

## **Chambers Institute Beneficiaries**

### **Meeting held 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 on MS Teams**

#### **Present:**

Cllr Robin Tatler, SBC (Chair)  
Lorna McCullough, Borders Community Action (Minutes)  
Cllr Marshall Douglas  
Sam Coe, Peebles Civic Society  
Cllr Eric Small  
Cllr Drummond Begg  
Cllr Julie Pirone  
Kerrie Guiney Peebles Retailers Association  
Joe Fernand Renew Crew  
Peter Maudsley

#### **Apologies:**

Hannah Lacon, SBC  
Ian Buckingham

- 1. Welcome and introductions**
- 2. Notes from Meeting held on 14th March**
- 3. Burgh Hall – update, opening event on 27th May, consideration of next phase**

#### **Gareth Smith update**

Works nearly complete  
Lights need programmed, laptop needed for this  
Low level panelling needs a final coat of paint  
Hall, kitchen and toilets need a final clean, quoted nearly £5k. Alternative company found at affordable price, initial builder clean done, final clean scheduled in after works finished.

Rot found round sunburst window, now fixed, gable now getting painted and this repair work has increased by £15k as scaffolding had to be reconstructed. Scaffold may be removed by end of this week, latest Monday.

Last remaining job is wifi installation, due to be done 15<sup>th</sup> May.

Entrance hall has not been factored in but will need to be painted the same colour, further costs being sought asap. More work needed, but noted this is phase 1 only, further works planned when funding is secured. Lighting needs to be done same as hall too.

Some of the glass in the sunburst windows is damaged, quote obtained £1297, group agreed this needs

#### Additional Costs

- Cleaning £820
- Blacksmiths for ducting in fans in attic space £453
- Fan removal £603
- Gable end costs, in total came to extra £15664

Gareth talked through progress pictures. Looking tremendous! Robin congratulated Gareth and the team on a great job. Also the sub group who worked to agree design options, thanks given to all involved.

Live Borders are planning an opening event for Live Borders, Fiona Colton planned for 16<sup>th</sup> May. Beltane Committee have a meet and greet Monday.

### **Volunteer Fair in planning, meeting tomorrow.**

Peebles Retailers event planning well underway, music, radio coverage and food all involved. Music in hall and on street. BBC Scotland coming down.

### **4. Business Plan Group – role, remit, composition, timetable**

2 volunteers, Same Coe and Brian McCrow already, need a councillor to lead the group for the business plan group, Julie agreed to volunteer. Peter Maudsley, Marshall Douglas, Kerrie Guiney. Need someone to administer and chair, reporting back to beneficiaries group. Julie to lead. Live Borders rep, Fiona Colton to liaise. Plan needed for next beneficiaries meeting in July, role, remit and timescales.

Once plan is in place, the trust will run the building instead of Live Borders. SBC and Live Borders are happy with this approach, Julie keen to get SOSE on board regarding funding. SLA with Live Borders needs reviewed although this is part of a wider piece of work.

### **5. Consultation process – update, next stage**

Suggested interim meeting in June to look at consultation process only, in June.

Kenny Harrow confirmed place making process needs to bring together all the different projects going on to maximise resources. Peebles Place plan needs to be updated and see how it can come together. More chance of success in an all town approach in funding planning.

## **Page Park update**

Briefing workshop on 24<sup>th</sup> March following presentation of initial plans. Sub group of beneficiaries group attended, brain storm about what Chambers Institution can be used for going forward. Summary report provided.

Catch up meeting taken place to discuss architectural solutions to help future discussions and workshop next stage. Particularly the proposed mezzanine level under discussion and how the space can be used.

Feasibility study needs to be progressed, aim to complete before consultation discussions.

## **6. Condition Survey of all buildings**

Many surveys will be needed, condition, dimensional and topographical as old drawings are not sufficient. PP need measurements of whole building and quotes needed, budget to be determined. Also roof, and all external areas. PP have provided/suggested contractors for this work. 3D image of whole building can be obtained. Prices to be sought. Environmental assessment needed, condition survey will assess energy efficiency.

Sustainable West Linton have experienced resource for museum storage of artifacts, worth connecting to find out how they can support this work. Joe to provide contact details.

JBSM external appearance being reviewed, Gareth seeking quotes. Railings, bench, bin and signage. Brought forward to next meeting.

## **7. Fundraising**

Unsuccessful in UK Levelling up funding. Heritage Lottery funding, Robin to contact The National Lottery to gauge level of support they may be able to provide.

Robin, Peter and Lorna to look at funding strategy for next meeting. Peter confirmed Historic Environment have various funding programmes that are worth pursuing.

## **8. AOB**

'A' listed building, previously carried out roof repairs using wrong type of slate did not seek planning permission first. A retrospective application has been withdrawn. Issue needs to be addressed. Architectural Society Association for Scotland have lodged a strong objection.

Roof condition, danger to public and securing building and its historical contents cited as reason for quick work done during Covid pandemic, but a more detailed planning permission application is being considered. Proportionate and pragmatic at the time, but now needs to be corrected. Correct type of slate can be sourced and cut to size.

## **9. Date and place of next meeting**

July, date TBC, interim consultation meeting in June in person proposed.