

**Musselburgh Conservation Society**  
**Minutes of the 292<sup>nd</sup> Executive Committee Meeting**  
**held on**  
**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021, at 7:30 pm**  
**by**  
**'Zoom'**

*1). Present.*

Alan Armour (Chair & Treasurer), Alan Stevens (Planning & Correspondence), Gavin McDowall (Membership & Trips), Andrew Coulson (Minute Secretary), Barry Turner (Planning).

In response to a general invitation from the Committee, a number of members of the Society also attended the meeting. The Committee greatly valued their contributions to discussion.

*2). Apologies for Absence.*

No apologies had been received.

*3). Minutes of zoomed meeting, 26 January 2021.*

The acceptance of the circulated Minutes was proposed by Alan Armour and seconded by Alan Stevens, and carried without a vote.

*4). Matters Arising*

– *Queen Mary's Mount.* Andrew Coulson reported that he had not heard of any further developments.

– *McDonald's Restaurant Appeal.* Barry Turner said that he had been told that the decision date in this case had been postponed. The new date has not yet been announced.

*5). Treasurer's Report*

The Treasurer presented a written report, which is attached to these Minutes.

*6). Planning Report.*

*17/00520/P.* Reactivation of planning permission for changes to a road and creation of access to business park, beside the city bypass/A1 junction at Monktonhall.

*21/00294/P* Alterations to a house in Beach Lane, including modification of an external door into a window. The Committee had no comment.

*21/00158/ADV* Display of advertisements at 8 Newbigging: to become a framing shop and art gallery.

*21/00267/P* Application to erect market stalls in Newhailes Stables courtyard, for up to 30 days in each year.

*20/01376/P* Application for change of design to 144 flats on the former Tesco site.

*7). Membership Report.*

Gavin McDowall reported that there were now 86 members of the Society.

*8). Correspondence.*

There had been a request from the Scottish Civic Trust for contributions to their newsletter.

*9). Speakers for the 2021/2022 season.*

A list of potential speakers for the next season was discussed. The Chairman agreed to make contact with them in the suggested order.

*10). 2020 Design award.*

The Chairman reported that he had been assured by ELC that the design award plaque for 2020 would be securely installed in the middle of the baseplate of the Archer. The plaque is now being manufactured.

*11). Love Musselburgh Community.*

Andrew Coulson reported on email correspondence with Melanie Roccio, the founder of 'Love Musselburgh Community', a community interest company that focuses on making improvements in the town 'to make it cleaner and greener'. Amongst their projects have been painting and maintaining picnic tables on Fisherrow links, and a new project to turn the derelict telephone box on Eskside West into a flowering plant display.

The Committee congratulated 'Love Musselburgh' on the community value of their completed and continuing projects, and agreed to offer a contribution of £25 towards the costs of the phone box conversion.

The Committee discussed how the two groups could work together most effectively, and Andrew Coulson agreed to ask Melanie whether she, or another member of her group, would be willing to be co-opted to the Committee of the Conservation Society.

*12). Look-See-Musselburgh.*

Andrew Coulson reported that an invitation to participate in this project had been circulated by email to the membership. He had begun to receive and collect contributions, and would make a short presentation based on these, at the lecture meeting on 8 April.

*13). Musselburgh Flood Defences Scheme.*

The Chairman reported that he continued to seek information for members about the development of this plan, from Conor Price, the director of the project.

*14). Committee membership, and roles.*

The Chairman reminded the Committee that it was essential to the continued existence of the Conservation Society, that a new Chairman, and a new Treasurer should take office at the next AGM.

The roles of Committee members were discussed with the members present, and Cam Symes was co-opted to the Committee. The Chairman warmly welcomed her to this role.

*15). Date of Next Meeting..*

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee would take place online (using the 'Zoom' framework) on Monday, 31 May, starting at 7:30 pm.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT TO COMMITTEE 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2021**

There has been little change from my last report with not a great deal to add. The balance on hand at the bank as at 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 stood at £3265.00. There are two outstanding cheques totalling £60 and this is caused by the recipients not being able to visit their banks for various reasons. There was a kind gesture from our last speaker David Banks who donated his fee to the continue the good work of the Society. This has been applied as a contribution towards the cost of the 2020 Design Award Plaque which has risen sharply to £172.80 from £131.98. As Leander Architectural has the mould, there is not a lot we can do about it. There are no unforeseeable expenses, but should we return to normal operation in the future, we will have to think once more about insurance cover. Finally, I have started arrangements to allow me to access the account online which will make it easier for myself and those that follow to check transactions and the balance.