

“Witchcraft” Accused Memorial - Email Update

Dear Robin

I trust you are having an enjoyable summer. I am writing to provide you with an update on the very welcome progress we have made towards getting the memorial installed on Tweed Green. With your support, we hope we are now in the home stretch.

We have met with Campbell Johnstone onsite to identify a suitable position. The location we identified with him was by this solitary copper beech tree, which sits apart from the ones lining the avenue of trees. The exact location of the spot, on the "What3Words" app, is [///altitude.buzzer.escalates](https://altitude.buzzer.escalates). A photo of the site, at the foot of the tree, is attached.

We now have our final design for the memorial, which will be a low profile, elevated granite slab engraved with the names of the victims. As previously intimated, this will be secured firmly to the ground in the same way as a modern gravestone memorial - with a concrete foundation under the grass level, and steel pins attaching the memorial to the foundation. I attach two images - the first showing the wording and design, the second showing the elevation. once again, I would reiterate that Purves have kindly said that they will maintain the stone in good condition once it is in situ. That assurance comes in writing with the attached images.

We have also discussed how the memorial should be framed on the site. I am very pleased that we have secured the support of the Callants to construct a modest, stone-walled flowerbed around the spot. Such a border will make grass-cutting easier, according to Campbell Johnstone, and protect both the existing tree and the memorial itself. In terms of final design for that border, we felt that it would be best for the Callants to let us know what they can do. They will prioritise this once we have secured all the necessary permissions from the Common Good Fund sub-Committee.

When Elisa spoke to the sub-Committee several weeks ago, the Committee agreed in principle to the siting of a modest memorial on Tweed Green. The Committee also asked us to come back with more detail on the design of the memorial, and its exact location, before it would give final sign-off. I am therefore hoping you will now be satisfied with what we have done - pending perhaps a drawing from the Callants - and that you will feel able to agree that work can soon start. Of course, Elisa and I are very happy to answer any further questions you may have. Ideally, we would like to get the memorial installed in the late summer to early autumn, if at all possible. Please do let us know what your position is. Without wishing to "jump the gun", our plan is to make quite an event of the official unveiling, with all elected representatives invited, along with historians, authors and legal campaigners from across Scotland, and perhaps some entertainment, followed by light refreshments at the Eastgate. But that is purely an indication of what we would like to do, and we do not take your support in getting to that point for granted. So please do let us know what you think.

I look forward to your response.

Best wishes,
Simon Ritchie