgescapes" – A Personal Journey through Scotland's Bridge Building Heritage

12th December – John Pelan – "Why Archives Matter"

8). Renewal of Interpretative Boards.

Barry Turner reported that Irene Tait, Community Council Chair, had confirmed that the work had now been completed, and that she hopes that the boards will be re-installed shortly..

9). NEW EQUIPMENT.

The Chairman reported that the new screen had been taken down to the church hall last week but as of today, no action had been taken to have it fitted. The lectern had been delivered to the Chairman today and he would take it down to the church hall and put it together. As regards the projector and any equipment needed to affix it to the ceiling, this was in the hands of the church. It was likely the cost of the projector would be outwith our total budget (£800) but any additional cost would be paid for by the church. The church wants the projector to do more than we need hence the agreement they would pay the extra.

10) Update on replacement plaque for the Mall clock.

The Minute Secretary said that as far as he was aware, this project was now in the hands of the Community Council. Barry Turner undertook to discuss the matter with Irene Tait.

11). Correspondence.

The Scottish Civic Trust Annual Report was tabled. It was agreed to renew the Society's annual membership.

12). Coach outing to the V&A Dundee.

The Membership & Trips Secretary said that 41 people had now put their names down, provisionally, for the trip. If 51 members take part, the transport cost will be £10/head.

13). Lecture meeting, 14 February.

It was confirmed that the speaker will be the East Lothian Ranger, David Wild, on the subject of 'Bats'.

15). Date and Place of Next Meeting.

The next committee meeting will take place at the Chairman's home, 8 Carberry Close, on 4 March, 2019.