

## **MUSSELBURGH CONSERVATION SOCIETY**

### **COLLATION OF VARIOUS E-MAILS IN CONNECTION WITH THE AGENDA FOR THE CANCELLED COMMITTEE MEETING 30<sup>TH</sup> March 2020**

- 1) Minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> February. These were distributed, with amendment, by AC to all members and were agreed. Proposed by AMA and seconded by AS.
- 2) AMA wrote to Finlay Lockie to advise him the March meeting has been cancelled and the committee would not be meeting face-to-face again until, probably, late September, early October 2020.
- 3) The Treasurer (AMA) circulated a draft account to all members. This showed an income from all sources of £992 and expenditure of £1088.95. There would little further expenditure other than £30 to the Abbotsford Trust as agreed.
- 4) The membership numbers remain at 86 and there is no likelihood of any more. Thanks go to GMcD for his efforts at encouraging lapsed members to join. The decision was taken to cancel the Summer outing. Any cheques would either be retained and uncashed or destroyed as requested.
- 5) The work on planning applications would be continued by AS and he made reference to the care village at Kirk Park – 20/00108PM (59 care bedrooms plus 171 residential properties, communal facilities etc.) Any other planning applications that require attention would be circulated round the committee by e-mail for discussion.
- 6) Participation in ELAF-2020. AS & AC would lead the walk round the bridges of Musselburgh in August/September. BT offered a tour round Inveresk. GMcD suggested a tour of Pinkie house and this has been arranged with the school for Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September but will be subject to the coronavirus situation, being indoors.
- 7) The April Lecture has been cancelled (see 3 above). AMA would write to Abbotsford House sending the cheque and suggesting we might be considered for a lecture on Sir Walter Scott in the future. Similarly, AMA wrote to Lord Cameron advising what was happening and spoke of the presentation. To date there have been two suggestions, one, to go to the house sooner rather than later and two, to wait until October when members of the Society would be present. Open to other suggestions.
- 8) The list of 2020-2021 lectures was circulated and AMA now has contact information for October – February. March will be the FYC presentation and AC has received confirmation of a lecture on Archaeology for April. There is plenty of time before printing but perhaps, there is a need to tidy the titles.
- 9) AC reported on the Heritage gathering on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March. There were talks from about 10 groups. It was agreed by those present to hold the gathering every two years due

to a downturn in numbers and the Society put itself forward as hosts for 2022. This was accepted with alacrity.

10) Correspondence - None

11) AS reported on the Flood Defence System proposals and they appeared to be pretty severe and would require careful landscaping to mitigate any damage to the environment and the Conservation Area. Many trees along the river will have to be removed and the impact is likely to be great. It is on this aspect that we should concentrate and where we can be of the greatest effectiveness.

12) The Design Award plaque has been spoken about again with Stuart Baxter. It is suggested it be placed on one of the small pillars by the sea wall – one with a black plastic bag covering it. AS suggested the sea wall facing the mussel but not certain how it might be affixed.

13) It was agreed the Committee members would keep in regular contact by e-mail as required with the hope that the Annual General Meeting in October would be possible.

14) AC requested the Committee agree to the Battlefield Walk (11.00am on 10<sup>th</sup> September, from the Roman Bridge to reach the Commemoration Stone in time for the OMC ceremony at 1.00pm) should be listed in the EL History and Archaeology fortnight programme, as bring under the aegis of MCS. This would mean that, like the two other MCS events in the programme, the walk would have Public Liability Insurance and this would save East Lothian Council having to arrange cover. Provided none of the Committee finds a problem with this, then it should be acceptable.

15) There were no other matters and it was suggested actions by the Committee should be put on the web page to keep members informed.