

Musselburgh Conservation Society
Minutes of the 268th Executive Committee Meeting held on 27th November 2017

Present: Alan Armour (Chair), Alan Stevens, Gavin McDowall, George Kinnaird, Barry Turner, Andrew Coulson,

1). Apologies for Absence.

There were apologies for absence from Janette Bonthron and Jackie Wilkins. BT noted with regret that illness prevented the attendance of Stephen Edwards.

2). Minutes of the Last Meeting.

Following correction of a typographical error, the Minute of the 267th meeting held on 30th October 2017 was approved as a correct record: proposed AS, seconded BT.

3). Matters Arising.

Item 3). AA had enquired about the cost of renting a meeting room in The Hollies, in case St Peter's Church Hall became unavailable, and now reported that the charge would be £20. He noted that the room available in the Hollies is somewhat smaller than at St Peter's Church Hall.

4). Treasurer's Report.

GK said that, though the donation income was reduced, the total income at this stage was larger than the final total in the previous year. The shift between subscription and donation income was the anticipated outcome of the increased subscription, and represented a shift also to a more secure income. Expected significant payments before the end of the year include annual public liability insurance, and the Design Award plaque.

AS reported briefly on the day conference of the Scottish Civic Trust, on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the SCT. The Committee agreed to continue the annual payment (donation) of £30 to the Trust.

5). Membership Report.

G McD reported that, to date, 100 members had rejoined. Membership was well maintained, but was not in vigorous growth. There was a particular dearth of younger new members.

6). 2017 Design Award. AS undertook to photograph the candidate buildings:

Sheltered flats adjacent to the Tesco store
Extension to Pinkie St Peter's Primary School
House on the beach in Edinburgh Road
Levenhall Village Store
Bus Stop in the High Street
Play area in Lewisvale park.

Prints would be mounted on display boards, so that voting could take place at the meeting of 14 December. AA undertook to procure a supply of mince pies for this meeting.

AS will order the presentation plaque. He will also take photographs of the candidate buildings, and liaise with Stephen Edwards about the display. The judging will be done at the December lecture.

7) Speakers for next year

AA reported that he had arranged dates for 3 speakers for the 2018/19 season: Rosemary Gold, on 'the Gold family', David Wild on 'Bats' and John Hunter on 'Restoring a Scottish Tower House'. BT reported that he was making enquiries from a number of potential speakers, on topics including the local flood risks, the 'Garden Cities' legacy of Ebenezer Howard, 'Place making', and Conservation Areas. He offered to give a short talk himself, for the AGM meeting, on 'Surprising Dubai'.

8) Correspondence. AS reported that he had agreed that the Society would take part in the annual Heritage Forum, organised in 2018 by the Dunbar History Society, in the Dunbar Town House.

9) Planning Matters

17/01024/CAC The Committee noted that the Inveresk Village Society had commented extensively on this proposal, which involved changes to the walls of a property on the corner of Delta Place and Smeaton Grove. The Committee decided to make no further representations.

17/00877/P Application by the Ravelston House Hotel for extension of the porch, and for outdoor decking and fencing. AS would write to object on the Society's behalf to the use of wood for these extensions, alongside the masonry of the rest of the construction.

17/00977/P Application for a flat-roofed extension to a house in Mansfield Road, off Inveresk Road. The Committee decided to make no objection.

'PAN' consultation for the renewed and revised plan for a care village in Inveresk, by 'Richmond Villages'. Members of the Society had been invited to a presentation in the Ravelston House Hotel, on Wed 29 November (between 3 and 7 pm). Public presentation/consultation on Thursday.

10) AOCB.

1) AA reported that the Society's web page was now up to date, but that Google continued to indicate an out-of-date page for the Lecture Programme.

2) GMcD reported that, following consultation with the membership, he was preparing plans for a visit to Dumfries House on Sunday 3 June, at a probable cost of £24 a head.

3) AC undertook to make arrangements with Eric Glendinning, the speaker at the meeting of 11 January, about his audio-visual requirements.

4) GK proposed that members of the Committee should be asked to prepare presentations which could be presented in the event of the absence of a scheduled speaker.

11). D.O.N.M.

Monday 22nd January 2018; 7.30PM at a venue to be arranged (homes of GK or AS).