

**ANGUS COUNCIL****POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 23<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 1998****MONTROSE ROSE QUEEN & SUMMER EVENTS****REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF CULTURAL SERVICES****ABSTRACT**

To report progress on consultations about the future of the Montrose Rose Queen and the Summer Events programme.

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the Montrose Rose Queen Ceremony and the Summer Events programme is terminated with immediate effect.
2. That the possibility of developing street theatre is investigated and a report presented to the Committee.

**2. INTRODUCTION**

Members will recall that following consideration of report no [417/98] it was agreed that consultations would be held with local bodies about the future of the Montrose Rose Queen Ceremony and the Summer Events programme. Given the timescale only a limited number of consultations have been held.

**3. MONTROSE ROSE QUEEN**

As this ceremony is centred round Montrose Academy pupils contact was made with the school and staff and pupils asked for their views. In general there was little or no support for the event. The topic was discussed at the Montrose Area Forum where views were mixed but, again, there was little positive support for the continuation of the ceremony.

**4. SUMMER EVENTS**

These events are based on competitions such as : "The Bonniest Baby", "Mr. Muscles", "Glamorous Gran", "Teen Queen". The intention was that they would provide tourist attractions for the holiday resorts of Arbroath, Carnoustie and Montrose. They now attract mainly local residents. Consultations to date suggest there is no support for their continuation.

In place of these activities it might be appropriate to consider developing town centre street theatre performances including music, dance and drama, which could help to bring customers into the shopping areas. If the Committee considers this would be a development to be encouraged I will consult local business organisations and report back at a later date.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The termination of those two events will contribute towards the saving which has to be made in the Events budget.

## **6. CONCLUSION**

The termination of these traditional events is a matter of regret but is as a result of the need to make financial savings and changing attitudes and fashions.

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 [other than any containing confidential or exempt information], were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.

Gavin Drummond  
Director of Cultural Services  
GND/LD  
16.06.98  
mrq

ITEM No. 1 4

15 May 1998

Your Ref:

To: Chief Executives

Our Ref: G/1-AON/IS

Dear Colleague

## THE STONES OF SCOTLAND

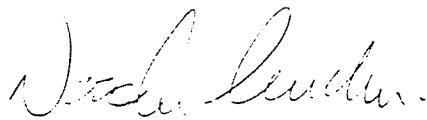
You may have recently received a letter from The Stones of Scotland concerning a proposed collaborative venture by Scottish councils to support the proposed siting of a work of public art at Regent Park, Edinburgh, in celebration of the establishment of the Scottish Parliament. Each participating council will ultimately be asked to contribute £5,000 for the public sculpture. The letter has been issued by Neil Baxter Associates of Glasgow.

A number of councils have sought my advice on this matter and my purpose in writing is to indicate that this initiative is being undertaken solely by the company concerned and COSLA has not considered this matter in any way. It is up to each individual council to consider the proposition and financial request and respond as they feel fit.

\*

I hope you find this information of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Douglas Sinclair  
Chief Executive

WHEN CALLING PLEASE ASK FOR: Andy O'Neill (0131 474 9206) [andy@cosla.demon.co.uk](mailto:andy@cosla.demon.co.uk)

# THE STONES OF SCOTLAND

C/o Neil Baxter Associates, 21 Woodside Terrace, Glasgow G3 7XH

Tel: 0141 331 2668 Fax: 0141 332 8784

Alexander B. Watson,  
Chief Executive,  
Angus Council,  
The Cross,  
Forfar.  
DD8 QBX

Dear Mr Watson,

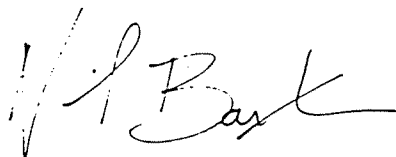
The Stones of Scotland is a unique collaboration between all the Scottish local authorities to reflect Scotland's new status. It will also powerfully symbolise the role of the authorities as the diverse constituent parts which make up the unity of Scotland.

The City of Edinburgh has generously gifted the site for the work, prominently situated at Regent Park, overlooking the site of the new Scottish Parliament. Each participating authority will ultimately be asked for a, deliberately modest, contribution of £5,000. This sum has been set on the same basis that the work itself will succeed, as a collaboration where the individual parts may be modest but the combined effect is very significant. In the first instance however, we are merely asking that your authority joins those which have already 'signed up' by giving your commitment to the idea.

The artists, George Wyllie, Lesley May Millar and Kenny Munro may already be known to you. The accompanying explanatory notes give further information on their experience and a fuller outline of the work.

This work is scheduled for completion during 1999. The purpose of this note is simply to invite your authority to participate and to request from yourself the name of an appropriate officer for further contact and discussion. We would, of course, be delighted if that officer were yourself, but quite appreciate that demands on your time may preclude this.

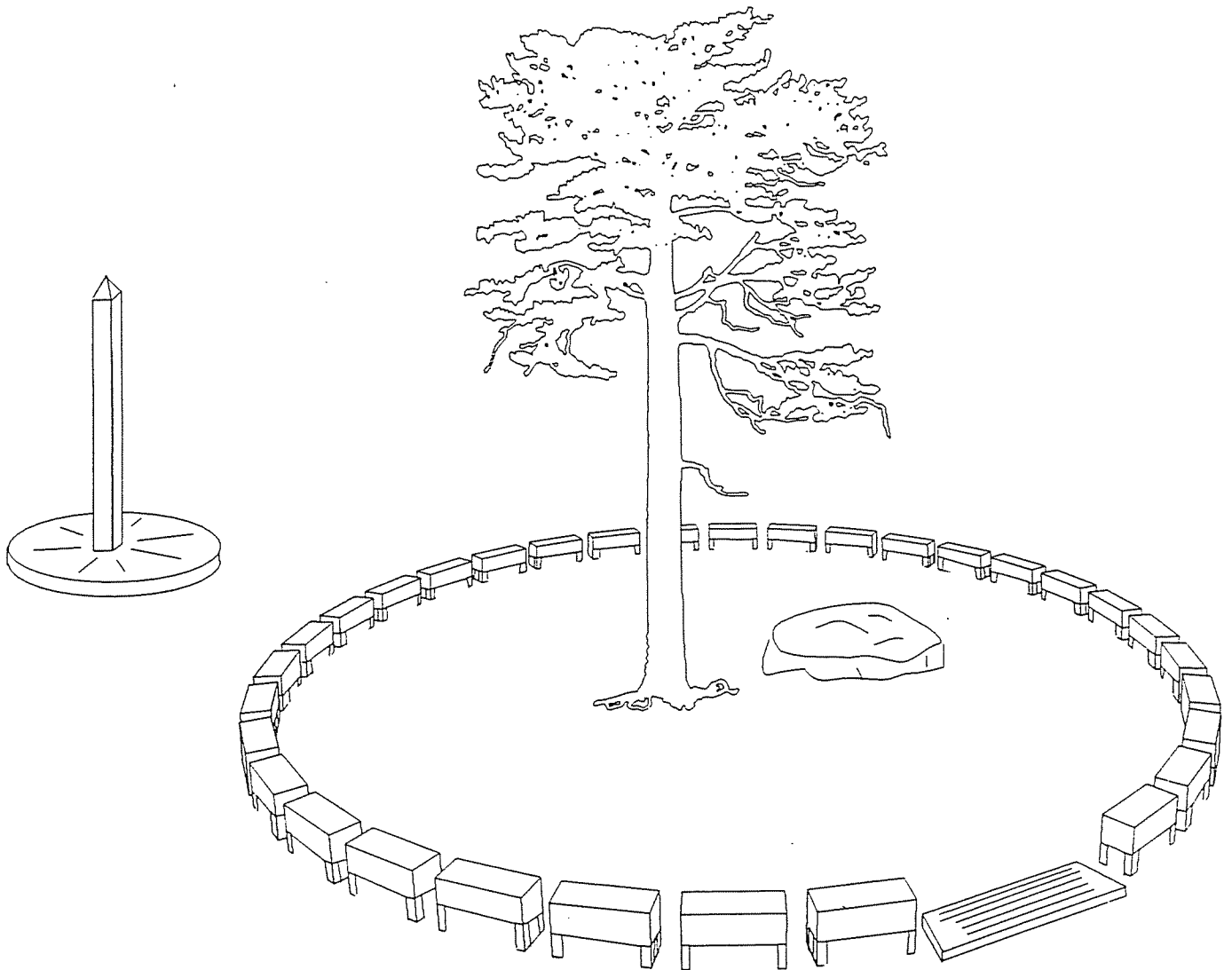
Yours sincerely,



Neil Baxter

for  
George Wyllie  
Lesley May Millar  
Kenny Munro

# THE STONES OF SCOTLAND



"So I have gathered unto myself  
all the loose stones of Scotland,  
And by naming them and accepting them  
Loving them and identifying with them  
attempt to express the whole."

Hugh MacDiarmid

A PUBLIC SCULPTURE  
FOR ALL OF SCOTLAND

# THE STONES OF SCOTLAND

City of Aberdeen  
Aberdeenshire  
Angus  
Argyll & Bute  
East Ayrshire  
North Ayrshire  
South Ayrshire  
Scottish Borders  
Clackmannan  
West Dunbartonshire  
East Dunbartonshire  
Dumfries & Galloway  
City of Dundee  
City of Edinburgh  
Falkirk  
Fife  
City of Glasgow  
Highland  
Inverclyde  
North Lanarkshire  
South Lanarkshire  
East Lothian  
Midlothian  
West Lothian  
Moray  
Orkney  
Perth & Kinross  
Renfrewshire  
East Renfrewshire  
Shetland  
Stirling  
Western Isles

## Introduction

Artists Kenny Munro, Lesley-May Miller and George Wyllie are embarking on this visionary project which will reflect on a new democratic dynamism in Scotland. Located in Edinburgh on a site above the new Scottish Parliament this work will mark the spirit and creative energy that Scotland's return to governing itself has inspired.

## The Nature of the Sculpture Installation

- The work will comprise of 32 stones of Scotland, a large boulder and a Scots Pine.
- At least one of the artists will visit each of the thirty-two Authorities of Scotland. They will select a block of stone from each location for transporting to Edinburgh and incorporating within the sculpture.
- Each block will be encased in a stainless steel frame designed to enable them to be joined to form a circle in which there will be an entrance over a slab incised with Hugh MacDiarmid's poem 'Scotland'
- The stones will be set at seat height and each will be inscribed with the name of the region from which it was collected.
- A semi-mature Scots Pine will be planted at the centre of the circle with a large slab of natural rock adjacent to it.
- The site at Regent Park, Edinburgh sits above the new Scottish Parliament commanding views of City and landscape.
- The project will be completed within two years and installed before the year 2000.
- People will be encouraged to interact with the work by entering the circle and discovering their own stone. They will enter over a slab incised with Hugh MacDiarmid's poem 'Scotland'.
- An Indicator and a Beacon will be situated close to the circle of stones. The Indicator will show the directions of the different regions and other relevant places of interest, including the new Parliament. The Beacon will be a nocturnal "one-o'clock gun". Each day, at one second past midnight, a light signal will be projected across the night sky for 32 seconds.

## Documentation

- An acknowledgement of the origin of each stone will be recorded in the form of photographic documentation and explanation, and a poem will be commissioned from a local poet in each area. 'Explanatory' panels will be lodged with the main public library in each authority. These will provide further linkages between the many parts of Scotland and the symbolic focus in the Capital.
- The entire project when fully documented will include audio-visual material and the publication of a book.

# THE STONES OF SCOTLAND

## The Artists

**Lesley-May Miller**

From the Borders; is experienced in garden and land-art installations. Has recently installed work in the Standard Life building, Edinburgh.

**Kenny Munro**

Chairman of Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop; has recently completed two sculptures for Church Hill Theatre, Edinburgh.

**George Wyllie ARSA, RGI**

From the Clyde Coast; best known for the 'Straw Locomotive' and 'Paper Boat' and permanent work, e.g. General Accident Headquarters, Perth.

Together they have been involved in France, marking the importance of Patrick Geddes' Scots College in Montpellier. This experience has motivated this collaboration. Kenny Munro has also worked with George Wyllie on his 'Spires for Hibernia' project, for which materials were collected from every county in Ireland.

## Funding

This work will be funded by a combination of sponsorship and support from each of the participating authorities. Each authority has been approached for a deliberately modest contribution of £5,000 as it is an essential to this project that every authority is able to contribute equally. The cumulative total (£160,000) will cover:

- all the costs of gathering materials, transportation, manufacture of tailor-made stainless steel frames and installation
- the indicator and beacon
- the cost of commissioning the poems from each area
- the publishing of the commemorative album
- delivery of presentation panels and
- all fees.

The funds will be administered centrally by Neil Baxter Associates. A fully audited accounting of the project will be submitted to each authority at the conclusion of the exercise.

## Further Information:

Neil Baxter Associates, 21 Woodside Terrace, Glasgow G3 7XH  
Tel: 0141 331 2668 Fax: 0141 332 8784

Granite  
Ophiolite  
Flagstone  
Andesite  
Red Sandstone  
Sedimentary  
Glacial  
Llandovery  
Limestone  
Slate  
Gravel  
Sandstone  
Bedrock  
Volcanic  
Igneous  
Fossil  
Carboniferous  
Quartz  
Greywacke  
Schist  
Wenlock  
Ore  
Devonian  
Black Binney  
Lava  
Slate  
Metamorphic  
Siltstone  
Basalt  
Gneiss  
Quartzite  
Marble  
Arkose

# THE STONES OF SCOTLAND

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Tel: 0141 331 2668 Fax: 0141 332 8784

Mr. A.B. Watson,  
Chief Executive,  
Angus Council,  
The Cross,  
Forfar. DD8 0BX

Thursday, June 4, 1998

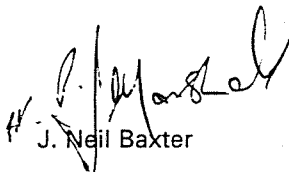
Dear Mr Watson,

## The Stones of Scotland

Further to our recent letter and enclosures with regard to the Stones for Scotland project, the enclosed note updates the position and details the various responses to date. Please contact this office if you require any further information which would help in your deliberation of the matter.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



J. Neil Baxter

Encs.



# THE STONES OF SCOTLAND

C/o Neil Baxter Associates, 21 Woodside Terrace, Glasgow G3 7XH

Tel: 0141 331 2668 Fax: 0141 332 8784

## The Stones of Scotland – Update

### Responses to date (3rd June 1998)

<b>Authority</b>	<b>Position</b>
Clackmannanshire Council	Under consideration by Chief Executive's Services
East Ayrshire Council	With Arts and Cultural Development for consideration
Edinburgh City Council	Site gifted. Funding under consideration by Chief Executive
The Highland Council	Grant aid application in progress
Midlothian Council	Due for consideration at Policy and Resources Committee, 9th June 1998
Orkney Islands Council	Due for consideration, pending decision by mid-July 1998
West Lothian Council	Agreement in principle
Shetland Islands Council	Offer of support 'in kind' – artist participation
South Ayrshire Council	Passed to the Council's Grants Officer – grant aid application in progress

