

**Musselburgh Conservation Society**  
**Minutes of the 259<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**

*Present:* Andrew Coulson, (Chair), Alan Stevens, Janette Bonthron, Barry Turner, Gavin McDowall, Jackie Wilkins, Stephen Edwards, Alan Armour, Alison Butler.

AC took the Chair and welcomed Alan Armour to the Committee.

*1). Apologies for Absence.*

George Kinnaird.

*2). Minutes of the Last Meeting.*

The Minute of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016 was approved as a correct record of the meeting.

*3). Matters Arising.*

None.

*4). Treasurer's Report.*

AS reported in GK's absence. The current bank balance stood at £3214.27. This did not include public liability insurance premium of £191.68 that has just been paid, or £40 that had been taken at the last lecture meeting. A receipt for the cheque for £30 donation to the RNLI (via Dave Berry) has been received.

*5). Membership Report.*

G McD stated that the paid up membership currently stood at 105.

*6). Planning Matters.*

*Goshen.* AS reported that a new planning application for the Goshen development was to be submitted. A Proposal of Application Notice had been lodged by Ashfield Commercial Properties. The date of this is not yet announced. The plans apparently will cover a smaller area in the west part of the site, reducing the house numbers by 50%. This will allow them to claim separation from Prestonpans. Discussion followed on the PAN consultation process & who should be notified. AS will contact the Council to ascertain the date of the proposed Goshen consultation.

*Proposed Local Development Plan.* BT has submitted the Society's formal response to the consultation process. A report from the Council is expected in the New Year. There will be a new administration after the local elections in May which may result in changes.

*Strategic Development Plan.* BT also reported that he has submitted the Society's representations on the SES Plan along the lines of his paper circulated to Committee Members. The Plan envisages that no more major developments will be required in the Musselburgh area as it would be at full capacity. Any new development would have to be further east in the County.

*Mrs Foreman's. 16/00466/P:* AS reported that permission had now been granted for the alterations to the existing building & one large house in the rear garden. It was noted that the central sash & case window on the first floor front elevation has been replaced by a single sheet of glass which is completely out of character with the existing building. Also the front door has been changed. AS will query this with the planning department.

*Edinburgh Local Development Plan.* AS reported that this has now been adopted by the City of Edinburgh Council. The implications for Musselburgh are that it will now be joined to Edinburgh at Brunstane, losing the last vestige of open country between the City & Musselburgh.

*Dog grooming shop North High Street. (Former picture framers).* Query raised re. Security shutters & whether planning consent had been sought. AS will check.

*7). Publicity including website.*

AB reported that the Committee Minutes had been put on the web. Also notice of the lectures was being put onto "Twitter".

*8). Design Award 2016.*

It was agreed that there were few contenders for the award this year. The only new building of note was the new house on the Edinburgh Road. This could be carried over to next year.

*9). Arts & Heritage Volunteering Group.*

AB & JW are heading this up & a meeting had been held with the convener of this group of 5-600 students from the University of Edinburgh. The Group's aim is to help students find volunteering opportunities in the arts & heritage fields which will enhance their CVs. They are interested for example in heritage walks, the AHSS casework, visits to historic environments & so on. AB had supplied them with information on the Musselburgh Town Trail boards as a first step in possibly aiding with their refurbishment. Other projects that could involve them were sitting in at our Committee meetings, the Schools Photo competition & volunteering at the Museum. Contact will be resumed in the New Year.

*10). Town Trail Information Boards.*

BT will talk to Stuart Baxter re. whether the refurbishment of the boards is a priority with the Area Partnership & if funding could be possible. AS commented that Paul Lambie should be consulted fully as the originator of the trail. It could be a suitable project for the involvement of the Arts & Heritage Volunteering Group. (See Item 9).

*11). Schools Photographic Competition.*

No further progress to report. This needs a champion to head the project.

*12). Proposed Meeting with HADAS & George Kerevan MP & Colin Beattie MSP.*

This has been arranged by HADAS for January 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 10 am at the Brunton Hall. Its purpose to talk to our local politicians about the need for changes in the planning system that our joint group is promoting. BT & AS would attend & an agenda is required. A pre-meeting would also be desirable with HADAS to make sure that we have a unified approach. It was suggested by AC that giving evidence to the Parliamentary Committee would be the best way of putting our view forward.

*13). Correspondence.*

No other correspondence.

*14). A.O.B.*

JW commented that the Farmers' Market had been very successful & it was agreed that she would e-mail Stuart Baxter in support.

AC put forward Daniel MacCannell (The Historical detective Agency, based at West Lodge, Levenhall) as a possible speaker for next season. AC will contact him.

AB also put forward two ideas: Mrs Rosemary Gold about Inveresk House Nursing Home & "Gas Masks & Lipstick"! She will follow these up.

Members of the Committee are talking to the Women's Fellowship on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017, about the aims & work of the Society.

*15). D.O.N.M.*

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017; 7.30PM at Andrew Coulson's house: 12 Eskside West  
0131 665 3779**