

Meeting of the Stonehaven Tolbooth Association
Wednesday 23rd February 2022
Virtual Meeting
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 thanked LR for organising a virtual meeting at short notice due to the inclement weather.

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

3 Minutes of previous meetings.

a) Acceptance. The previous minutes of 19th January were accepted

b) Matters arising.

Action Point	Person	Action
Consider request from Inverbervie Probus Club	CT	CC is trying to find the original email from David Fleming and will forward to CT.
Source and price display equipment	LR	See under Collections

Action Points

CC to send email to CT

4 Chair's report (CC)

Sadly CC had to report the demise of Russell, the husband of Freda Adams who is one of our volunteers. Flowers have been sent to Freda.

Covid-19 restrictions will be relaxed further on 21st March with the withdrawal of mandatory mask wearing and Track and Trace. Accordingly CC suggested that STA should continue with weekend opening only until April when we should experiment with a Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday opening; this will allow us to gauge the level of commitment from our volunteers. The committee concurred.

The loose slates on the roof have again been reported to FES but the feedback is that there is an ongoing job card to inspect the roof and perhaps replace the complete roof. CC believes that this is less than satisfactory as loose slates are a danger to the public and will continue to chase the complaint. GR doubted whether the roof needs replacing and a report due imminently from Squire Associates will provide clarity.

5 Treasurer's report (DC)

Because the museum was not open in January there is no report.

CC questioned whether card payments were received during December and DC confirmed that payments were received from Goodbox. Other trustees also expressed disquiet on the operation of the card reader. It was agreed to monitor the situation.

6 Secretary's report (AN)

Another request for genealogical information has been received but the committee agreed that the museum was not in a position to fulfil such requests – AN will create a response template which will outline alternative sources to future inquirers.

STA have received an email from Museum Galleries Scotland (MGS) outlining a further £2M fund to aid heritage organisations to rebuild after covid-19. The committee suggested purchasing a high quality marquee and an image display unit in the museum for the re-digitised photographs. AN will contact MGS.

Action Points.

AN to create genealogical information template

AN to contact MGS

7 CAT and Grants (GR)

The response to the Council's queries on the proposed CAT was submitted in the last week of January and we now await validation of the request.

GR met with Keith Moir of Squire Associates on 10th February and now awaits the building condition report. The original cost of the report was £750 but VAT may have to be added.

8 Events report (LR/MS/CT)

Consideration is now being given for an Easter event although there is nothing definite at the moment.

In the longer term there will be a series of events during the summer and the Guild of Weavers and the Corn Dolly lady are keen to return. Another participant could be the Men's Shed Doric Choir. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee will be celebrated and CC will organise the bunting.

STA recently received a request from Neil Young of the Wee Gaitherin which proposed that STA fronted funding applications for his organisation; the committee did not feel that they had the resources to undertake this work and reluctantly turned down the request although the Gaitherin is welcome to a return visit to the Courtyard.

CC intimated that another wedding has been booked for Friday 15th July – the groom is a grandson of the late George Strang.

The museum will also act as ‘backstop’ for a wedding by a Canadian couple who are booked for the Castle (this is weather dependent).

Action Points

CC to purchase bunting.

CT to respond to Neil Young – (CC will respond if considered more appropriate)

9 Collection Report

From LR – referred from Action Point in section 3.

LR has identified ‘stick-on’ material which could help to magnify material in the Detectorist cabinet but is unsure of its practicality. A better solution could be to angle the cabinet and LR is considering approaching the Men’s Shed for help.

LR has also discovered display containers manufactured from old fishing nets by a company called ‘Ocean Plastics’; these seem an ideal solution for displaying material in the cabinet and as a by-product is environmentally friendly. LR to order product.

Work is still progressing on the newly digitalised images – 30 new captions have been created with 120 still to write.

The Dunnottar Castle panel will be reviewed and more information provided.

Action Point

LR to order products from Ocean Plastics.

10 Curator’s report (LC)

LC is now in communication with the organisation undertaking the Digital Collection Survey.

11 Shop report (LR)

10 ceramic mugs have now been ordered from Inkbottle Design and these have two new images of the Tolbooth on the outside and a red interior. Some fridge magnets have also been ordered from the same company.

LR is keen to promote locally produced products and open to all suggestions.

12 Clock Tower report (AN)

Nothing to report

13 AOCB.

Videos. The question was raised over the fate of the individual videos commissioned by STA. DCu reported that they are owned by STA and available on the PictureCell Productions website. It would be useful to attach QR codes to these videos and DCu will contact Conor for guidance.

Entrance. IB reported that visitors studying the map at the entrance are creating a blockage. It was acknowledged that this is a problem and consideration will be given to a new location but there is no obvious solution.

Stanehyve Magazine. Publication is due for the end of March.

Action Point

DCu to discuss QR codes with Conor.

13 Date of future meeting

30th March. DCu gives his apologies.

Andrew Newton

2nd March 2022

Stonehaven Tolbooth Association (Tolbooth Museum)

A Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SC043279)

Summary of Action Points

Action Point	Person
Send email to CT	CC
Create genealogical information template	AN
Contact MGS	AN
Purchase bunting	CC
Respond to Neil Young	CT/CC?
Order products from Ocean Plastics.	LR
Discuss QR codes with Conor	DCu