

Meeting of the Stonehaven Tolbooth Association
Wednesday 8th December 2021
Tolbooth Museum
Agenda

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Minutes of previous meeting
 - a) acceptance
 - b) matters arising
- 4 Chair's report
- 5 Treasurer's report
- 6 Secretary's report
- 7 CAT and Grants - update
- 8 Events report
- 9 Collections report
- 10 Curator's report
- 11 Shop report
- 12 Clock Tower report
- 13 AOCB
- 14 Future date

Minutes

Present. Cressida Coates (CC), Andrew Newton (AN), Dennis Collie (DC), Douglas Cusine (DCu), Ian Balgowan (IB), Liz Ritchie (LR), Mary Sutcliffe (MS), Gordon Ritchie (GR)

1 Welcome. CC welcomed the trustees and IB took the opportunity to inform the committee that Jim Bruce is making a good recovery from his bout of ill health and will be discharged from hospital on Saturday.

Apologies. Louise Coates (LC), Graham McIntosh (GM), Jim Bruce (JB), Clare Thomas (CT),

3 Minutes of previous meetings.

- a) **Acceptance.** The previous minutes of 17th November were accepted
- b) **Matters arising.**

Action Point	Person	Action
Provide plan of Stonehaven circa 1800	GR	Gordon can provide a map of 1823 Although DCu pointed out that the house, and street, have been demolished
Liaise with MS over the supply of an artificial tree.	IB	7ft tree purchased
Circulate poster to all volunteers	CC	Done
Contact GR and re-schedule proposed meeting date.	CC	Done
Contact David Fleming	CC	Christmas gathering arranged for 21 st December
Contact David May	IB	Model of 'Superb' now on display in North room

4 Chair's report (CC)

CC has received an email from one of the recipients of the *Stanehyve* magazine requesting whether a colleague could be added to the mailing list. The committee are happy to agree to any additional circulation requests.

Dawn Black, of Stonehaven Business Association, has requested that she addresses the next trustee meeting in regard to a proposed 'Stonehaven Festival'. CC to respond.

CC has received a request from Sandy Inglis of Inverbervie Probus Club asking whether the museum could provide a speaker for their meeting on 5th April. The committee decided to pass the request to Clare Thomas for her input.

Action Points.

CC to invite Dawn Black to the January trustee meeting.

CT to consider request from Inverbervie Probus Club.

5 Treasurer's report (DC)

DC provided the committee with a summary of financial activity from 18th November to 8th December.

Income

Digital Sales	150.56
Shop Sales	87.95
Barrel Donations	102.33
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	£340.84

Expenditure

Christmas tree	79.99
Donation boxes	12.90
This Little Piggy	1000.00
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	£1092.89

6 Secretary's report (AN)

A virtual meeting was held with a consultant employed by Museum Galleries Scotland (MGS) to gauge the success of the latter's last grant. Nothing of any significance to report. However, MGS are considering setting up local networks of independent museums. AN expressed disquiet over this suggestion as it may require STA to have a paid employee if we were to join such a network.

The annual OSCR report has been submitted and accepted.

7 CAT and Grants (GR)

A meeting with Aberdeenshire Council (AC) was scheduled for 26th November but just prior to that date STA submitted a formal CAT application. The Council wished to have time to examine the application so the meeting has been deferred until 15th December.

GR has asked McLeod and Aitken if they could produce a building report for the Tolbooth but was informed that they do not undertake such work. AN will provide GR with a report from the Scottish Lime Centre Trust

Action Point

AN to supply report to GR

8 Events report (LR/MS)

The only forthcoming event is 'Christmas at the Courtyard' which is scheduled for 1430 hrs on 18th December. The Christmas tree was been bought and DC and MS will liaise with Bill Emslie regarding lighting. They agreed to meet at 1100 hrs in order to ensure that the courtyard is prepared for the event. GR stated that additional lighting could be provided by Michael Ritchie. The Red Red Robin will provide a suitable Santa outfit and it is believed that the Old Pier Café is now going to donate the whole day's takings to the two chosen charities.

MS will contact Mearns FM.

9 Collection Report

***** (GR Text)

Notes of Collection Group Meeting 3 Dec 2021
Present- Cressida, Gordon, Douglas, Clare, Liz.

WEST ROOM

Move Baptism painting and panel from entrance as causing blockage.
Possibly to west wall where Burns display located. Replace with painting/large photo.
Relocate OS map and Town maps beside entrance door.
New panels on history of Dunnottar Castle and history of Tolbooth building.
Relocate Burns display. Location not yet identified.
New panel on Jail cell with more info and better location to read.

NORTH ROOM

Fossil-caption and info missing?
Add new Beach book to display.
Education display- add new blue panels behind with improved displays. New panel on history of Stonehaven Schools. Replace old newspaper cuttings. GR has Fetteresso School dux boards.
Metal detector display. Find new way of displaying items with better signage.
Central long display cabinet. Look at sorting items into themes.
Ships. Relocate more to new top shelf with more labels.
Old Computer. Thought not to be working. Look at replacing with new computer based display possibly touchscreen? Show new photo collection? Look at options and grants available?

EAST ROOM

Central display cabinet with linen and clothing above. Raise height of rail to make it easier to see display cabinet with labels for clothing.

ACTIONS

New Panels- Dunnottar Castle, History of Tolbooth, Jail Cell, Stonehaven Schools.
New display-metal detector items.
Replace Computer.

LC has identified the location of the fossil caption and CC will pass to GR. LR agreed to source and price new display equipment.

GR also reported on progress with the Photo archive. With assistance from DCu new captions have been created. Val from Sharper Images has reprinted the former Heritage photos and GR has mounted them all in standard A4 size for display. So far we have around 200, divided into categories Beach, Fisher Folk, Harbour, Market Square, and Around Stonehaven. GR has a further 120 prints still to sort with captions.

Val also provided a stick with all photos and new captions; presumably this can be used to update the archive on the Website and for a new computer display in the Museum.

Wendy Rudd (Friends of the Pool) has approached GR with a request for a copy of the Open Air Swimming Pool poster. The cost of making a copy is £55, accordingly GR will discuss with Wendy whether a FOP can make a contribution to this cost.

Action Point

LR to source and price display equipment.

GR to contact Wendy Rudd re poster

10 Curator's report (LC)

LC has been in contact with National Museums Scotland and signed up for the Natural Science Collections Across Scotland project.

11 Shop report (LR)

There has been a delay in receiving supplies of the new style Tea Towels but should be received soon.

The shop is promoting the suite of information books relating to Stonehaven, e.g. Street Names, Shops, Fire Balls History.

Sandy Cheyne is offering cards bearing a painting of Stonehaven and this offer is under consideration.

12 Clock Tower report (AN)

Storm Arwen caused a window to blow out in the Tower and AN has been unable to inform the Council as STA's designated contact has apparently left the Council without informing STA or providing an alternative contact. DCu reported that the Fire Balls Association has made a temporary repair.

13 AOCB.

Santa & Mrs Claus. Santa arrives courtesy of the RNLI on Saturday 1200 hrs at the harbour and CC and IB will open the museum at 1130 in the hope of catching some passing trade.

Website. AN reported that the website has crashed and needs to be re-written. Hopefully it will be up again by the end of December.

TLP video. The short promotional video has now been circulated. It was praised for being of the correct length, clever and breath taking. The contact details at the end need to be edited and some trustees found the film a little dark on smart phones. DCu will discuss with Conor of Picture Cell but otherwise the committee was very happy with the video.

Sales Sheet. DC made yet another plea for volunteers to provide all the relevant information on the Daily Sales Sheet, especially the footfall. CC to remind volunteers

Stanehyve Magazine. GR and LR will produce a shorter version of the magazine in time for Christmas.

Hogmanay. DCu intimated that the annual Fire Balls ceremony will occur this year, albeit with a restricted attendance. Given that details on the restrictions that are bound to be put in place are not yet in the public domain it was decided not to open the museum during the evening. However, it was agreed that the museum should open for the Nippy Dip on the 1st. Opening hours will be 1130 to 1330.

Action Points.

DCu to contact Conor of Picture Cell

CC to remind volunteers to complete Sales Sheet

13 Date of future meeting

19th January in the museum.

Andrew Newton

11th December 2021

Stonehaven Tolbooth Association (Tolbooth Museum)

A Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SC043279)

Summary of Action Points

Action Point	Person
Invite Dawn Black to the January trustee meeting	CC
Consider request from Inverbervie Probus Club.	CT
Supply report to GR	AN
Source and price display equipment	LR
Contact Wendy Rudd re poster	GR
Contact Conor of Picture Cell	DCu
Remind volunteers to complete Sales Sheet	CC