

BYPASS ART

SUB GROUP OF DALRY COMMUNITY HUB

Minutes of Meeting Wednesday 14th September 2016

Present : Julie Wales Jacqueline Shaw
John Hodgart Myra Sim
Lesley Forsyth

Apologies : None

Copies: Dalry Community Hub

Introduction

Julie thanked everyone for coming and gave an update on her progress on the Project. Julie has spoken to various people to get the group up and running and agreed to be a sub group of the Dalry Community Hub. The proposal for the Artwork is a statue / sculpture of 'Bessie Dunlop' a local woman who was accused of Witchcraft and was tortured, tried and put to death in Edinburgh.

Correspondence

A Letter was passed to the group from Transport Scotland which stated that the A737 Bypass is currently in procurement and the final design is still under development. They would be happy to discuss proposals with anyone proposing a suitable artwork once the final design is confirmed which will follow the contract award. The contract for the main works is currently anticipated to be awarded in Spring 2017. A reply email from North Lanarkshire was also passed around, Julie had contacted them for some advice and they said that we would need to contact North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership as the first port of call as the Artwork would probably need planning permission and Transport Scotland to assess impacts from distraction, falling on the road.

- action Julie to contact NAC Planning.

Artwork Location

Lesley provided a plan of the proposed bypass, the preferred location was the area known as Peesweep Mount however, Lesley had spoken to a colleague who suggested that a location slightly further along would be a more suitable beside a suds pond as there would be access roads put in place in this area and the piece of land was probably owned by Blair Estate and we would need their permission to erect the Artwork. – **action Julie to contact Lina Borwick of Blair.**

Community Awareness

Julie is attending an event on Tuesday 20/09/16 at St. John's Primary called Bones, Stones & Stories. Grant applications can be made for £3,000 to £10,000 this money is then used to set up workshops within the local community to raise awareness of local history in this case 'Bessie Dunlop'. The workshops would take place in local primary schools and the library and or community centre. Community awareness and involvement is essential to the success of the project. Lesley discussed a similar project she was involved in; Betsy Miller, Sea Captain and how

she involved the Saltcoats community in particular teenage girls by comparing Betsy's achievements back then to current issues faced by young females today.

John Hodgart gave a brief insight into Bessie Dunlop a local woman whom people approached for herbal remedies and advice. She was seen by the Authorities as dangerous and a threat and she was branded a witch. Her fate was inevitable due to the Witch Hunt hysteria of that time in history. John said it was important to remember that she was married with children and nothing like a typical witch you think of today and this should be reflected in the Artwork. – **action Julie to ask a member of the Hub to attend the event at St. Johns along with herself to apply for grant funding.**

Heritage Trail

Lesley discussed the NAC Webpage and App. for the Heritage Trail this is used to provide local history on notable people, places, buildings within the towns in North Ayrshire. At the moment there is nothing on the page for Dalry or indeed the Garnock Valley it was suggested that we put Dalry on the page in the near future. This would encourage more people to come to the town and enjoy the local walks with the added bonus of reading about local history. Bessie Dunlop would be one of these people with a plaque probably sited at the bottom of the Lynn Glen as she frequented this area.

HUB Update

Julie will attend the next Dalry Community Hub Meeting with an update on our progress.

NEXT MEETING ROSEARDEN, TO BE CONFIRMED