

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND

MINUTES OF MEETING 18 JUNE 2005

CRINAN HOTEL, ARGYLL

Present: Liz Burns (Chair)
Peter Burman
Neil Galbraith
Mark Hopton
Martin Hulse
Ian Johnson
Eleanor McAllister
Charles McKean
Clare Meredith
Ross Noble
Andrew Wright
Malcolm Bangor-Jones (Secretary)

In attendance: Sheenagh Adams, Director of Heritage Policy, Historic Scotland
Susan Williamson, Head of Heritage Policy, Historic Scotland

Apologies

1. Apologies were received from Finlay Lockie.

Minutes of the meeting of 18 March 2005

2. The minutes of the meeting were approved.

Matters arising

Historic Scotland Corporate Plan

HEACS(05)10

3. Council considered the revised draft of the Historic Scotland Corporate Plan. The intention of Historic Scotland to produce a new series of policy documents was noted. Historic Scotland would present a paper to HEACS on the subject in due course. The agency intended to carry out a public consultation on each of the proposed documents. It was suggested that the agency should consider including reference to generic issues such as sustainability, learning and training, or working with communities, in all reports as appropriate.

4. It was pointed out that the stonemason training facility at Elgin and Fort George also served the wider Scottish public, not just Historic Scotland. The Fellows and Interns Programme was welcomed. It was suggested that support should have been expressed for the new Institute of Conservation. It was noted that the list of TANs did not identify gaps, such as research into the conservation of mass concrete structures. How were new topics to be identified? While it was recognised that excellent technical guidance was produced, Historic Scotland did not produce equivalent cultural work: there was no work on Cultural Conservation, Research and Education as oppose to

TCRE. It was felt that Section 8, Supporting other policies of the SE, should include reference to participation and active citizenship. The section as a whole was felt to require further development. A number of detailed comments were also made. It was hoped that Council's visit to Longmore House would include a presentation by the agency's Education staff.

Budget

HEACS(05)11

5. Council noted the budget paper. Historic Scotland would consider requests for additional funds if required.

CAP Reform

6. Council noted the Historic Scotland paper outlining recent developments on CAP Reform.

HHA Dinner at Turcan Connell

7. Council noted a report by the Earl of Dalkeith on a dinner hosted by the HHA which had been attended by the Chair and Andrew Wright. Historic Scotland reported that, following a meeting the HHA had with the Minister, a Heritage Summit was planned to be held in the autumn which the Minister was likely to host.

Annual Report 2004-05

HEACS(05)12

8. Council considered its draft Annual Report for 2004-05. Council discussed the manner in which organisations and guests should be recorded. The draft report would be further considered by the Chair's Group.

Review of HEACS and Agenda Building

9. Council considered whether it should review its progress during its first term, set about identifying its strengths and weaknesses, and also consider the setting of its agenda for the second term of three years. It was noted that Council would be subject to the normal Quinquennial review process in due course. It was also noted that the re-appointments process was likely to take six months. It was agreed that Council should hold a special review and agenda setting meeting on Monday 21 November in Glasgow. The Chair's Group would draw up an outline programme.

Conference and Public Meeting

10. Council noted a report on progress for the Conference and Public Meeting. The Chair's Group would give further consideration to the agenda for the Public Meeting.

Working Group reports

Legislation Working Group

HEACS(05)13

11. Council noted the reports of the meetings of the Group including the well-attended seminar organised jointly with BEFS to consider a paper by Terry Levinthal, *Heritage Legislation in Scotland: a case for change?* While the paper represented a personal view, it reflected issues which had been covered by the Working Group in its deliberations. A considerable majority of those attending the seminar had been in favour of significant change to the legislation. The Working Group would be reflecting on the seminar and would also be considering other issues such as deliverability and the role of local authorities. It would be looking to Historic Scotland and the Scottish Executive for guidance on the legislative timetable. Council noted the suggestion of a political steer. Council recorded its gratitude to Terry Levinthal, BEFS and Members of the Working Group.

Audit Working Group

HEACS(05)14

12. Council welcomed the Minister's letter announcing a heritage audit. Historic Scotland reported that the work on the heritage audit would be funded out of the agency's allocation. Council noted that it would be involved as part of the Stakeholder Group.

Local Authorities Working Group

HEACS(05)15

13. Council noted the reports of the meetings of the Group. The Group was coming to the end of consulting with interested parties. It was clear that difficulties were being experienced in taking Community Planning forward, let alone involving the Historic Environment. The Planning system as a whole was under-resourced: the Group was waiting to see whether the Planning White Paper would address this and other issues. It was also important that the Group was aware of changes which were being introduced in England in the way the Historic Environment was managed.

Materials and Skills Working Group

14. It was reported that the Working Group's draft report had been given to the Secretary to take forward. It was intended that a draft report would be submitted to the next Council meeting. Council noted the position.

Properties in Care Working Group

HEACS(05)16

15. Council considered the synopsis drafted by the Group setting out a revised structure for the its report. It was intended that a draft report would be submitted to the next Council meeting. Council noted the position.

Infrastructure Working Group

HEACS(05)17

16. Council noted the reports of the meetings at which the proposed tripartite research project involving HEACS, BEFS and Historic Scotland on the mapping of the infrastructure for the Historic Environment had been considered. While it was

apparent that the potential partners had different objectives, further consideration was to be given to the scope and aims of the work. Council noted the position.

Economic Significance Working Group

HEACS(05)18

17. Council noted the reports of the meetings of the Group. Council noted the Group's proposal to commission a scoping study and the request that £2500 might be set aside. Council agreed that this request would be borne in mind when any financial decisions were taken.

Funding Working Group

HEACS(05)19

18. Council noted the report of the meeting with Historic Scotland and the HLF and also the proposed brief for the Working Group. Council agreed that revenue funding should be made more explicit: the first sentence should be changed to read '...securing appropriate capital and revenue funding...' Suggestions for external members of the Group or expert witnesses were invited.

Action: Members

Committee reports

Chair's Group

HEACS(05)20

19. Council noted the record of the meeting of the Chair's Group.

Communications Group

20. Council considered a discussion paper prepared by the Communications Group setting out a draft brief for the development of a communications strategy. It was felt that, while the paper covered several operational issues, it also raised questions which should be considered as part of Council's review process. Council agreed to give further consideration to the paper at the November meeting. In the meantime, Members were invited to consider the questions which the paper posed.

Action: Members

Consultation papers

Pilot Model Policies

HEACS(05)21

21. Council noted its response to the Scottish Executive Planning Division's draft Model Policies. It was agreed that Council would not comment further.

Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment

22. Council noted the consultation which would probably receive a standard response.

Historic Scotland Historic Environment Grants Consultation

23. Council considered a paper prepared by Mark Hopton setting out HEACS' response to the consultation on the Historic Scotland Grant's Scheme, the results of

the consultation published by Historic Scotland, the Conclusions and Next Steps document and the Historic Environment Grants Pack, all prepared by Historic Scotland. HEACS' future role in this area and the particular interest of the Funding Working Group were raised. It was agreed that Historic Scotland should report on the progress of the new scheme.

Meetings with other agencies

Cultural Commission

24. Council noted that the Chair had attended a meeting organised by the Cultural Commission of Built Environment interests.

HLF Heritage Needs seminar

25. Council noted that Andrew Wright and Mark Hopton had attended an HLF seminar on heritage needs.

Historic Scotland Liaison Meeting with RIAS

26. Council noted that the Chair had attended a recent meeting of the Historic Scotland Liaison Meeting with the RIAS.

Information exchange with Historic Scotland

27. Historic Scotland reported on the planned visit of HEACS to Longmore House; the forthcoming seminar to be hosted by the Duke of Rothesay; and the HEACS appointment process.

A O B

Cairngorms National Park

28. Council noted that Ross Noble had attended a seminar on the cultural heritage organised by the Cairngorms National Park Authority.

Meeting with the Minister

29. Council noted that representatives of Council would be meeting with the Minister on 9 August.

Architecture + Design Scotland (A+DS)

30. Council agreed that the Chair's Group should seek a meeting with A+DS. The Chair would write to Raymond Young.

Action: Chair

Date of next meeting

31. The next meeting would take place on 23 September in Edinburgh (venue to be confirmed).

**HEACS
July 2005**