

**Meeting of the Stonehaven Tolbooth Association (STA)**  
**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024**  
**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), Liz Ritchie (LR), Andrew Newton (AN), Lindsay Petrie (LP), Ian Balgowan (IB), Mary Sutcliffe (MS), Clare Thomas (CT), Dennis Collie (DC),

**1 Welcome.**

CC welcomed the Trustees to the July 2024 meeting.

**2 Apologies.** Douglas Cusine (DCu), Louise Coates (LC), Gordon Ritchie (GR),

**3 Minutes of previous meetings.**

a) **Acceptance.** The previous minutes of 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024 were accepted.

b) **Matters arising.**

**Summary of Action Points**

Summary of Action Points	Person	Report
Arrange repair meeting with Tim Stephen	CC	Scheduled for 15 <sup>th</sup> August
Contact Owner of Ship's bell	IB	Owner has been away but IB now arranged to meet next week
Tolbooth sign for Bervie Braes.	IB	IB has sign and will approach Men's Shed about a backing board and fittings.
Hoovering Clock Tower		IB has cleaned premises

**Action Points**

**IB** to meet owner of ship's bell

**IB** to pursue new sign for Bervie Braes

#### **4 Chair's report (CC)**

Autumn Pinto has submitted her report and will be discussed at the August monthly meeting

John Trudgill has been in contact and offered to donate a display of locally sourced agates and accompanying text on their formation. Committee agreed to accept the donation with the proviso that the text will be reviewed by STA's curator.

The museum has been expecting a visit from Hugh Morell in order to drop off a memory stick containing a UoA video relating to the Highland Fault. LR and CC will 'chase'.

#### **Action Point**

LR/CC to contact Hugh Morell

#### **5 Treasurer's report (DC)**

Report on financial activity from 1<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> June

<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
Cash Sales	363.50	Display material	£468.99
E Sales & Donations	467.10	Admin	17.93
Barrel donations	724.46	Legion Booking	70.00
Donation	10.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>£556.92</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1565.06</b>		

#### **6 Secretary's report (AN)**

Both the record player and external speaker failed but have been overhauled/re-wired and working again.

AN announced that he had resigned as a trustee of KDP. This created a problem as this resignation means that he can no longer be Chair of NESFLAG (administrators of Coastal Community Challenge Fund). NESFLAG wish to retain AN's input and suggested that a workable solution was to invite STA to become a member of NESFLAG. As there is no financial or other resource implications the committee agreed to make a membership application.

The Harbour Festival is scheduled for Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August.

The fairly newly acquired Sumup reader has been replaced under warranty as the battery was not holding its charge. One theory is that the reader was constantly on charge and may have damaged the battery – the reader is now on a timer which only charges 1230 – 1630 every day.

Sumup are our new card providers and they have to make extensive checks concerning STA as demanded by anti-money laundering regulations. Most of the required information has been provided but have now requested the full names and dates of birth of all trustees. AN to compile.

#### **Action Point.**

AN to compile trustee information for Sumup.

#### **7 CAT and Grants**

- 1) In the absence of GR there was only a brief discussion concerning the CAT and the list of repairs proposed by Aberdeenshire Council. The list of repairs is confusing as STA has been provided with two lists with different priorities and repairs. It was agreed that a STA meeting would be held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> August to agree a united front, for both the CAT and repairs, to be presented to the Council on 15<sup>th</sup> August.

- 2) The funding is in place for paving the Inner Courtyard (just waiting for a letter of comfort from Aberdeenshire Council). The planning permission stated that the slabs to be used were to be Indian sandstone supplied by a local company. In the last 3/4 weeks a Dundee company has offered to supply Angus sandstone at a matched price. In the interest of fairness DC, together with our preferred contractor and our architect, visited the Dundee quarry and viewed the product. All were impressed with the quality of the stone but aesthetically there were concerns over the limitations in dimensions and appearance. In addition it has transpired that STA would have to apply to Historic Environment Scotland for a match price grant. We have discussed this with our funders (CCCF) and they have concerns over a possible breach of UK subsidy regulations (government grants cannot be used to benefit one supplier to the exclusion of all others). CCCF advice is to remain with the chosen Indian sandstone. This was discussed at tonight's meeting and the majority decided to act on CCCF advice. However, LP raised the possible use of child labour in the production of the Indian sandstone and voted for the Angus sandstone.

## **8. Events report (CT/MS)**

Unfortunately Jack MacPherson is in hospital and was unable to hold his July concert.

### *Forthcoming events:*

7<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> August – creative workshops for 5 – 8 year old children. Run by Natalie and will involve painting driftwood etc. The cost to STA will be £30 per session

17<sup>th</sup> August – Lace making and Netmaking/repairing

25<sup>th</sup> August – Mackerel smoking with Wes Lewis. Additional volunteers required

### *Potential events:*

Mearns Singers

Pauline Cordiner – story telling around Halloween time. Whilst Pauline is more expensive the committee believed that community benefit outweighed the financial cost.

Amy Brown's husband has offered to run an art class in late August. However, he does not have PVG clearance and whilst he would run the workshop for no fee, he hoped that STA would contribute to the cost of the PVG certificate. A discussion was held on the validity of the certificate and DC volunteer to investigate further.

## **Action Point**

DC to investigate PVG certificate

## **9 Collection Report (GR)**

In GR's absence there is no report.

## **10 Curator's report (LP/LC)**

Work in this area has stalled as LP has been working closely with Autumn Pinto, our MLitt student from UoA who has been reviewing aspects of the museum collection over the summer. Autumn's report will be discussed at the August meeting.

LC will be in Stonehaven next week and LP and LC will discuss the asset register.

## **11 Shop report (LR)**

Some stocks are getting low and LR will re-order baby bibs, shot glasses, sea salt and pin badges. LR has also commissioned a new order of museum tote bags

The Stonehaven Art Club is currently holding an exhibition in the Town Hall which LR has visited. Liz wonders if some of the card paintings could be used within the museum shop. LR to investigate further.

### **Action Point**

**LR** to explore opportunities to collaborate with Stonehaven Art Club members.

### **12 Clock Tower report (AN)**

Looking good after the cleaning. Nothing else to report

### **13 AOCB.**

DC raised two points.

*Sweetie Shop.* Previously Philippa Roberts had donated a large number of items relating to the Mathieson Sweetie Shop; currently these records are stored in a number of boxes at the museum and in DC's, LR's and CC's households. A more rigorous examination of the donated artefacts is required. By coincidence the local library is currently holding a display of the poetic works by the late Daniel Mathieson – brother of Isobel Mathieson (last owner of the sweetie shop). LR was very impressed with the display which will shortly be going on a tour; she wondered if there was an opportunity to get the museum involved in Daniel's work.

*Madge Mackie.* Madge, with advice from DC, is writing her memories of growing up in the Old Town. So far the memories cover 48 pages and Madge would like STA to publish the final version. The committee agreed that DC should investigate funding possibilities.

### **Action Points.**

**DC** to seek funding for Madge Mackie book

### **14 Date of next meetings**

**Monthly** - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

**AGM** – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

**Andrew Newton**

**1<sup>st</sup> August 2024**

**Secretary**

**Stonehaven Tolbooth Association (Tolbooth Museum)**

**A Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SC043279)**

### **Summary of Action Points**

<b>Summary of Action Points</b>	<b>Person</b>
Contact owner of ship's bell	<b>IB</b>
Pursue new sign for Bervie Braes	<b>IB</b>
Contact Hugh Morell	<b>CC/LR</b>
Compile trustee information for Sumup	<b>AN</b>
Investigate PVG certificate	<b>DC</b>
Explore opportunities to collaborate with Stonehaven Art Club members.	<b>LR</b>
Seek funding for Madge Mackie book	<b>DC</b>