

Musselburgh Conservation Society
Minutes of the 281st meeting held on 26th August 2019
Executive Committee Meeting
George Kinnaird's home, 75 Millhill.

1). Present.

Alan Armour (Chair & Treasurer), Alan Stevens (Planning & Correspondence), Gavin McDowall (Membership & Trips), George Kinnaird, Bryon Liddle, Barry Turner.

2). Apologies for Absence.

Andrew Coulson.

3). Minutes of the Last Meeting.

The Minute of the 280th meeting held on 8th May 2019 was approved as a correct record. Proposed, Bryon Liddle, seconded Gavin McDowall.

4). Matters Arising.

None that are not on the Agenda.

5). Treasurer's Report.

AMA tabled draft annual accounts for the year for the year ending August 2019. (attached at the end of these minutes). He reported that he had submitted these to Ben Woods for audit. They showed a small deficit of £5.54 due to major one off expenditure on A.V. equipment. This will be somewhat offset by a rent free period for the hire of the church hall as the church will also be benefitting from our investment. It was noted that although income from subscriptions was down slightly, donations & fees from visitors had risen from that of the previous year.

Post Meeting Note: Ben Wood has advised that the petty cash amount should be taken out of the accounts as it is not income. This amends the accounts to record a deficit of £111.70 for the year.

6). Membership Report.

GMcD informed the meeting that the final number of Members for the current year was 106. It was suggested that a greater effort be made to attract new members, perhaps by delivering flyers to some of the new housing areas around the town. Committee members could each take an area to be responsible for.

7). Planning Report.

AS reported that the following applications have been examined:

19/00473/PCL: Alterations to AI at QMU junction Newcraighall.

19/00526/PP: Erection of 14 new flats, 8-14 South Street.. *Site of De Rollo icecream factory.*

19/00320/P: Erection of community tennis pavilion, toilet block & associated works, Lewisvale Park.

19/00798/P: Alterations & extension to building, 184 North High Street (the Ship Inn). *This appears to be an alternative strategy to the former application to demolish & rebuild with flats over.*

19/00685/P: Alterations to blocks 2 & 3 to form 46 flats as changes to application 16/01029/AMM, Mall Avenue.

19/00637/ADV: Display of advertisements, Newfield (Loretto Nursery). *4 signs on or in the grounds. Objection to the colour, bright red, & number of signs which detracts from the character of the Conservation Area.*

BL raised a query on what was happening at the Shell garage regarding the proposed coffee shop. The grass had been left to grow & the site left unkempt. It is unclear who owns the site.

8). New Syllabus

AS reported that the membership cards & programme for the new session were at the printers & would be ready within the week. AA said that next year each committee member would be given a date to fill with a speaker. This would have to be co-ordinated overall so as to achieve a balanced programme. A talk on allotments by Jenny Mollison was suggested.

9). *Summer Outing.*

GMcD reported that 47 members had paid but that 3 members had cancelled at the last minute. As a result the Society had only paid out for 45 V & A charges. It was decided that no refunds would be given. Some ideas for next year were discussed including Stirling Castle & Argyll's Lodging, Abbotsford, & Glasgow Transport Museum.

10). *East Lothian Archaeology & History Fortnight 2019.*

GMcD is leading a tour around Pinkie House & chapel on Sunday 15th September. The Pinkie Cleugh battlefield walk & annual commemoration is on Tuesday September 10th.

11). *Musselburgh Communities Day.*

To be held on 21st September in the Brunton Hall, 11am to 3pm. AS has reserved a table but cannot attend. BT, AA & G McD will be able to go. AS will arrange to hand display boards to G McD.

The Heritage Gathering is to be held on 7th September at Kirk Stables Main Street Aberlady, 9.30 – 12.30 with an optional tour of the church at 12.30..Neither AS nor AA would be able to attend. G.McD will attend.

12). *New Plaque for Mall Clock.*

No further progress to report on this. Eastern Design are apparently awaiting the money to come through from the Community Council, AMA will phone again.

13). *Correspondence.*

AS had written to ELC about the current state of the former" Stand " public house. He had received a standard acknowledgement but no action seems to have been taken. He will write again.

14). *Plaque Award 2019.*

Contenders this year include the Shell sculpture on Edinburgh Road, The Archer sculpture at the Mall, the refurbished fish restaurant "East Coast" on North High Street, the refurbished flats at Inveresk Bowling Club, refurbished house on North High Street, the new housing estate off Pinkie Road. AS will take photos for the vote at the December meeting..

15). *Annual General Meeting.*

To be held on 10th October at 7.30 pm in the Church Hall. G McD will send out the official notice of the meeting. Committee members coming up for re-election are AS, AC & BL. Confirmation that they will stand again with a proposer & seconder is required. New committee members are urgently required otherwise the Society will have to close when the current members retire.

AA will provide copies of the accounts & notify Lord Cameron of the date.

16). *AOCB*

No further business.

17). *DONM*

Tuesday 1st October at Alan Armour's house, 6 Carberry Close Inveresk.

AFS 31/08/2019