

Misc

Ack by letter
24/1/05

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The Chair,
The Cultural Commission,
Carrington Road EH3

15 Arboretum Road
EDINBURGH EH3 5PN

Dear Sir,

24/01/05

Culture and The Scottish Parliamentary Committees

PE 801 was heard by the Public Petitions Committee on the 19th of January and a copy was delivered to your office last week. It concerned not only the problems of Cramond but the whole question of our National Heritage - cultural, natural and built. The Committee agreed to renew the Parliament's involvement in Cramond by writing to Historic Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage and COEC. The cultural element is missing.

On the wider question of the need for a Scottish National Heritage Committee covering all aspects, the view was expressed that the Enterprise and Culture Committee would deal with that.

Subsequent preliminary research into that Committee's twelve reports for the previous year indicated the following:-

Subjects in order of the spaces allotted

- 1 Renewable Energy
- 2 Area Tourist Board Organization
- 3 Administration, Budget etc
- 4 Broad Band Access
- 5 Educational matters? SHEFC and SFEFC
- 6 Cultural subjects (Art in the Community)
- 7 Topics of uncertain category (Football, Holyrood Park Regulations, St Andrew's day Holiday etc)

It seemed clear that the efforts of this committee were fully taken up and that Culture did not get a proper share even of the time available. Nor does it seem to sit easily with Enterprise in the sense that building up knowledge and expertise in both subjects must be difficult.

Of course there will always be a degree of overlap, but the idea that this Committee could also cope with the National Heritage in all its forms seemed wide of the mark.

Yours faithfully,

R.H. Guild
R. H. Guild

Ack by letter
24/1/05

(89)

The Chair
Cultural Commission.

15 ARBORLEIGH ROAD

EH3 5PN

21/01/05

Dear Sir,

Thanks for your consideration my
petition (801) to the Scottish Parliament (19/01/05)

Memo on my reaction to Public Petitions
Response to follow.

Apologies for writing!
Yours sincerely
Rt Hon

The lessons of Cramond apply across Scotland.

PETITION TO SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT (No.801) To be heard 19/01/05 at 1000 hrs

That the executive should establish a permanent Committee covering the natural, built and cultural aspects of the Scottish National Heritage and that the Executive should also re-engage with the urgent problems at Cramond.

.....
CRAMOND - A TEST CASE FOR SCOTLAND

Cramond is one of these special places of national importance where, with more effective official initiatives, we could all have been helped to appreciate the fascinating interactions of the natural, built and cultural elements of our heritage:

Indeed PE 9 was successful in that it kick started 'official' involvement at Cramond after decades of neglect and deterioration. It also gave the Cramond Heritage Trust a place - albeit a minor one - on the newly established Cramond Management Group (Dominated by the COEC).

Sadly, since then, the remit given to the Consultants simply failed to grasp the scale of the Heritage at Cramond and to cope with the conflicting interests of the Heritage and Powerful Developers.

A. The Campus development has forged ahead like a steam roller. The pre-building archaeological work was an undignified scramble, with the WHOLE AREA now buried under the massive heightening of the north end of the site. Houses at the very edges of the site threaten protected trees.

B. The long term deterioration of the major Cramond woodland is accelerating and has to be seen to be believed.

C. The new information/interpretation boards at the Fort and Bath House are simply not up to the standards of those on Hadrian's Wall for example.

D. It is a strange idea that the existing car park (Virtually on top of the bath house and drawing traffic through the village) should not only continue to operate, but be developed.

E. Unlike the Cramond Heritage Trust, the official focus seems almost entirely on the narrow Scheduled Area and the Roman period to the neglect of the whole wide area's wonderful natural, man made and cultural aspects.

PE 9 led to PE 801

The above experience with PE 9 reinforced earlier impressions. While there are examples where justice is done to the heritage in all its manifestations, these are, sadly, out numbered by examples of inadequacy. If there is one central reason, it must be LACK OF CO-ORDINATION between the innumerable bodies involved.

DIRECT AND INDIRECT HERITAGE INVOLVEMENT AT DIFFERENT LEVELS

The following are merely some of those who form the immensely complicated weave of organizations which affect the innumerable aspects of our National Heritage:-

- a) Government EU. UK Reserved +Devolved.
- b)Committees " " " Select/Specialist
- c)Local Auths Numerous Departments. eg: Museums, Schools, Libraries
..... RCHMS, NMRS, M.M. Red
- d)Nat Agencies ANPA (Nat.Parks)- BGS(Geology)- HS(Historic)- NAS(Archives)
NLS(Libraries)- NMS(Museums)- OS(Ord.Survey)- RCAHMS(Hist)
RBG(Botanics)- SAC(Arts)- SNH(Natural Heritage)
- e)NGO's National CSA(Archaeology)- MCS(Marine Conservation)- NTS(Trust)
RSGS(Geography)- RSPB(Birds)- Saltire Soc.- SWT(Wild Life)
- f)Associations Centres-Chambers-Churches-Councils-Clubs-Societies-Trusts
.....
- g)Universities(15)Teach- Research- Publish- British Council(Scott)
Colleges 'Medical' and RCSE and RCPE
~~RCSE~~.....
- h)Travel Visit Scotland- BAA- BTA- Network Rail- Tour Operators
.....
- i)Publishing Maps, Guide Books
- j)Press + Media International, National and Local
- k)Funds+Finance Grants, Lotteries and Sponsors
Other Police - FIRE

The Scottish Parliament should have given us a unique opportunity to analyse and address that problem, but the broad concept of Heritage has not so far been reflected in the Committee structure. Hence PE 801!

The essence of PE 801 is simple. Effectively to investigate, understand, consult, advise, finance and, if necessary legislate on such a massive and key aspect of our national life requires the attention of a specially designated and permanent Committee.

And understanding our 'past' should help us to cope more effectively with our 'present' and even, perhaps plan our 'future' more successfully. It will certainly make the lives of those around at any particular time more interesting." !

Apart from all that, it is Scotland's Heritage which attracts countless visitors

R.H.Guild (Petitioner)
15 Arboretum Road, EDINBURGH EH3 5PNP

02/01/05

0181-552-6374.

The Lord Provost,
The City of Edinburgh

15 Arboretum Road
EDINBURGH EH3 5PN

Dear Sir,

5/10/98

PAX ROMANA AND SO MUCH MORE

The discovery of the amazing carved Roman Lioness in the Cramond mud and its subsequent rescue and preservation is a dramatic story.

The City Art Centre therefore naturally made this fascinating sculpture the reason for its current exhibition. It also rightly uses the occasion to explain the wider aspects of the Roman presence in Cramond and south east Scotland.

The discovery of the lioness is indeed yet another indication of the importance of the site for the Roman strategy or master plan for Scotland: supplies by sea, general fleet support and the role of key ports like Cramond in northern thrusts.

All this points again not only to the fascinating story of Cramond but also the historic roles of the Firth of Forth. Inchcolm's story and the operations of the old Scottish and French Navies spring to mind. The estuary's contributions to victory in WWI, WWII and the Cold War are so easily forgotten. Then there are its critical places in the oil and gas industries, never mind its ecological and oceanographic importance.

Organizations like the Forth Forum are indeed trying to draw all these threads together; but at Cramond alone the present miserably inadequate explanation of the fort, the pathetic state of the site of the adjoining settlement show how the chance to explain the whole amazing story of the Forth is simply being passed by.

Careful thought should surely be given to a first class visitor/ educational centre possibly near the north end of Silverknowes Road or further along towards Cramond. Whatever happens, any traffic associated with such a centre would require to be kept away from Cramond village itself. Indeed it should be possible to make the present public car park there available for further archaeological work.

Personal interest in this whole question goes back many years and in no way undervalues Cramond's own exhibition in the Maltings.

On a final note it is fascinating to think of many Scottish service men now deeply involved with 'Pax Europa' in former Yugoslavia, so near the heart of the old Roman Empire! And all but two thousand years earlier, Roman soldiers probably feeling as far from home right here!

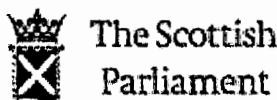
Your views on the above thoughts would be appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

R. H. Guild

R.H. Guild

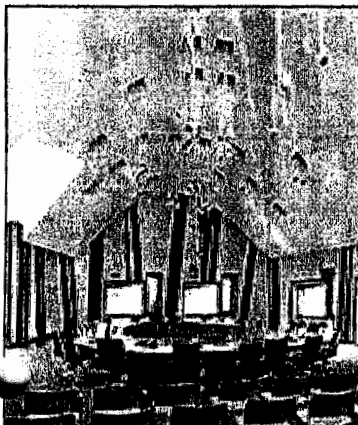
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Committees



Welcome to the Committees pages.

Committees play a central part in the work of the Parliament – taking evidence from witnesses, scrutinising legislation and conducting inquiries. Most committees meet weekly or fortnightly, usually on Tuesdays or on Wednesday mornings, in one of the Scottish Parliament's committee rooms – or in locations around Scotland. Most meetings are in public – [follow this link for information about how to attend a committee meeting.](#)

For information about individual committees – their membership, current and future work, reports and other papers – choose the appropriate committee from one of the lists below. The first list details the committees established for

the duration of the current parliamentary session (Session 2) – the **subject committees**, whose remits are based on the responsibilities of Executive departments, and the **mandatory committees**, whose remits are set out in the Parliament's standing orders. The second list includes the current **Private Bill committees** established to consider particular Bills.

Links
▶ Committee News Releases
▶ Current Committee Consultations
▶ holyrood.tv - live coverage of all committees
▶ Conveners' Group
▶ Guidance on the operation of committees
▶ Protocol governing relations between committee clerks and Executive officials
▶ Participation Handbook

Current Committees of the Scottish Parliament are listed below

Mandatory (M) and Subject (S) Committees

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit (M) • Communities (S) • Education (S) • Enterprise and Culture (S) • Environment and Rural Development (S) • Equal Opportunities (M) • European and External Relations (M) • Finance (M) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health (S) • Justice 1 (S) • Justice 2 (S) • Local Government and Transport (S) • Procedures (M) • Public Petitions (M) • Standards (M) • Subordinate Legislation (M) |
|---|--|

Private Bill Committees (P)

- [Edinburgh Tram \(Line One\) Bill \(P\)](#)
- [Edinburgh Tram \(Line Two\) Bill \(P\)](#)
- [Waverley Railway \(Scotland\) Bill \(P\)](#)

Private Bills

Previous Committees

- [Information on Session 1 and previous Committees](#)

Latest from the Committees

Committee Meetings this week



[Audit Committee](#)



[Equal Opportunities Committee](#)



[Finance Committee](#)



[Subordinate Legislation Committee](#)



[The Edinburgh Tram \(Line One\) Bill Committee](#)



[Health Committee](#)



Justice 2 Committee



Local Government and Transport Committee



Justice 1 Committee



Education Committee



The Edinburgh Tram (Line Two) Bill Committee



Communities Committee



Environment and Rural Development Committee

Protocol Between Committee Clerks and The Scottish Executive

This protocol is designed to set the framework for a shared understanding of how the parliamentary committees and the Executive should work together. Its primary function is to ensure an open flow of information between the Parliament and the Executive. It is aimed at the Parliament's Clerking Services and the appropriate staff in the Executive. The protocol will also be available on the Scottish Executive's website.