

Musselburgh Conservation Society
Minutes of the 275th meeting held on 10th September 2018
Executive Committee Meeting
The Chairman's home, 6 Carberry Close.

Present: Alan Armour (Chair), Lord Cameron (Patron), George Kinnaird (Treasurer), Alan Stevens, Janette Bonthron, Gavin McDowall, Barry Turner,

1). Apologies for Absence.

Andrew Coulson, Jackie Wilkins.

2). Minutes of the Last Meeting.

The Minute of the 274th meeting held on 25th June 2018 was approved as a correct record. Proposed JB, seconded BT.

3). Matters Arising.

Item 2); The Quay. BT confirmed that the developer had now lodged an appeal to the Scottish Ministers against refusal of planning permission. The objecting organisations had put in further submissions & the decision of the Reporter is now awaited. The appellant is likely to put up a vigorous case especially as the planning officers had found in favour of granting permission, & is claiming costs from the Council describing the decision as unreasonable. BT has written a letter refuting their claim that the objectors did not represent the wider community. He has also written to Colin Beattie MSP.

Item 9): Eskmills Fire Engine House. BT had received a reply to his queries on this building from Paul Zochowski. It is not listed nor in the Conservation Area. It is owned by ELC & is becoming a dangerous structure. It is also in a flood risk area. He expressed the view that it would be good to see it restored & a new use found for it & has contacted the Estates Department. No decisions have been taken so far as there may be implications from the flood protection scheme which is currently being designed.

Item 10 (ii): Old Town hall. BT reported that the Council's analysis of the report commissioned by the steering group has still not been received. Representations will be made to Stuart Baxter (Area Partnership) & Clr. Williamson.

Item 10 (iii): Racecourse Wall. Still no movement on this. The racecourse & the Council are disputing ownership. JB offered to speak to Bill Farnsworth again.

4). Treasurer's Report.

Draft Accounts were tabled & GK reported that the accounts still had some items outstanding & that the profit as shown in red would be reduced by at least £100 due to outstanding invoices, mainly from the hire of the church hall. The increase in the subscription has meant a drop in donations but the overall effect was still an increase in income. The summer trip had made a surplus of over £100 much to Gavin's credit. The bank balance stood at £2911.42 & there was £4.45 in the Green Belt account which still remained open. GK will contact the Auditor, Ben Wood who will audit the accounts before the AGM. GK confirmed that he will be attending the AGM.

5). Design Award.

It was agreed that there were no contenders this year & that the award would be held over until next year.

6). Audio Visual Equipment.

Taken with item 10.

7). East Lothian Archaeology Fortnight Walks- 7 Bridges of Musselburgh & Pinkie House/ Loretto Chapel.

AS reported a successful tour of the |Bridges with 11 very interested participants. GMcD had been unable to take the Pinkie tour due to ill health but William Durran had stepped in & lead a very successful tour of around 20 participants. The Chairman will write & thank him for this.

8). Hayweights Canopy, replacement of plaque.

AC had sent a rewording of the inscription to include a tribute to Stephen Edwards, who had campaigned so hard to preserve the roof canopy & clock. After discussion centred around shortening the wording to make the plaque less large, the following was suggested:

THE HAYWEIGHTS CLOCK

PRESENTED TO MUSSELBURGH AND FISHERROW BY MR ADAM BLACK W.S. IN 1909

THE CLOCK WITH ITS CASING WAS ORIGINALLY LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF BRIDGE STREET AND NORTH HIGH STREET ON TOP OF THE OLD HAY WEIGH HOUSE, WHICH WAS BUILT IN THE 1880'S AND DEMOLISHED IN THE LATE 1960'S WHEN THE BRUNTON HALL WAS BUILT.

THE CASING INCLUDING A REPLACEMENT CLOCK WAS RESTORED ON THE PRESENT SITE WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF TESCO STORES LTD., EAST LOTHIAN COUNCIL AND MUSSELBURGH CONSERVATION SOCIETY.

THIS PLAQUE WAS REFURBISHED IN 2018 TO COMMEMORATE THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO THE CONSERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE TOWN OF MUSSELBURGH AND THE VILLAGE OF INVERESK, OVER MANY YEARS, BY
STEPHEN EDWARDS 1938 – 2017.

This wording could be incorporated onto a board similar to the one on the McBeth Moir monument by Eastern Exhibition & Display. AC will pass this on to the Community Council.

9). *Planning Matters.*

18/00685/P: Alterations to building to form 1 house & associated works. Land to the rear of 17-18 Carlyle Place. *AS had sent an objection to the use of uPVC windows in the Conservation Area.*

18/00850/P, 18/00851/LBC: Alterations to house, installation of flue, formation of pedestrian access erection of gate & heightening of boundary wall. *Alteration at the rear involves cutting down existing window to form French door onto garden. No comment.*

18/00759/LBC, 18/00760/P: 71 Millhill. Alterations to domestic building. *Pantiles replaced by slate roof with conservation rooflights & enlargement of windows. This is a domestic outbuilding to the rear of Millhill-no comment.*

18/00857/P: 10 Carberry Road, Inveresk. Extension to flat, erection of screen to existing 1st floor terrace. *The IVS are objecting to this proposal. Objection on grounds of detriment to Conservation Area, use of uPVC windows & glass & stainless steel balustrade. There is also a perceived overlooking problem.*

18/00205/P: Alterations & change of use of Quayside to care home. *The appellant had now gone to appeal. BT has written a letter refuting the opinions of the appellant as expressed in an article in the Musselburgh Courier belittling the objectors do not represent the wider community.*

10) *The Future of the Society.*

The Chairman stated that he was determined that the Society should continue. There were three outstanding issues: Equipment, officials and venue.

He has asked AC to investigate a new screen projector and PA system. The present equipment is extremely heavy & there is no storage in the refurbished hall.

The Chairman stated that he would propose himself as Treasurer as no other candidate had come forward. He had experience in accounting & had been church treasurer for many years. The proposal was backed by the Committee (Proposer GK, seconded by BT). Signatures would have to be arranged at the Bank in due course. Regarding new Committee members AA will ask members personally at the AGM. Diana Mellings will be approached by GK. Volunteers were also required to run the teas/coffees at the close of meetings.

11). *Arrangements for AGM.*

Papers required: Agenda, Minutes of 2017 AGM, Statement of Accounts, Chairman's Report – AA will give this personally. Lord Cameron will also say a few words. Wine will be served at the end of the meeting (GK).

12) *Correspondence.*

ELC: Notification of appeal by Simply Musselburgh Care Ltd. For the Quay proposals.

12). *AOCB*

None.

13). *DONM*

Monday 29th October.