

Musselburgh Conservation Society
Minutes of the 276th meeting held on 29th October 2018
Executive Committee Meeting
The Chairman's home, 6 Carberry Close.

Present: Alan Armour (Chairman & Treasurer), George Kinnaird, 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 275th meeting was approved as a correct record. Proposed GK, seconded AA.

3). Matters Arising.

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

4). Review of the AGM.

The Chairman reported that there had been a very good attendance at the meeting, and that Barry Turner's talk on Dubai had been warmly received. He regretted that nobody had signed up to make the tea for the next lecture meeting of the Society, because the speaker, Rosemary Gold, expected to discuss her talk 'over a cup of tea'. He was glad to say that June Herraghty had agreed to make the tea on this occasion, with assistance from Alan Stevens.

5). Treasurer's Report.

AA distributed a copy of the Income and Expenditure account to the committee. He explained that he had received the petty cash of £106.16 from GK and banked this. He felt that petty cash was an unnecessary burden and could be dispensed with. He advised that income was received from GMcD for subscriptions and donations and further deposits would be made as received. On the expenditure side he explained that items 1-4 had been paid out of personal funds and asked that the cheques written out be signed by the appropriate signatories. Similarly a cheque for GK would reimburse him for expenses paid out in person to GMcD and GK himself for his golf club gift. As the next lecture was due on the 8th November, AA asked for a further cheque to be signed for £30 as he would pay cash to Rosemary Gold from his own funds on the night. AA also explained that the balance at the end was monies available to be withdrawn after the cheques signed were presented and not what was actually in the bank at the moment. The bank refused to impart the latest balance to him when he called there to deposit the petty cash as he was not recognised as a signatory. It was indicated to him that only signatures to the form were required and there was no need to be present at the bank to do this. These forms would be sent to the named treasurer GK. He finished by saying he hoped to present a similar Income and Expenditure account each meeting.

6). Membership Report.

GMcD reported that 75 people had now renewed their membership, and that he had passed £414 to the Treasurer, representing membership fees, donations and guest attendances. The renewal position was very similar to what obtained at the corresponding date last year, and several prominent members of the Committee were yet to renew.

He also reported that planning was in hand for the Society's visit to the new V&A museum in Dundee on Sunday, 2nd June 2019. He had approached a number of bus companies for quotations. It would not be practicable to include catering: members would be obliged to make their own arrangements. 6 people had already signed up for the trip.

7). Planning Matters.

BT reported that the Local Plan had now been formally adopted by East Lothian Council: Haddington & District Amenity Society has invited BT to a meeting to discuss aspects of the plan and their implications.

AS reported a number of planning applications:

- Drive-through coffee bar at the Fisherrow Shell Garage
- Detailed plans for the former Edenhall Hospital site
- Application to make an opening in a listed wall at Stoneyhill Farm House

- Application to install a semi-permanent marquee at Carberry Tower
- Application for conversion to a basement shop in Bridge Street

BT said that the appeal against refusal for the application to convert The Quayside to a care home was still with a Reporter.

He had this day received the Report on the consultation on refurbishment and development of the Old Town Hall. He would report on this to the Committee when has fully considered it.

8). Speakers for the 2019 – 2020 session.

Members of the Committee proposed a substantial number of potential speakers for the next Session. The Chairman undertook to contact the suggested speakers, with a view to completing planning of topics for the 2019 – 2020 season.

9). Renewal of Interpretative Boards.

BT confirmed that completion of this project was now in the hands of the Community Council and Eastern Outdoor Display. BT will contact Irene Tait, Community Council Chair, regarding progress.

10) New equipment – Church and Storage.

AC reported that he was looking to discuss with St Peter's Church the possible installation or conversion of a suitable lockable cupboard for the storage of MCS audio-visual equipment. GK said that provision of insurance was essential if expensive equipment was to be stored there.

11). Replacement plaque at the Mall Clock (formerly Hayweights).

AC said that progress with this project was now in the hands of the Community Council. BT will pursue the issue with Irene Tait.

12). Change to Cheque signatories.

After discussion, the Committee agreed that the Chairman should become a cheque signatory, that AC and AS should continue in that role, and that GK would cease to be a signatory. The Chairman would discuss with the bank how to expeditiously complete these arrangements.

13). Correspondence.

A letter giving details of future activities of the Architectural History Society of Scotland was circulated.

14). Any Other Business.

It was confirmed that there were no worthy candidates for the Design Award this year, and that no award will be made.

15). Date and Place of Next Meeting.

The next committee meeting will take place at the Chairman's home, 8 Carberry Close, on November 26th.

AFS 13/9/18