

## **Musselburgh Conservation Society**

### **Minutes of the 296<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting**

**on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7.30pm**

**At the Home of Camelia Symes**

**Attendance:** A.M. Armour (Chair & Treasurer); A. Stevens (Planning); G. McDowall (Membership Secretary); A. Coulson (Minute Secretary), Camelia Symes; G. Kinnaird; G. Cunningham (Press Officer); Melanie Roccio.

**Apologies:** B. Turner (Planning & Speakers), due to illness: AMA expressed the Committee's hopes for a swift recovery.

**Minutes of Meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021:** It was agreed the minutes represented a true record of the meeting and were duly proposed by GK, and seconded by GC.

**Matters Arising but not discussed below:** None

**Correspondence:** AS reported correspondence from John Riddell, the Lothians contact for the Milestone Society, that described historical milestones near Drummohr East Lodge, and on Carberry Road. The Drummohr stone is now entirely hidden by undergrowth. AS agreed to approach Andrew Robertson, East Lothian Archaeology and Heritage Officer, for information and discussion about responsibility for these monuments.

AMA reported that the Design Award plaque had not yet been affixed to the Musselburgh Archer installation.

An invoice for printing services from Skyline had been passed to the Treasurer for payment.

**Treasurer's Report:** AMA reported that auditing of the annual accounts had been unavoidably delayed by family illness, but would be completed within the week. Four further payments were to be made in this accounting year, and (because of the imminent change of personnel) cheques were signed and countersigned by AC and AS for £14.69 (Zoom fee), £70 (to St Peter's Episcopal church: 2 months hall rental), £208.68 (to Kennan & Pennykid: renewal of public liability insurance) and an open cheque for use at Majestic wine (Christmas meeting, and auditor's gratuity). AC, AS and CS also signed forms to replace AMA as signatory by CS.. AMA reported that the Virgin Money branch in Musselburgh would close on 20 January 2022, and CS confirmed that she would use remote access for future banking operations. AMA agreed to print 50 copies of the agenda, minutes of the preceding AGM, and annual accounts for distribution at the AGM.

**AGM Venue and Arrangements:** Members of the Committee expressed disquiet about whether the size of the Church Hall would allow for adequate social distancing, if there is a good turnout of members. In turn, these concerns might have the effect of reducing attendance. AMA undertook to review these arrangements, and the possible use of the Church itself as the venue, with the church's Geoff Mason. This review would be completed in time to give sufficient notice to members of the agreed arrangements.

## **Planning Report:**

AS reported consideration and actions taken or proposed for 12 Planning Applications:

21/00836/LBC: 10 Balcarres Road. Replacement of aluminium windows by uPVC. *Opportunity should be taken to timber sash & case windows in this listed building. Objection submitted.*

21/00886/P:23A & 23/1 Bridge Street. Replacement of windows with timber sash and case to front: uPVC to rear. *No action.*

21/01200//LBC: 9, Albert Terrace. Replacement windows – timber sash & case. *No action.*

21/01208/P: 43A Pinkie Road: Alterations & change of use of garage to pet crematorium.

21/01162/P: 43AA Pinkie Road. Heightening roof of workshop, by approx 1.5m.

21/01207/P: 11 Eskside East: Alterations and extension to house.

21/01172/P: Fisherrow Service Station. Change of use of landscaped area to form hardstanding area with car wash bays. *Possible objection on the grounds of loss of green space: the Committee decided not to object.*

21/0117/P 4, Ashgrove. Erection of house. *The site is very narrow, and the house generally of poor design. Objection on the grounds of over development.*

21/01149/P & 21/01150/LBC: Manor House Lodge, Inveresk Village Road. Internal & external alterations to building, etc. *No objection.*

21/00971/ADV & 21/00972/LBC: 88 North High Street. *Change of use of shop to tattoo parlour, with large scale, vivid, decoration. The Committee considered the decoration scheme, and decided to make no objection.*

21/01076/LBC & 21/00972/LBC: 128 – 130 High Street. Alterations to shopfront, display of advertisements. *TSB Bank new logos.*

21/01233/P: 127 High Street. Alteration to shop front. *New front windows and door to café.*

**Fire House:** Correspondence from Councillor Katie Mackie and Paul Zochowski (ELC Principal Planner) indicated that it might be possible to support the renovation and refurbishment of this historic building, provided a viable long-term user – for example a Community Interest Company – could be found for it. The Committee voted by a clear majority to try to take this project further.

## **Any Other Business:**

The Committee considered and agreed a draft news release about Camelia Symes as the new Chairman of the Society, prepared by GC.

MR reported that Musselburgh Business Partnership was now taking responsibility for maintenance of planters in the High Street.

AS suggested that four schemes should be considered for the 2022 Design Award: Ship Inn bistro development – Stables at Newhailes House – ‘Rough Wooing’ sculpture in Battlefield Drive – Care Home conversion at Fisherrow Harbour. The Committee agreed this list of nominees.

AS proposed the transfer of further volumes of the Society’s archive to the John Gray Centre, and the Committee agreed.

MR reported that Musselburgh Area Partnership expected to hold a Communities Day in September 2022

GK reported that a 'Microsoft Teams' meeting had been arranged for consultation of Eskside residents with the Musselburgh Flood Protection Scheme planners.

MR reported progress on the project to install a mural in the High Street pend leading to the Burgh Primary School. Following a competition, the artist and subject had been selected, and the owner of the pend would donate the cost of the planning application.

**Date of Next Meeting:** The Committee agreed to meet again on Tuesday, 9 November, and gratefully accepted CS's offer of her home as the venue again.