Welcome and Attendance.
In the absence of Alistair Bruce, attending a Fife Tourism Partnership meeting, Peter Wilson welcomed everyone, and in particular Nancy Sidhu from Deep Sea World.

1 Present

Cllr Mike Shirkey                  SW Fife Area Cttee
Frank Connolly                    Dynamic Dunfermline
Lisa Edwards                      Dunfermline Delivers
Sharron McIntosh                 Fife Cultural Trust
Jack Pryde,                      Discover Dunfermline Tours
Donald Mackenzie,                 McKenzie Routes
Karen Davidson,                   Kingsgate Shopping Centre
Peter Wilson                      LTA Projects
Linn Williamson                  Grill 48
Sarah Kettles                     Fife Pilgrim
Nancy Sidhu                       Deep Sea World

Apologies

Manuela Calchini,                 Visit Scotland
Chris Foote,                      Dunfermline Delivers
James Lawson                     NQ Heritage Trust
Roger Pickering                  Forth Pilgrim
Joe McGuiness,                   Area Services manager, Dunfermline
Gerry McMullan                    Carnegie Touring
Gillian McCracken                 Fife Council
Alistair Bruce                    Chair
Cllr Helen Law                    Dunfermline Area Cttee
Elaine Longmuir,                 NTS Culross

2 Minutes of Meeting of 28th April

The Minutes were approved.

3 Matters Arising

(i) Heritage Tourism Application to Scottish Enterprise Tourism Development Fund
Peter reported that the application was due for submission by noon on 17th June, with feedback expected by mid July. He (and Lisa Edwards and Sarah Kettles) had attended a recent workshop to discuss the content of the bid. He advised that if the application was successful, the financial arrangements would be managed by Carnegie Dunfermline Trust, although some of the initial consultancy fees would be routed via the LTA account. Discussion ensued with some members being concerned that there had not been consultation with the wider LTA membership in the development of the application. It was also requested that the initial consultation document, funded by the Area Committee, be made available to the LTA – Action PW to seek clarification.

4 Forth Bridges Strategy and Business Groups – Linn Williamson reported that the Forth Bridges Forum Tourism Strategy Group, now chaired by Sandra Montador-Stewart, was making progress, focusing on the geographical area, marketing options and facilities. The idea of a Citizens’ Spire, being promoted by Ian Moir of Fire Station Creative, was also highlighted.
The Business Group is currently consulting on structure of a future organisation, potentially a BID or a Co-operative Group.

6 Cruise Project – Peter summarised project activities, including the journalist FAM visit, Welcome Host training for volunteers, on board speakers, and the CruiseForth application for Destination Development Funding. The first ships of the season had begun to arrive, with ships almost continuously in August. 36 ships at Rosyth this season. Crystal Symphony had booked three tours this summer.

Lisa Edwards suggested that if she could be provided with images, then digital noticeboards in the town centre could be used to publicise the welcome to individual ships. Action PW/LE

7 Outlander Project – Linn Williamson summarised current Outlander events, including a recent Market at Dysart. The next Project meeting (20/6) will consider participation in a Scotcon event at Ingliston. Some potential for a Growth Fund bid has been suggested. A recent presentation to Fife Tourism Partnership had attracted supportive comment.

8 Pilgrimage – Sarah Kettles described progress in the HLF project, with the development of the business plan, and how the bid for funding needed to demonstrate a sustainable Pilgrim Way. Routes across Fife from North Queensferry or Culross to St Andrews via Dunfermline (with appropriate signage) were being finalised.

It was separately reported by Jack Pryde that the St Margaret’s Pilgrimage on 12th June had attracted over 1000 people to St Margaret’s Church and Carnegie Theatre. A number of local businesses had benefitted. Cllr Law had arranged for a large floral display at the shrine.

9 Sector Updates –
Retail – Karen reported on a successful May, with good feedback re the Food and Craft Fair. Town centre footfall increasing with events and food offers. Demand is up for walking and vehicle tour operators. Festival of Dunfermline is on 10/11 September. A Petcha Kutch Networking for the creative arts is being held on 30th June. LTA members invited to register attendance.

Deep Sea World is hosting the ‘SPAN’ exhibition about the three bridges until the end of August. Further excitement expected over the release of Finding Dang – a fishy film. Rosyth Gala had attracted 5000 people. The Jutland Exhibition and the civic events at the end of May had also proven popular. Initial consideration of plans for commemoration of the Surrender of Grand Fleet in 1918 now commencing. Public consultation on the future plans for the Scarborough Muir developments at Rosyth are now being advertised in the local press. NQ Heritage Trust are working on the Workforce Memorial for the Forth Bridge, with ideas for similar recognition being created for the other bridges in the future.

10 Fife Tourism Partnership Update – Peter referred to a minute of the Fife Tourism Partnership (which will be circulated with this minute).

13 Update from Dunfermline Delivers – Lisa summarised a long list of work ongoing including the new website, town centre displays, a possible pre-Fringe comedy event.

14 Finance Report - Peter reported that there was £223.59 in the account. Invoices for Membership at £50 had been issued. Funding had been offered by Dunfermline Delivers towards the reprinting of the Visitor Guide, which was now being progressed. SW Fife Area Committee had once again turned down the LTA Funding Application.

15 Date of Next Meeting – Thursday – September 8th at Keavil House Hotel at 2pm