

ANGUS COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL AND LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE – 27 NOVEMBER 2003

DECLARATION OF ARBROATH CONFERENCE PUBLICATION

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEISURE SERVICES

ABSTRACT

This report informs the Committee of the impending publication of the proceedings of the Conference held in 2001 on the Declaration of Arbroath.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- a) notes the publication of the Declaration of Arbroath Conference proceedings; and
- b) agrees to contribute £1,000 towards the publication costs from the Arts and Heritage Grant Aid

2. BACKGROUND

Angus Council, prior to the opening of the new Arbroath Abbey Visitor Centre agreed to mark the occasion by holding a conference in the Webster Theatre, Arbroath on the Declaration of Arbroath (Report no 289/01)

The conference was organised by the Society of Antiquaries, Historic Scotland and Angus Council, and was held on 20 and 21 October 2001, with many eminent academics from universities on both sides of the border giving detailed research papers. The programme was reported to Angus Council in April 2001 (Report no 440/01).

The conference was well attended, with over 200 delegates attending, and a reception was held for them in the Webster Theatre at the close of the conference, at which the Provost and the President of the Society of Antiquaries both addressed the audience.

After the conference, it was hoped that the Society of Antiquaries would publish the proceedings, and Professor Geoffrey Barrow, who had chaired the Saturday morning session agreed to edit the publication.

The book is now ready for publication, and is titled 'The Declaration of Arbroath, History, Significance, Setting' The contents are as follows:

Foreword Councillor Frances E Duncan, Provost Angus Council
Preface Professor Geoffrey Barrow
'The Declaration of Arbroath: English Translation' Sir James Fergusson
'The Declaration of Arbroath: Pedigree of a Nation' Dr Dauvit Brown
'Declaring Arbroath' Professor Edward J Cowan
'The Declaration of the Clergy, 1309-10' Professor Archie Duncan
'Arbroath Abbey: A note on its Architecture and Early Conservation History' Dr Richard Fawcett
'Images of the Declaration: The Arbroath Pageant' Dr J N Graham Ritchie
'The Declaration of Arbroath: What Significance When?' Dr Grant G Simpson
'Arbroath Abbey in Context, 1178-1329' Dr Keith Stringer

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Provision for grant aid of £38,000 is contained in the Miscellaneous Services Section of the 2003/4 Revenue Budget for grants, and the award of £1,000 can be contained within the available balance within the Arts and Heritage Section of this budget.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no Human Rights implications associated with this report

5. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, the Director of Law and Administration and the Director of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

JOHN R ZIMNY
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NOTE: 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.