

Dollar Museum Trust

Meeting of Trustees

7.30 pm Dollar Museum 27th August 2025

Minutes – Final

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: James Cullens (Chair), Janet Carolan, Susan Mills, Cecilia Condal, Alec Spencer, Bruce Neilson, Mick Rice, Colin Davenport (Secretary).

Apologies: Denis Coyne

2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 21st May 2025

There were 3 corrections to the previous minutes, which were then approved.

Proposed: Mick Rice, Seconded: Cecilia Condal

3. Tasks/Matters Arising

1. The Museum's involvement in the proposed walks map is Agenda item 9.
2. It has proved impossible so far to agree a date for the next Museums Forum. Further attempts will be made.
3. Policy documents have not yet been uploaded to the Trustee's and Friends' areas of the website. Colin will collect these and send to Alec to upload. Colin will then send an email to trustees asking if anyone has more recent versions of these documents, or changes, to send to him to revise, so we have the correct documents available in time for the AGM in November.

4. Hon. Treasurer's Report

Susan had circulated the statement of account prior to the meeting. Key points are that the insurance has risen by £90 and all residents of Castle Campbell Hall have paid their apportioned contribution to the painting of the window frames.

Gift Aid was last collected in 2021. It is time to do this again. Alec has the appropriate information and will progress this. Susan will be willing to assist him, if necessary.

Susan will make another attempt to open a savings account with Virgin Money. The most attractive account seems to be a 12-month fixed term account earning 4% and she will place up to £30k in this when possible. This will leave enough money in the current account for contingency.

5. Hon. Curator's Report

Activities

Kirsten, Karen and Caroline are now all approved through the PVG scheme. A training for Friends on Children and Vulnerable groups policy and practise will be arranged.

There have been 3 Duke of Edinburgh volunteers this summer (2 Bronze Award, 1 Gold Award). Janet thinks she may not accept any volunteers over the closed season as it requires 2 museum volunteers (1 PVG checked) always present when volunteer is in the Museum.

The alarm responders should hold a trial run of the emergency plan.

There are 2 walks planned for Doors Open Days; Les will lead a village walk and Karen a walk taking in the Academy and church.

A recent posting on Dollar Past and Present showed a video of train driving over the Devon viaduct. This was an AI generated animation of a Museum DVR photo, made by Clive Paul. This led to a huge number of 'likes' and Janet suggests that our new exhibition for 2026 should be videos (not necessarily AI generated but a selection of local old films) shown on a screen in front of the red board in the exhibition area, with supplementary photos and text. Clive is willing to help.

Windows 10 is going out of support in October, and we will need to upgrade the computer. The Museum database is now in Excel, which should ensure its long-term usability.

Donations

Print of the Chateau de Campbell 'No. 23 F.A.Pernot (1793-1865)

Susie Campbell has donated a number of books on local subjects. Some, including a copy of Gibson's History of Dollar bound by John Orr, will be retained others going to the Hive.

Badges and trinkets sold by Hendersons with Academy colours and related coats of arms.

Harry Bell's first world war campaign medals.

6. Chair of Friends Report

Dollar Gala was well attended but made little money.

Strawberry Tea very well attended raising over £1500. Plan for more tables next year.

Upcoming events;

1. Outing to Perth Museum Tuesday 2nd September. A few tickets remaining.
2. AGM on 26th September
3. Book sale 8-9th November
4. Quiz 28th November
5. Xmas Fayre 6th December

Including an artefact from the museum in next year's calendar was discussed.

7. Health and Safety

Fire extinguisher service done by Graham's on 12th August. Both Foam extinguishers were past their use by date and have been replaced at a cost of £77.30. CO2 extinguisher still has 5 years left. We had a phone call reporting that the alarm was sounding at 2am. It turns out the alarm was not properly connected to the monitoring centre. This has been fixed. A trial run of what to do when the alarm sound is to be conducted.

8. Museum Maintenance

Window frames have been painted, and residents have paid their agreed share. The wall between the windows at the front is looking dull. James to fix.

9. Dollar Walks Leaflet

Mick introduced the proposed Dollar Walks and cycle routes leaflet to be produced by Clacks Active and based on Harvey maps. Fossoway was shown as an example. The map has routes with QR codes for information about places of interest. There are approximately 10 routes and 14 points of interest.

There are 3 ways for organisations to support; as Content Partner, Sponsor and Distributor. Content Partners provide information for the leaflet with acknowledgement on the leaflet. Contributors may make online Points of Interest content available via QR codes on the leaflet. Sponsors pay but make no contribution to content. The product costs £3 to produce and Distributors sell for whatever they like.

It was agreed that Dollar Museum would be a Content Partner. Mick will provide Trustees with his list of Places of Interest for comment.

10. AOB

1. Cecilia reported that the old vacuum cleaner is not working. It was agreed that it would be taken to the Repair Cafe on Saturday and if not repairable a new one could be bought.
2. Information about Doors Open Days would be added to the Museum website and Friends Facebook page. Susan to liaise with Caroline.
3. Susan provided Doors Open Days leaflets for distribution.
4. The picture of the Museum on the national Doors Open Day website is a little uninspiring. Susan asked if general pictures of the inside of the Museum could be used to add more interest. Janet agreed, with the proviso that any items we do not have copyright for (such as some of the prints on display) were not identifiable in the view. Susan has taken some general photographs already and will add them to the website.
5. It was agreed that the Friends would donate a Dollar Museum tea towel as a prize for Dollar Horticultural Show.
6. Janet will loan photographs taken in 1965 of Strathdevon School for the school's 60th Anniversary event.
7. Janet was able to assist Stuart Brand with the name A Constable carved onto the railway viaduct. The boy was a pupil at Dollar around 1880 became a notable lawyer, later Lord Constable.
8. James asked for views on a donation card reader at the front desk, like his friend saw at Cultybraggan Camp. It was felt this was unnecessary.

11. Date of next meeting

The next meeting, that AGM, is 19:30 Wednesday 19th November in the Museum.