From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 21/12/2011 14:49:08 Subject: CormieJ_Representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 21/12/2011 02:49:08

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: James Cormie Sent: 20 December 2011 15:58 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Proposed Demolition of Perth City Hall

Proposed Demolition of Perth City Hall

Dear Ms Johnston,

I wish to lodge an objection to the application by Perth & Kinross Council for permission to demolish the Perth City Hall.

The building is a substantial and striking one and is a major feature in the centre of the town. It is in good structural condition and it is nonsense to say that no use can be found for it. The council has blatantly ignored the Scottish Historic Environment Policy, having made no effort to re-market the property since their contract with Wharfside to redevelop it fell through – the only one of the five schemes submitted at that time that was unfunded. They neither contacted the unsuccessful offerers nor attempted to publicly re-market the property, instead employing expensive consultants to give them the answer they wanted – namely that demolition (according to the consultants) would be the best result economically, despite such action costing the council between £4 and £5 million pounds. They have also refused even to consider a very attractive scheme recently submitted by Messrs. Simpson & Brown, Architects and Mr. Vivian Linacre to convert the building to a covered market and food hall, with a visitor centre and much needed tourist office, at no cost to the council.

The council's case for demolition relies on their

claim that the demolition of the building is essential to delivering significant economic benefits to economic growth and the wider community. This assertion is based on extremely questionable assumptions made by the consultants, which simply do not stand up to scrutiny.

At the start of this process, the council continually asserted that "everyone wants the Hall demolished". In the face of very substantial and mounting, public opposition, this claim has been dropped and the current assertion by the council is that "it will improve the view of St John's Kirk". If listed buildings were to be demolished simply to improve the view of other listed buildings, the country would lose much of its built heritage. Also, the "civic square" which would be left after such demolition would be, at best mediocre, since the surrounding buildings, apart from St John's Kirk, are by no means of a high standard – and even St John's Kirk is not a striking building from the outside though it is splendid inside.

Finally, the events which the council has indicated it would propose to stage in the square are, in general, completely incompatible with the large number of residential properties surrounding the proposed "civic square". Perth already has a small, compact central area with two large public parks, the North and South Inches, immediately adjoining that central area. All of the events proposed for the square are already – and much more appropriately held on these Inches, so there is absolutely no need for a "civic square".

I accordingly request that the council's application to demolish the Perth City Hall be refused and that they be required to take genuine action to market the property.

Yours sincerely,

J E D Cormie

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20th December, 2011 Heritage Manangement Directorate, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH Email : <u>hs.consultationsperthandkinross@scotland.gsi.gov.uk</u>

Demolition of Perth City Hall

Dear Ms Johnston,

I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this important listed building. My objection is based on the following grounds.

1. Para 3.50 of your SHEP guidelines states "...*it is Scottish Ministers' policy that no listed building shall be demolished unless it can be clearly demonstrated that every effort has been made to save it.*"

The Council have not fulfilled this requirement of your policy because: (a) at the end of the abortive negotiations with Wharfside in 2009 they failed to contact the "reserve bidders" at least one of whom was still interested in acquiring the building. (b) Instead of re-marketing the building, as required by para 3.50 (d), of your SHEP guidelines, they appointed consultants to advise them on potential alternative uses. This was a technique that was less likely to make contact with restoring purchasers than open marketing and, furthermore, the brief they gave the consultants excluded a requirement to consider "... *the symbolic, personal and social value of the City Hall or its importance in the collective memory of the local population and their sense of place.*" (see page 53 para4.8 of the Locum Report). They also unnecessarily constrained the brief by requiring the consultants to work within the framework of Best Value and Green Book Treasury guidelines which, if they are relevant at all, apply only to public sector users. Finally, they have refused, within the past month, to consider a scheme lodged by Mr. V Linacre and Simpson and Brown, architects to re-use the entire building as a market, retail and cultural facility.

2. The case for demolition of the building rests on a claim that demolishing it would meet the criterion set out at para 3.50 (d) of your SHEP guidelines, namely "...the demolition of the building is essential to delivering significant economic benefits to economic growth and the wider community." This claim is based only on the guesswork of the Locum consultants that replacing the building with a civic square would generate an extra 210,000 visitors a year. As one example of the "events" that will generate such benefits the consultants suggest that ice skating on the square for 5 weeks each winter will generate a surplus revenue of £50,300. Despite the easily verifiable fact that a comparable facility in Edinburgh has accrued losses in the order of £250,000 since 1998, and the George Square Glasgow facility also runs at a loss, these predictions have been accepted unquestioningly by the Council. The economic justification for demolition is, in fact, entirely conjectural and is, I believe, an inadequate basis for the removal of such an important building.

- 3. Apart from St. John's Kirk, the buildings around the proposed square are mediocre in terms of their architectural quality and the space created would be windswept and undistinguished in comparison with squares which have genuine visitor appeal. In environmental terms, the loss would be greater than the gain.
- 4. The proposed square would be relatively small and has a considerable number of residential properties on its north and south sides and in all the adjacent streets. None of the reports considered by Council's committees since 16th June 2010 including the Development Control Committee of 16th November gives a single thought to the issue of whether the events programme, which is integral to the economic case, is compatible with the need to maintain an adequate standard of residential amenity for existing properties.
- 5. All the figures produced by Perth and Kinross Council to prove the "not economic" to repair / beyond repair argument are seriously flawed at best and adjusted to suit their own needs. The building is not in a state of disrepair as they persist to claim, it is sound and in good order.
- 6. The council states that the property has been on the open market and met with no response. Where was this advertised, when was it advertised and who was marketing it? Unlike other city centre properties owned by the Council there have been no signs to intimate "For Sale".
- 7. Perth and Kinross Council elected to seek Public opinion on whether the City Hall should be demolished. Despite the majority of public responses being in favour of retention they chose to ignore this. Instead they sided with the vocal business minority, who obviously have a vested interest in preventing more shop units being created.

For the above reasons, I request that the Council's application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to engage in an open, genuine exercise to find a restoring purchaser.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Smith MRICS

From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 21/12/2011 14:48:41 Subject: FW: Perth City Hall To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 21/12/2011 02:48:41

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: Alan Sent: 20 December 2011 14:13 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Perth City Hall

Please find attached my formal object to the proposed demolition of Perth City Hall

Regards,

Alan

Alan Smith

tel: fax:

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From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 20/12/2011 16:05:22 Subject: ReidF_Representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 20/12/2011 04:05:22

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: Johnston L (Leigh) Sent: 20 December 2011 09:58 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: FW: Ref 11/01083/LBC

From: Florence Reid

Sent: 20 December 2011 09:52 To: support@saveperthcityhall.co.uk Subject: Fw: Ref 11/01083/LBC

For your interest.

Page 2 of 4

-----Original Message------

From: Florence Reid

Date: 20/12/2011 09:44:13

To: hs.consultationsperth&kinross@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Subject: Ref 11/01083/LBC

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I write to add my name to the hundreds who do not agree with the decision to demolish our City Hall here in Perth.

I wrote to the

Perthshire Advertiser actually several years ago when this debate first started but alas I did not keep the published letter nor the P.A. that it was written in so I cannot quote date nor year but my feelings then are the same as now. Unfortunately, what I said then has now come to be fact and that is that Perth now has no central point and no place for its inhabitants to meet as we once did.

Perth is or was then, a small market

town and all the better for it. Our life now has been snuffed out with the closure of the City Hall. Our children can no longer host their music festivals there, where citizens could congregate and meet to enjoy the musical prowess of their children. Instead they are forced to hold these events fragmented in various venues throughout the city that are difficult to get to. Hiring Perth's new Concert Hall is out of the question as the rates are far too high. Likewise with school prize-givings. These too have had to be held outwith the city centre for the same reasons.

Historically the

City Hall was a meeting place for all Perth citizens and the demise of that has also caused the demise of the city centre itself. There is no buzz in the city now. In fact, there's nothing that tells us we are actually in the fair city at all, we could be in any town or city because there's now nothing to mark it as special.

We have lost the

venue for antique fairs, concerts that people could afford, coffee mornings, afternoon teas, Scottish Country dances. The charities Hypermarket, school prizegiving (as mentioned) music festivals (likewise). The annual Flower Show, ceilidhs and so many more events too numerous to mention.

There's nowhere now

we can hire that's affordable for church fetes and fairs and sales and etc and this too has killed the heart of the people and caused so many retail outlets to close. When we were in town at some of the above mentioned events, we would browse and buy goods from the shops, have coffee or lunch with friends and etc. Now there is nothing to attract us to the centre and so Perth has lost out on what could have been and might still be a fantastic asset.

If we had spent

the money it cost to build the new concert hall on upgrading Perth's City Hall, we could have had a centre to be proud of. Just look at Dundee's Caird Hall, which is a fine example of what could have been done had the city

fathers had some forethought.

For these reasons and many more I implore you, if you can, to help us keep our city hall and to restore to Perth its heart.

Yours in hope,

Florence M J Reid

2 2 DEC 201 Heritage Manangement Directorate, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH Email: hs.consultationsperthandkinrosstascotland.gsi.gov.uk

Demolition of Perth City Hall

Dear Ms Johnston,

I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this important listed building. My objection is based on the following grounds.

 Para 3.50 of your SHEP guidelines states "...it is Scottish Ministers' policy that no listed building shall be demolished unless it can be clearly demonstrated that every effort has been made to save it." The Council have not fulfilled this requirement of your policy because:

 (a) at the end of the abortive negotiations with Wharfside in 2009 they failed to contact the "reserve bidders" at least one of whom was still interested in acquiring the building.

(b) Instead of re-marketing the building, as required by para 3.50 (d), of your SHEP guidelines, they appointed consultants to advise them on potential alternative uses. This was a technique that was less likely to make contact with restoring purchasers than open marketing and, furthermore, the brief they gave the consultants excluded a requirement to consider "...the symbolic, personal and social value of the City Hall or its importance in the collective memory of the local population and their sense of place." (see page 53 para4.8 of the Locum Report). They also unnecessarily constrained the brief by requiring the consultants to work within the framework of Best Value and Green Book Treasury guidelines which, if they are relevant at all, apply only to public sector users. Finally, they have refused, within the past month, to consider a scheme lodged by Mr. V Linacre and Simpson and Brown, architects to re-use the entire building as a market, retail and cultural facility.

2. The case for demolition of the building rests on a claim that demolishing it would meet the criterion set out at para 3.50 (d) of your SHEP guidelines, namely "...the demolition of the building is essential to delivering significant economic benefits to economic growth and the wider community." This claim is based only on the guesswork of the Locum consultants that replacing the building with a civic square would generate an extra 210,000 visitors a year. As one example of the "events" that will generate such benefits the consultants suggest that ice skating on the square for 5 weeks each winter will generate a surplus revenue of £50,300. Despite the easily verifiable fact that a comparable facility in Edinburgh has accrued losses in the order of £250,000 since 1998, and the George Square Glasgow facility also runs at a loss, these predictions have been accepted unquestioningly by the Council. The economic

justification for demolition is, in fact, entirely conjectural and is, I believe, an inadequate basis for the removal of such an important building.

- 3. Apart from St. John's Kirk, the buildings around the proposed square are mediocre in terms of their architectural quality and the space created would be windswept and undistinguished in comparison with squares which have genuine visitor appeal. In environmental terms, the loss would be greater than the gain.
- 4. The proposed square would be relatively small and has a considerable number of residential properties on its north and south sides and in all the adjacent streets. None of the reports considered by Council's committees since 16th June 2010 including the Development Control Committee of 16th November gives a single thought to the issue of whether the events programme, which is integral to the economic case, is compatible with the need to maintain an adequate standard of residential amenity for existing properties.

For the above reasons, I request that the Council's application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to engage in an open, genuine exercise to find a restoring purchaser.



hcurry

FM O FICE 1107 NON EZ

Date 20-11-11

Attn. Alex Salmond, First Minister, Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh.

PERTH CITY HALL

Dear First Minister,

I am sure that you share my concern for the rediculous decision made by Perth & Kinross Council to demolish Perth City Hall to form an outdoor square.

Do they think Perth is in the Mediterranean !!!!!!! How many weeks of the year will an outdoor Square be used in Perth, Scotland?

The building itself is a classic piece of construction, the likes of which will never be seen again if it is demolished.

Perth City Hall is an integral part of Perth. Take it away and there will be an irreplaceable hole in the life of Perth as well as a monstrous gap site in the town centre.

I do not know the overall condition of the building. A stroll round the outside shows that the stonework is superb. No doubt the roof needs maintenance and the inside could probably do with some redecoration but costs for this work will be negligible compared to demolition and forming an outdoor Square.

With an eye to the Scottish weather, surely the way forward is to renovate the hall and open it up for the proposed uses ie. an indoor Square for exhibitions, performers, cafes etc.

It can then be used 12 months of the year instead of 2 weeks in the summer.

I have never heard such a stupid idea as demolish it for an outdoor Square in Scotland.

I presume, if you check the title deeds and history of the building that it was built for the specific purpose of holding indoor events in Perth to combat the effect of the Scottish climate.

Nothing has changed there so why the rush to knock it down?

I do hope that common sense prevails and Perth City Hall will be there for the use and enjoyment of many future generations.



George A. Johnston



Heritage Manangement Directorate, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH Email : hs.consultationsperthandkinross@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Demolition of Perth City Hall

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For the above reasons, I request that the Council's application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to engage in an open, genuine exercise to find a restoring purchaser.



Yours sincerely,



20th December 2011

Heritage Management Directorate Historic Scotland Longmore House Salisbury Place Edinburgh EH9 1SH

Dear Ms Johnston,

Proposed Demolition of Perth City Hall

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At the start of this process, the council continually asserted that "everyone wants the Hall demolished". In the face of very substantial and mounting, public opposition, this claim has been dropped and the current assertion by the council is that "it will improve the view of St John's Kirk". If listed buildings were to be demolished simply to improve the view of other listed buildings, the country would lose much of its built heritage. Also, the "civic square" which would be left after such demolition would be, at best mediocre, since the surrounding buildings, apart from St John's Kirk, are by no means of a high standard – and even St John's Kirk is not a striking building from the outside though it is splendid inside.

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l accordingly request that the council's application to demolish the Perth City Hall be refused and that they be required to take genuine action to market the property.

Yours sincerely,



(Stella A. Cormie)

From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 21/12/2011 14:48:54 Subject: TaylorJ&L_Representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 21/12/2011 02:48:54

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: Lynn Taylor Sent: 20 December 2011 14:43 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Demolition of Perth City Hall

We as local residents object to the demolition of Perth City Hall - most other countries are trying to preserve their heritage, they will never construct buildings of this quality again

John & Lynn Taylor/Perth

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From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 21/12/2011 14:49:55 Subject: TaylorM_Representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 21/12/2011 02:49:55

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From:

Sent: 21 December 2011 14:38 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Perth City Hall

Dear Heritage Management Directorate

I wish to state that I am opposed to the demolition of Perth City Hall for the following reasons:-

1. It is an impressive looking building and we have very few of them in Perth. The cherubs on top are wonderful!

In the past mistakes have been made and buildings like Gowrie House and many more with interesting architectural features have been removed.

.

2. The

energy used in demolition, crushing of stone etc. would be enormous which is quite a consideration in this "green" age. Our local council should not be in favour of wasteful use of energy and resources.

3. One

building saved and give another life in Perth is the old waterworks now the Ferguson Gallery. I took visitors there this summer and was told that there was not enough wall space to display all the art they have. I think the City Hall would make a great gallery.

4. This

past summer was wet! We need more indoor attractions for visitors in the centre of town all year round and not a square with limited use. I don't mind what the building is used for. So many great ideas have been already suggested. With a little cleaning, refurbishment and goodwill the building could have another century of use.

5.Perth will not be the same without our City Hall. I don't think Perth deserve to be given city status if the council demolish our "city" hall especially as the public had no direct vote on the matter.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Taylor

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Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: Graeme Stewart Sent: 21 December 2011 18:51 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Re Perth City Hall

Dear Sirs,

Surely the Council can't be serious in wanting to demolish this beautiful building.

Graeme Stewart

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Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: Sheila Robertson Sent: 21 December 2011 15:23 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Perth City Hall

I object to the decision made by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish the City Hall.

It is a much loved building and it could be used for many purposes. It stands in the heart of the town and before its closure had many uses which created a vibrancy in this area which is now sadly lacking. Perth needs to bring people back into the heart of the town and a big open space will not do this. The buildings surrounding the City Hall are not aesthetically pleasing (the exception being St John's Kirk) and the proposed open space would be drab and ugly.

Should the front of the building with its magnificent columns and cherubs be razed to the ground, it would be absolute vandalism.

As you will know, Perth has applied to be granted City status. It seems very unjust that whilst wishing to be officially a city, the council vote to demolish our City Hall.

Mrs S Robertson



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RIAS | The Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland

Aonachadh Rìoghail nan Ailtire ann an Alba

Fiona Hyslop MSP Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

21st December 2011

Dear Fiona,

Historic Scotland Corporate Plan 2012-2015 and Perth City Hall

Thank you for your response to my letter of 15th November. I have already been in contact with Ian Walford and propose to meet with him early in the New Year.

I hope Mr Walford will be able to alleviate our concerns over Historic Scotland's seeming abandonment of its role in the listing and protection of Scotland's built heritage. On the face of it, it might suit the architectural profession, from a purely selfish viewpoint, to have a more relaxed regime. However the Incorporation's concerns over the fundamental change in Historic Scotland's role are shared by our 4000 members.

Your response mentions the gratifyingly large number of responses to the draft. However from talking to others I am aware that many share our concerns and have also expressed them in strong terms. We fully appreciate the need for financial stringency. However we do not see how this, in any way, relates to the Scottish Historic Environment Policy which is the Government's determination on how others should care for their historic properties. This confusion is reiterated in your letter of response and is certainly one we would be anxious to resolve.

I have been instructed by our Council to write to you on one specific property, which is perhaps a good testing ground for the Scottish Government's aspirations vis-à-vis the historic environment. The RIAS Chapter which contains Perth within its territory is the Dundee Institute of Architects. The Institute has been vociferous in its complaints against the proposed demolition of Perth City Hall. The press too, within Scotland and beyond, has been exercised on the topic. It is very worrying that an authority which has effectively allowed a building in its ownership to become dilapidated can then grant itself permission for demolition on the basis of that dilapidation. The press has opined that, as the local Council is SNP led, their Government approval is a foregone conclusion. This is a scurrilous suggestion which will, I hope, be strongly refuted by your Government's determination.

Per the recent jurisdiction changes, local authorities are now increasingly charged with responsibility for all 'B' and 'C'-listed properties within their respective areas. It would give out a very wrong signal indeed if this authority were allowed to get away with the demolition of this important, attractive and eminently saveable 'B'-listed building on the most expedient of grounds. The £4m cost of demolition and creating a totally unnecessary square would doubtless preserve the building for very many years to come. If this finance were dedicated to the positive adaptive restoration of the building there is no question that it would be transformed into an important attraction for local people and visitors. All that seems lacking here is a little vision and imagination.

PRESIDENT Sholto Humphries SECRETARY & TREASURER Neil Baxter

15 Rutland Square, Edinburgh EH1 2BE T + 44 (0) 131 229 7545 F +44 (0) 131 228 2188 E info@rias.org.uk W www.rias.org.uk REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER RC000483 SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER SC002753

The inevitable enquiry from owners of other 'B'-listed buildings would be "if you've knocked down yours, why can't I knock down mine?". It would indeed be a thoroughly legitimate question. Unless Perth proposes a carte blanche on the demolition of everything other than 'A'-listed buildings, we would ask that you use the powers at your Government's disposal to ensure the retention, care and beneficial adaptation of a building, the loss of which would destroy an irreplaceable asset, compromise Perth's medieval street plan and send out the worst possible signal about Scotland.

This letter was written on the instruction of the RIAS Council and has been copied to them.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Baxter Secretary & Treasurer

List of Objections to Demolition of Perth City Hall 21/12/11 Sent to saveperthcityhall@gmail.com Compiled by Barry Pringle Page 13

Florence Reid

Dec 20

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I write to add my name to the hundreds who do not agree with the decision to demolish our City Hall here in Perth.

Perth is a small market town and all the better for it. Our life now has been snuffed out with the closure of the City Hall. Our children can no longer host their music festivals there, where citizens could congregate and meet to enjoy the musical prowess of their children. Instead they are forced to hold these events fragmented in various venues throughout the city that are difficult to get to. Hiring Perth's new Concert Hall is out of the question as the rates are far too high. Likewise with school prize-givings. These too have had to be held outwith the city centre for the same reasons.

Historically the City Hall was a meeting place for all Perth citizens and the demise of that has also caused the demise of the city centre itself. There is no buzz in the city now. In fact, there's nothing that tells us we are actually in the fair city at all, we could be in any town or city because there's now nothing to mark it as special.

We have lost the venue for antique fairs, concerts that people could afford, coffee mornings, afternoon teas, Scottish Country dances. The charities Hypermarket, school prizegiving (as mentioned) music festivals (likewise). The annual Flower Show, ceilidhs and so many more events too numerous to mention.

There's nowhere now we can hire that's affordable for church fetes and fairs and sales and etc and this too has killed the heart of the people and caused so many retail outlets to close. When we were in town at some of the above mentioned events, we would browse and buy goods from the shops, have coffee or lunch with friends and etc. Now there is nothing to attract us to the centre and so Perth has lost out on what could have been and might still be a fantastic asset.

If we had spent the money it cost to build the new concert hall on upgrading Perth's City Hall, we could have had a centre to be proud of. Just look at Dundee's Caird Hall, which is a fine example of what could have been done had the city fathers had some forethought.

For these reasons and many more I implore you, if you can, to help us keep our city hall and to restore to Perth its heart.

From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 21/12/2011 14:49:18 Subject: PryorH_Representation(2) To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 21/12/2011 02:49:18

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: heather pryor Sent: 21 December 2011 09:51 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: ref: 11/01083/LBC

To whom it may concern,

I should like my opinion about the DEMOLITION of Perth City Hall to be registered.

I am totally

against it, the building has been well used over the years and is a feature of the centre of Perth. I think the sculpture is intersting and beautiful. I am sure that if the Council put their minds to it a worthwhile use could be found.

This building

laid waiting for years for Wharfdale Enterprises to make a decision and the Council appeared to have no problem with allowing this company many years to eventually decline their interest. All the people that I know in Perth are disgusted with the Council decision but it appears that although we pay Council Tax etc we have little right to our voices being heard. What are the

Council going to put in its place......a piazza so that in the bamy scottish weather we can all sit and enjoy the sunshine; sit outside restaurants and vie with the smokers to enjoy the area, cough, cough. I am being very scarcastic as this summer we have had very few days that have been dry enough to sit outside. I understand there is an artists impression of the area with snow on the ground and people sitting and enjoying the space. This is so ludicrous.

I do know

that people I have spoken to are concerned that within a short time the 'piazza' will be over-run with drunks, especially in the evenings, drug users etc which would render the area unusable by many people.

Once this

building is demolished we can never replace the architecture. Perth will be without a city hall and what will the councillors do if their wish of Perth becoming a city comes true.....why build another city hall!!!!

Thankyou

Heather Pryor

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List of Objections to Demolition of Perth City Hall 21/12/11 Sent to <u>saveperthcityhall@gmail.com</u> Compiled by Barry Pringle Page 8

JANIS PRINGLE

Oct 3

I write to express my strong objection to this fine building being demolished. Perth is extremely lucky to have this Edwardian building at its heart, adding a sophistication to the city. As a nation we are fascinated by the story of the Titanic, yet this building dates from the same period and stands empty and forlorn, awaiting its fate at the hands of Perth City Council. It's so easy to destroy a building of such grandeur, a kind of grandeur from the past which can never be replaced in these straitened modern times.

For many of us the City Hall has a place in our hearts as the location of school end-of-term ceremonies and it was probably where we heard our first gig. Some great bands have played there. Perth has a new concert theatre (I'm sure that something could have been done to save the City Hall with the budget for this new venue which stood at around $\pounds 12m$) but it can't replace the warm stone of this Edwardian old friend.

And what will replace it when it has gone? A bleak, empty square fulfilling no purpose whatsoever, adding nothing to the life of the city. No doubt in time, when the square fails to convince anyone of its effectiveness it will be turned into a car park or a supermarket, completely spoiling the historic heart of the city.

Perth is unusual for a small town in having grand and imposing buildings such as the City Hall, the Theatre, the Museum, McEwan's and the Salutation Hotel to name but a few. Destroying any one of these will diminish Perth's very special character. It's worrying that the City fathers, those same people who should be protecting the uniqueness of Perth, now seek to begin its destruction by demolishing possibly its most important asset.

There are those who argue in favour of keeping a facade of the City Hall. What purpose would that serve, exactly? As a reminder that a fine building with a special interior once stood there? Either we keep the whole city hall or we don't. I'm not averse to compromises. I wouldn't mind one wall being rebuilt in glass for example, if an exciting but sympathetic plan could be drawn up along the lines of the Floral Hall Covent Garden, or The Colston Hall in Bristol, but largely the whole building should be preserved. The council seem to have made few efforts to investigate any such possibility. They seem to lack the will, or is it the imagination?

The Proms were recently broadcast from The Caird Hall in Dundee. Why this very similar building is thought not only worth preserving but using for such a high profile broadcast while the one in Perth is considered only fit for demolition beats me.

From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 22/12/2011 11:42:59 Subject: PringleB-Representation & List of objections To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 22/12/2011 11:42:59

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: Johnston L (Leigh) Sent: 22 December 2011 11:05 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: FW: List of objections

Lynn,

Here is the email as discussed.

Thanks

Leigh

From: Barry Pringle Sent: 21 December 2011 22:50 To: Johnston L (Leigh) Subject: List of objections

Dear Leigh,

I hope you are well and not too inundated with Save Perth City Hall objections. I'm afraid I have a few more to add to your collection.

These are the original objections which I received when I first set up our

e-mailing group, from which was born our website www.saveperthcityhall.co.uk

I have 13 pages which contain 37 objections, going back to September. Every one is a genuine protest at Perth Council's decision to demolish Perth's finest building the City Hall, and was sent to our e-mailing list from September. All postal or e-mail addresses are present should you wish to confirm an objection.

As is obvious now, there is a tremendous response to the council's decision, with hundreds of protesters voicing there opposition on Facebook, Twitter, the website, e-mail group, local and national newspapers and magazines. We now have international supporters who feel the same sense of outrage at what amounts to the ruling of four SNP councillors.

We are hoping Historic Scotland will not bow to Government pressure if for whatever reason they should choose to support Perth Council, and that sense and justice finally prevail.

Regards,

Barry Pringle.

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Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From:

Sent: 21 December 2011 19:21 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Perth City Hall proposed demolition



21st December 2011. Heritage Manangement Directorate, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH Email : hs.consultationsperthandkinross@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Demolition of Perth City Hall

Dear Sir / Madam, I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this listed building. It is not yet clear to members of the public that every effort has been made to save it. Demolition of the building will only create an empty space at the centre of the town, whereas the City Hall does have the potential to be used for markets, fairs and other events as central venues are lacking. This model has been implemented successfully elsewhere. I request that the Council's application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to look again for a restoring purchaser.

Yours faithfully, Heritage Manangement Directorate, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH Email : <u>hs.consultationsperthandkinross@scotland.gsi.gov.uk</u>

Demolition of Perth City Hall

Dear Ms Johnston,

I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this important listed building. My objection is based on the following grounds.

- 1. Para 3.50 of your SHEP guidelines states "...it is Scottish Ministers' policy that no listed building shall be demolished unless it can be clearly demonstrated that every effort has been made to save it." The Council have not fulfilled this requirement of your policy because: (a) at the end of the abortive negotiations with Wharfside in 2009 they failed to contact the "reserve bidders" at least one of whom was still interested in acquiring the building. (b) Instead of re-marketing the building, as required by para 3.50 (d), of your SHEP guidelines, they appointed consultants to advise them on potential alternative uses. This was a technique that was less likely to make contact with restoring purchasers than open marketing and, furthermore, the brief they gave the consultants excluded a requirement to consider "... the symbolic, personal and social value of the City Hall or its importance in the collective memory of the local population and their sense of place." (see page 53 para4.8 of the Locum Report). They also unnecessarily constrained the brief by requiring the consultants to work within the framework of Best Value and Green Book Treasury guidelines which, if they are relevant at all, apply only to public sector users. Finally, they have refused, within the past month, to consider a scheme lodged by Mr. V Linacre and Simpson and Brown, architects to re-use the entire building as a market, retail and cultural facility.
- 2. The case for demolition of the building rests on a claim that demolishing it would meet the criterion set out at para 3.50 (d) of your SHEP guidelines, namely "...the demolition of the building is essential to delivering significant economic benefits to economic growth and the wider community." This claim is based only on the guesswork of the Locum consultants that replacing the building with a civic square would generate an extra 210,000 visitors a year. As one example of the "events" that will generate such benefits the consultants suggest that ice skating on the square for 5 weeks each winter will generate a surplus revenue of £50,300. Despite the easily verifiable **fact** that a comparable facility in Edinburgh has accrued losses in the order of £250,000 since 1998, and the George Square Glasgow facility also runs at a loss, these predictions have been accepted unquestioningly by the Council. The economic justification for demolition is, in fact, entirely conjectural and is, I believe, an inadequate basis for the removal of such an important building.
- 3. Apart from St. John's Kirk, the buildings around the proposed square are mediocre in terms of their architectural quality and the space created would be windswept and undistinguished in comparison with squares which have genuine visitor appeal. In environmental terms, the loss would be greater than the gain.
- 4. The proposed square would be relatively small and has a considerable number of residential

properties on its north and south sides and in all the adjacent streets. None of the reports considered by Council's committees since 16^{th} June 2010 – including the Development Control Committee of 16^{th} November – gives a single thought to the issue of whether the events programme, which is integral to the economic case, is compatible with the need to maintain an adequate standard of residential amenity for existing properties.

For the above reasons, I request that the Council's application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to engage in an open, genuine exercise to find a restoring purchaser.

Above all I want this discussed fairly and openly and voted on by the whole Council.

Yours sincerely,

Lorna Ogilvie

Heritage Manangement Directorate, Historic Scotland,	RECEIVED 2 2 DEC 2011
Longmore House,	5
Salisbury Place,	terret de la companya de la companya En la companya de la c
Edinburgh EH9 1SH	
Email: hs.consultationsperthandkinross/ascotland.gsi.gov.uk	

Demolition of Perth City Hall

Dear Ms Johnston,

I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this important listed building. My objection is based on the following grounds.

 Para 3.50 of your SHEP guidelines states "...it is Scottish Ministers' policy that no listed building shall be demolished unless it can be clearly demonstrated that every effort has been made to save it." The Council have not fulfilled this requirement of your policy because:

 (a) at the end of the abortive negotiations with Wharfside in 2009 they failed to contact the "reserve bidders" at least one of whom was still interested in acquiring the building.

(b) Instead of re-marketing the building, as required by para 3.50 (d), of your SHEP guidelines, they appointed consultants to advise them on potential alternative uses. This was a technique that was less likely to make contact with restoring purchasers than open marketing and, furthermore, the brief they gave the consultants excluded a requirement to consider "...the symbolic, personal and social value of the City Hall or its importance in the collective memory of the local population and their sense of place." (see page 53 para4.8 of the Locum Report). They also unnecessarily constrained the brief by requiring the consultants to work within the framework of Best Value and Green Book Treasury guidelines which, if they are relevant at all, apply only to public sector users. Finally, they have refused, within the past month, to consider a scheme lodged by Mr. V Linacre and Simpson and Brown, architects to re-use the entire building as a market, retail and cultural facility.

2. The case for demolition of the building rests on a claim that demolishing it would meet the criterion set out at para 3.50 (d) of your SHEP guidelines, namely "...the demolition of the building is essential to delivering significant economic benefits to economic growth and the wider community." This claim is based only on the guesswork of the Locum consultants that replacing the building with a civic square would generate an extra 210,000 visitors a year. As one example of the "events" that will generate such benefits the consultants suggest that ice skating on the square for 5 weeks each winter will generate a surplus revenue of £50,300. Despite the easily verifiable fact that a comparable facility in Edinburgh has accrued losses in the order of £250,000 since 1998, and the George Square Glasgow facility also runs at a loss, these predictions have been accepted unquestioningly by the Council. The economic

justification for demolition is, in fact, entirely conjectural and is, I believe, an inadequate basis for the removal of such an important building.

- 3. Apart from St. John's Kirk, the buildings around the proposed square are mediocre in terms of their architectural quality and the space created would be windswept and undistinguished in comparison with squares which have genuine visitor appeal. In environmental terms, the loss would be greater than the gain.
- 4. The proposed square would be relatively small and has a considerable number of residential properties on its north and south sides and in all the adjacent streets. None of the reports considered by Council's committees since 16th June 2010 including the Development Control Committee of 16th November gives a single thought to the issue of whether the events programme, which is integral to the economic case, is compatible with the need to maintain an adequate standard of residential amenity for existing properties.

For the above reasons, I request that the Council's application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to engage in an open, genuine exercise to find a restoring purchaser.





Fax:

L Johnston Esq Historic Scotland Longmore House Salisbury Place Edinburgh EH9 1SH

21 December 2011

Dear Mr Johnston

PERTH CITY HALL

I recently read, with great dismay, the story surrounding the above and the fact that Perth & Kinross Council have approved plans to knock down this wonderful building to make way for a new Civic Square.

As you may know I have been involved with saving and restoring Greenlaw Town Hall which has been very strongly welcomed by everyone in the community. I do feel that Perth City Hall is an equally significant and important building (albeit a Grade B Listed Building rather than a Grade A Listed Building, as is Greenlaw Town Hall) and I am sure that you will take everything into account when deciding whether or not to endorse the proposal for demolition.

If the building is demolished it will be lost forever and I am sure that the vast majority of people in the area will deeply regret that. I am writing to you as someone who is keen to save and regenerate buildings such as this rather than see them demolished, which I know, in this case, would be considered by many to be an act of sheer vandalism.

Whilst writing may I take this opportunity of thanking you for making it possible for the community in this area to come together and save Greenlaw Town Hall. Without your initial offer of financial support we would not have been able to save this wonderful building. I do sincerely hope that you will take the same view with Perth City Hall and would be grateful if you would pass this letter around your colleagues at Historic Scotland.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely



Dictated by Mr Leggate and signed in his absence to avoid delay



From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 22/12/2011 11:41:50 Subject: Representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 22/12/2011 11:41:50

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From:

Sent: 21 December 2011 19:33 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Demolition of Perth City Hall



December 2011. Heritage Manangement Directorate, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH Email : hs.consultationsperthandkinross@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Demolition of Perth City Hall

Dear Sir / Madam,

I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this listed building. Removing the City Hall will create an unnecessary windswept area in the centre of the town. The building could provide a much-needed warm venue for markets of all kinds and other events.

I request that the Council's application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to look again for a restoring purchaser.

Yours faithfully,

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Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: Tony Dalton Gmail Sent: 21 December 2011 14:43 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Objection to the demolition of Perth City Hall

Heritage Manangement Directorate, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH Email : hs.consultationsperthandkinross@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Demolition of Perth City Hall

Dear Ms Johnston,

I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this important listed building. My objection is based on the following grounds. Para 3.50 of your SHEP guidelines states "...it is Scottish Ministers' policy that no listed building shall be demolished unless it can be clearly demonstrated that every effort has been made to save it." The Council have not fulfilled this requirement of your policy because: (a) at the end of the abortive negotiations with Wharfside in 2009 they failed to contact the "reserve bidders" at least one of whom was still interested in acquiring the building. (b) Instead of re-marketing the building, as required by para 3.50 (d), of your SHEP guidelines, they appointed consultants to advise them on potential alternative uses. This was a technique that was less likely to make contact with restoring purchasers than open marketing and, furthermore, the brief they gave the consultants excluded a requirement to consider "...the symbolic, personal and social value of the City Hall or its importance in the collective memory of the local population and their sense of place." (see page 53 para4.8 of the Locum Report). They also unnecessarily constrained the brief by requiring the consultants to work within the framework of Best Value and Green Book Treasury guidelines which, if they are relevant at all, apply only to public sector

users. Finally, they have refused, within the past month, to consider a scheme
lodged by Mr. V Linacre and Simpson and Brown, architects to re-use the entire building as a market, retail and cultural facility.

The case for demolition of the building rests on a claim that demolishing it would meet the criterion set out at para 3.50 (d) of your SHEP guidelines, namely "...the demolition of the building is essential to delivering significant economic benefits to economic growth and the wider community." This claim is based only on the guesswork of the Locum consultants that replacing the building with a civic square would generate an extra 210,000 visitors a year. As one example of the "events" that will generate such benefits the consultants suggest that ice skating on the square for 5 weeks each winter will generate a surplus revenue of £50,300. Despite the easily verifiable fact that a comparable facility in Edinburgh has accrued losses in the order of £250.000 since 1998, and the George Square Glasgow facility also runs at a loss, these predictions have been accepted unguestioningly by the Council. The economic justification for demolition is, in fact, entirely conjectural and is, I believe, an inadequate basis for the removal of such an important building. Apart from St. John's Kirk, the buildings around the proposed square are mediocre in terms of their architectural guality and the space created would be windswept and undistinguished in comparison with squares which have genuine visitor appeal. In environmental terms, the loss would be greater than the gain.

The proposed square would be relatively small and has a considerable number of residential properties on its north and south sides and in all the adjacent streets. None of the reports considered by Council's committees since 16th June 2010 – including the Development Control Committee of 16th November – gives a single thought to the issue of whether the events programme, which is integral to the economic case, is compatible with the need to maintain an adequate standard of residential amenity for existing properties.

For the above reasons, I request that the Council's application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to engage in an open, genuine exercise to find a restoring purchaser.

Yours sincerely, Anthony Dalton

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Historic Scotland his Norma Crounford Edinburgh RECEIVED 2 2 DEC 20 Wed 21st Dec 2011 Dear Mistanic Scattland Pliease, placese please can your help with and fight to stop a certian few, Parth Cauncilors Knocking dawn the beautiful City Halls This has been going on for years now. I have withen nemetaus letters to the Kerthshire Advertiser (local paper) as have maning others in protest plus giving some very good ideas a what it caused be used gai, all have been ignored as they are Shall bent on pulling it down to shows off the cheerich behind which I may add they are mostly all members off and make a huge square. It is auld be so

sad to loose this reanic building I have also unitter to H.R.H. Prince Charles, the kindly of kind advising me to contact your. you are and last chance to make them see sence and keep. this wonderful building so I am begging you to get invalued with this worthwhile cause. Hohing you will help us, yours sincely

*2____

List of Objections to Demolition of Perth City Hall 21/12/11 Sent to <u>saveperthcityhall@gmail.com</u> Compiled by Barry Pringle Page 9

Judy Bremner

Sep 30

I write to object to the council's decision to demolish one of Perth's outstanding historical buildings. In spite of 800 years of history which we celebrated last year, there are sadly few reminders of its colourful and important past. The City Hall may be a comparatively recent addition to Perth's history but it has a part to play in the story of the Town. It is just not good enough for the council to say they cannot find a use for it. One wonders how much effort has been expended to find an alternative solution.

Whilst an open piazza may be fine in warmer climes, it is hardly suitable for our situation and would probably degenerate into a skateboard park. Perth museum has so many artefacts it cannot exhibit but a limited number, so how about an extension in a refurbished City hall with perhaps an engraved glass wall depicting important events in the last 800 years. Could the Tourist Information Centre be moved to the city centre - I presume we do still have one somewhere??

These are just a couple of suggestions from an interested but amateur resident. I would think there are professionals in the wider world who would have many more feasible ideas. In my extensive travels round Britain I have seen many examples of innovative attractions, often in towns which have far less to boast about than Perth.

Bruce Neville

Oct 4

I wish to add my name to the list objecting to the demolition of the city hall.

Thank you,

Bruce Neville



List of Objections to Demolition of Perth City Hall 21/12/11 Sent to saveperthcityhall@gmail.com Compiled by Barry Pringle Page 7

Mary Ellen Herdman

Sep 26

I would like Perth & Kinross Council to think again about their proposed demolition of Perth City Hall and reconsider how it might be used constructively for the benefit of Perth.

Mary Herdman		
morrison margaret	Sep 27	
I would like to take this opportunity to put my families names on your petition.		
Mr Colin Morrison. Mrs Margaret Morrison. Wayne Morrison. Colin Morrison Jr		
	Oct 2	
To whom it may concern		
I strongly object to the Council's decision to demolish Perth City Hall.		
Yours sincerely,		
Dichelle Wong		
Avril Davidson	Oct 3	

Dear Barry,

I read your letter in the PA - Well done for speaking out and taking this action. I too am unhappy about the council's decision to demolish the City Hall and I support your efforts.

Please keep me up to date with any developments.

Yours sincerely Avril Davidson

List of Objections to Demolition of Perth City Hall 21/12/11 Sent to <u>saveperthcityhall@gmail.com</u> Compiled by Barry Pringle Page 6

Bill Parnell

via yahoo.com Sep 28

Myself and my wife strongly object to P&KC's proposal to demolish such a grand building as Perth City Hall.

We are sure there are other uses for this building eg an extension to the museum possibly to house relics of old Perth which are probably in storage (like the folk museum in York for example)

Bill Parnell

Derek Jackson Sep 28

I strongly object to the Council's decision to demolish Perth City Hall.

A wonderful use for the City Hall would be to house the Perth Museum which in its current state is woefully inadequate. It has hundreds of items in storage which it is unable to display due to lack of exhibition space and is not situated in an ideal position for any visitors to find being slightly off the beaten track at the far end of George Street. We could have the Carpow dug out found on the banks of the Tay, a Roman legionnaire's gravestone which is currently in the Hunterston musem which was found at Ardoch Roman Fort at Braco and I am sure there are many other Tayside artefacts which are currently displayed in other museums which could be returned to Perth.

The idea of a square for people to sit in is crazy, one the weather is totally incompatible, two, it would turn into a gathering place for people with alcohol problems.

The loss of the Perth Post Office building was a sad loss of a beautiful building - let's not have another one !

Derek and Diana Jackson

Sheila Robertson

Sep 30

I strongly object to Perth and Kinross Council's proposals to demolish Perth City Hall.

Sheila Robertson

List of Objections to Demolition of Perth City Hall 21/12/11 Sent to <u>saveperthcityhall@gmail.com</u> Compiled by Barry Pringle Page 5

Dear Mr Pringle

We wish to add our voices to the current petition opposing the demolition of the City Hall.

To us it is an act of vandalism to demolish a fine, historic building. Over the years we have enjoyed visiting this hall for antique and craft fairs, and competitions and concerts at the Royal National Mod.

We question whether Perth needs a square. There appears to be a fair number of pedestrian areas in the city already, including the High Street,

We wish the petition every success.

Kind regards

James and Catriona Dairon

Irene Mc|Nally

Sep 27

Dear Councillers,

It will be a disgrace should the Councilers decide to demolish the City Hall. It is a very beautiful Hall and there should be lots of things that could be done. Please do not get rid of it!!

cotton raymond

Sep 27

I am appalled by the decision of the P&K Council to demolish the City Hall, this well known town landmark is worth maintaining until a more competent council can find an alternative use for this building of great character.

List of Objections to Demolition of Perth City Hall 21/12/11 Sent to saveperthcityhall@gmail.com Compiled by Barry Pringle

Page 12

Anne Clackson

Nov 29

I am reading the reports about the proposed demolition of the City Hall with disbelief. I have lived almost all my life in Glasgow and am only too familiar with this kind of pointless destruction. It makes me angry beyond description. Have we learned nothing?

Anne Clackson

Paul Philippou Dec 12

Dear Madam/Sir,

I wish to formally place on record my objection to the demolition of Perth City Hall. This grade B listed building is of local importance historically and architecturally. There is no justification for its destruction and current wilful neglect. If Perth & Kinross Council are allowed to go ahead and destroy this listed building, I believe that this act will also undermine the foundations upon which Historic Scotland is built. As a historian I have written about Perth City Hall in many contexts and it features in numerous important events that have taken place in the Fair City. The fact that Perth & Kinross Council has not yet found a use for the building, and refuse to accept any of the many ideas offered by local citizens is neither hear nor there, the building has merit and would not have its current listing if Historic Scotland had not already recognised that merit. I implore you to stand by your charter and protect this building.

Yours faithfully,

Paul Philippou

lan Imrie

Dec 13

As a descendant of Lord Provost Cuthbert and a citizen of 70 years I object to the demolition of the city hall. I have recently returned from exhibiting at the Florence Bienalle and people that I talked to about the city hall were horrified at the demolition. They said that we should look at the cost of erecting a building of such quality. Any town throughout the world would be proud to own such a building. Once it is demolished there is no resurrection - the moving finger as Omar Kayam said.

List of Objections to Demolition of Perth City Hall 21/12/11 Sent to <u>saveperthcityhall@gmail.com</u> Compiled by Barry Pringle Page 11

Oct 5

The logic is flawed, the sums are very flawed, it is a very sound building that does fall short in several areas, but these shortcomings can be dealt with and not at the costs the council suggest.

Regards,

Alan.

R IMRIE

Nov 4

As the descendant of three former Lord Provost's of Perth, the longest serving one being William Imrie, I am disgusted that they propose to carry out such vandalism. My Great grandparents wiill be turning in their graves.

Robert Cuthbert Imrie

herbert booth

Sep 19

I strongly object to the demolition of Perth City Hall.

Robert Booth

ishbel wiggetts

Nov 6

We strongly object to the demolition of Perth City Hall

Yours faithfully Ishbel and Charles Wiggetts

Has anyone ever raised the fact that this is common good and belongs to people of Perth?

Andy Wightman

List of Objections to Demolition of Perth City Hall 21/12/11 Sent to <u>saveperthcityhall@gmail.com</u> Compiled by Barry Pringle Page 4

ishbel wiggetts

Sep 25

I strongly object to Perth City Hall being demolished. This must be one of the very few towns and cities in the UK without a functioning town hall. This hall should have been modernised years ago when there was no shortage of money.

Ishbel Wiggetts

sheila smith

Sep 25

Thank you for your e mail. I wish you luck with the task and offer my full support.

Sheila Smith



Louise Smith

Sep 25

Barry,

I would like to show my full support towards your campaign to save Perth City Hall, I find it appalling that the council are so set on destroying a very key historical building.

Regards,

Americo (Deano) Dean	Sep 26
"I strongly object to the Council's decision to demolish Perth City Hal	"

Pamela Macdonald	Sep 26

Please do not demolish this hall. It is a scottish landmark.

Best regards Pam

.

List of Objections to Demolition of Perth City Hall 21/12/11 Sent to saveperthcityhall@gmail.com Compiled by Barry Pringle Page 3

George Lindsay Sep 25th

Sir/Madam

Please add both our names to your petition – we strongly object to P&K Council's proposal to replace this fine piece of architecture with an empty space.

One of the responsibilities of a local council is to preserve local heritage – this proposed action most certainly does not do that.

Yours etc

GM Lindsay CF Lindsay

From: JAMES FOWLIE Date: Sun, Sep 25, 2011 at 1:05 PM Subject: PROTEST VOTE To: saveperthcityhall@gmail.com

I strongly object to the Council's decision to demolish Perth City Hall.

MORRIS MURDOCH	
Sep 25	

to me

I strongly object to the Council's decision to demolish Pert City Hall.

to me

Sep 25

I strongly object to the Council's decision to demolish Perth City Hall.

Robert Henderson **Robina Henderson** Pamela Henderson Giuseppe Di Finizio

List of Objections to Historic Scotland on the Demolition of Perth City Hall 21/12/11

Sent to <u>saveperthcityhall@gmail.com</u> Compiled by Barry Pringle

Page 1

Lucy Anderson Sep 23rd 2011

I absolutely agree with you. I think its a ridiculous idea to demolish the city hall. Well done Mr Pringle. Lucy Read

JOHN STEVEN

Sep 23rd 2011 We strongly object to the Council's decision to demolish Perth City Hall.

John Steven, Anne L. Steven

Sep 23rd 2011

I strongly object to the councils decision to demolish Perth city hall. It is a disgrace.

Elizabeth Johnston

mary murdoch Sep 24

Hello Barry Pringle

I strongly object to the Council's decision to demolish Perth City Hall.

Best Regards

Mary Murdoch

Charles Wardrop Sep 25

to me

to me

We object to the proposed, senseless destruction of Perth City Hall.

Isabel and Charles Wardrop,

PCCC Perth City Centre Campaign

Mrs. Ruth Parsons Chief Executive Historic Scotland 13 September 2011

Dear MM. Parsons

Perth City Hall

As you will be aware we and many others have lodged objections to Perth and Kinross Councils proposal for total demolition of the City Hall.

In previous letters to you reference has been made to flawed economic data in the report, on which the decision was based. As a consequence, we decided to look at the justification and the figures surrounding the Councils case.

As you are aware senior Council officials are progressing their proposal for total demolition without full Council Member approval, without taking into account their duty of care for our historic buildings, and basing their proposal on the Colliers/Locum report that clearly states:

- It is difficult to quantify the (economic) impact of each option' (page 86)
- Visitor numbers would need to be tested against market demand' (page 86)
- The lack of comparable information. There is no baseline figure from which to project uplift in visitor numbers or expenditure' (page 87)
- 'In particular it should be noted that there is no currently accepted method of calculating economic impact generated by public realm development.' (page 87)

I think you will agree that the above statements in the report signify that some figures used are highly questionable if not down right unjustifiable, and that they should be treated with caution, as they add greatly to the risks involved with this option. PCCC, being aware of these cautionary statements surrounding the model, were fortunate to have a 'forensic accountant of international repute', volunteer to look at the figures of the options that were floated by the Council.

As we concur with the consultant's views regarding the difficulty of calculating economic benefit, it is very important in accepting the model, to analyse in detail the build up of these figures as they are the only justification for the Council official's proposal.

We fully accept that economic benefit is a major factor in determining the various options for the City Hall and that the method used to calculate economic benefit is primarily based, in this case, on the additional number of visitors that would be attracted by each option. We have no dispute with that.

But the PCCC analysis has uncovered the fact that the additional visitor figures used to justify total demolition are virtually double the number of visitors of any of the other options. This is pure speculation and PCCC strongly contests the basis for this assumption as it is, not only the sole justification for the selection of that option, but it also totally distorts the conclusions. (page 97)

As a consequence of this analysis we refute the evidence on which the Council are basing their proposal. We would respectfully ask that Historic Scotland also investigate these figures.

In coming to any conclusions we believe the Council should further consider:

- 1. That the footprint of the retained part of the City Hall would take up only 11% of the total area available, and provide an attractive, protected area.
- 2. That the activities planned for the square (again from the consultant's report) could all, equally well, be performed in the marginally smaller square and therefore attract a similar number of visitors.
- 3. That retaining part of our heritage, and history, would provide Perth with a City Centre of some grandeur and quality that would attract an even greater number of visitors.
- 4. If visitor benefits were equalised for the two options the gap in financial benefit would also be equalised, and indeed would be greatly enhanced were a Heritage and Visitors centre to be included.

In thanking Historic Scotland, and the staff involved, for the help and guidance that you have given, we would again ask you to reject the Councils proposal and to recommend a compromise along the lines suggested by PCCC.

Yours Faithfully



James Provan Chairman PCCC



Copied by Email to: <u>Barbara.Cummins@scotland.gsi.gov.uk</u> <u>Leigh.johnston@scotland.gsi.govuk</u>

List of Objections to Demolition of Perth City Hall 21/12/11 Sent to saveperthcityhall@gmail.com Compiled by Barry Pringle Page 10

ALEXANDER BREMNER

Oct 4

I have been studying the Report of the Depute Chief Executive dated 16th June 2010. I would like to make the following comments.

Paras. 8&9

The open public consultation was held in one location for 7 days between the17 February and 24 February 2010. One would have to question just how random were the respondents and how representative of the entire population.

Most returns were obtained through Viewfinder a system of which I am totally unaware.

The number of responses was 2,738. It would be interesting to know what percentage of the total possible responses is represented by this figure. Is this percentage sufficient to give a meaningful answer.

The thrust of the analysis is in terms of commercial use.

Despite my reservation 81% of respondents were in favour of re-use as a culture venue provided there was no need for a council subsidy. This idea was not followed through although in para 35 the council indentify a surplus of £0.808M. This figure is an estimate but it does suggest that further work or study in this area could clarify the actual position if all avenues are explored with an open mind.

The preferred option is stated to yield a positive return of £3.288M . This relies on an income of £6.260M based on the provision of an open square. It is difficult to see where this income is to come from. Perhaps the council should be asked to provide their calculations in order to substantiate this claim.

Historic Scotland have set out four conditions for demolition none of which it would seem are met by the City Hall. To merit demolition the building has to be of no special interest, is incapable of repair, demolition is essential to deliver economic benefits and that if repairs are not warranted. None of these would apply to the City Hall.

List of Objections to Demolition of Perth City Hall 21/12/11 Sent to <u>saveperthcityhall@gmail.com</u> Compiled by Barry Pringle Page 2

From: Charles Wardrop

Date: 25 September 2011 08:49:38 GMT+01:00

Subject: <saveperthcityhall@gmail.com> Mr Barry Pringle's letter of 23 September; letter of 6 September, 2011.

Madam,- In his well-reasoned and relevantly detailed letter about the necessity of preserving the Perth City Hall for us all and adapting it for the present times, Barry Pringle is right on the button.

To his suggestions, and echoing also those of the letter of 6 September, could be added the Tourist Info Centre, moving the present excellent office from its out-of-the-way location, and a civic and local current events centre, giving visitors and local people news about all that's on in the County and Fair City.

Any "left over" space could be developed for private accommodation, as so successfully realised in, e.g., Rosslyn House. Areas around the City Hall offer room for more-frequent farmers' markets, trade shows and the like.

The Council's planned piazza would, despite prospects of warmer climates, become an empty space, save for, as Barry Pringle fears, litter droppers and other ne'erdoweels.

The City Hall is a handsome building, whose demolition would diminish the Fair City. Instead, let us press for its adaptation for modern applications to help Perth's visitors and locals alike.

We are adding our names to the petition at <saveperthcityhall@gmail.com>

Isabel and Charles Wardrop,

Heritage Manangement Directorate, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH Email : <u>hs.consultationsperthandkinross@scotland.gsi.gov.uk</u>

Demolition of Perth City Hall

Dear Ms Johnston,

I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this important listed building. My objection is based on the following grounds.

- 1. Para 3.50 of your SHEP guidelines states "...it is Scottish Ministers' policy that no listed building shall be demolished unless it can be clearly demonstrated that every effort has been made to save it." The Council have not fulfilled this requirement of your policy because: (a) at the end of the abortive negotiations with Wharfside in 2009 they failed to contact the "reserve bidders" at least one of whom was still interested in acquiring the building. (b) Instead of re-marketing the building, as required by para 3.50 (d), of your SHEP guidelines, they appointed consultants to advise them on potential alternative uses. This was a technique that was less likely to make contact with restoring purchasers than open marketing and, furthermore, the brief they gave the consultants excluded a requirement to consider "... the symbolic, personal and social value of the City Hall or its importance in the collective memory of the local population and their sense of place." (see page 53 para4.8 of the Locum Report). They also unnecessarily constrained the brief by requiring the consultants to work within the framework of Best Value and Green Book Treasury guidelines which, if they are relevant at all, apply only to public sector users. Finally, they have refused, within the past month, to consider a scheme lodged by Mr. V Linacre and Simpson and Brown, architects to re-use the entire building as a market, retail and cultural facility.
- 2. The case for demolition of the building rests on a claim that demolishing it would meet the criterion set out at para 3.50 (d) of your SHEP guidelines, namely "...the demolition of the building is essential to delivering significant economic benefits to economic growth and the wider community." This claim is based only on the guesswork of the Locum consultants that replacing the building with a civic square would generate an extra 210,000 visitors a year. As one example of the "events" that will generate such benefits the consultants suggest that ice skating on the square for 5 weeks each winter will generate a surplus revenue of £50,300. Despite the easily verifiable **fact** that a comparable facility in Edinburgh has accrued losses in the order of £250,000 since 1998, and the George Square Glasgow facility also runs at a loss, these predictions have been accepted unquestioningly by the Council. The economic justification for demolition is, in fact, entirely conjectural and is, I believe, an inadequate basis for the removal of such an important building.
- 3. Apart from St. John's Kirk, the buildings around the proposed square are mediocre in terms of their architectural quality and the space created would be windswept and undistinguished in comparison with squares which have genuine visitor appeal. In environmental terms, the loss would be greater than the gain.
- 4. The proposed square would be relatively small and has a considerable number of residential

properties on its north and south sides and in all the adjacent streets. None of the reports considered by Council's committees since 16^{th} June 2010 – including the Development Control Committee of 16^{th} November – gives a single thought to the issue of whether the events programme, which is integral to the economic case, is compatible with the need to maintain an adequate standard of residential amenity for existing properties.

- 5. Perth has two inches which could be used for public gathering and events. All weather surfacing for part of either the North Inch or the South Inch would probably be a lot cheaper than demolishing the city hall. It could also cover a far larger area than the footprint of the city hall. Perth & Kinross Council are putting these surfaces on other green areas.
- 6. Perth has an ice rink at present. If another rink is a priority the South Inch has a pond which, when I was child froze over naturally, to allow skating. Surely there are ways this could be done in a controlled manner in the future.
- 7. St Pauls Church Perth is also a listed building and has been empty for longer than the city hall. Why is it not being demolished? Is there a time limit on how long a building is empty for that decides it should be knocked down? If so why do we have our wonderful heritage of castles and beautiful old buildings? Clearly they should all have been demolished.
- 8. Why is Perth & Kinross Council expecting local people to preserve listed buildings by keeping sash & case windows, not permitting double glazed units carefully fitted in existing wooden window and ensuring that only paint of certain permitted colours can be used etc while they should be permitted NOT to preserve this lovely old building? This is a case of do as I say, not do as I do. They should lead by example.
- 9. If Perth & Kinross Council claims they have no need for this building why have they been renting more office space while the city hall has lain empty? Surely it makes more sense for them to use property it owns. Integrating the tourist office into it also makes sense, as at present it is hidden away and located in a cobbled area. While it is great this is being retained it is not easy for disabled people.
- 10. The city hall is the heart of Perth. It could beat again! In Boston their hall is a vibrant market which is packed out. Perthshire has fantastic produce and services it should showcase drawing visitors from far and wide. How many people would travel to visit a quality attraction like that? Compare that to the number who would travel to visit an empty space.

At the celebrations for Perth 200 you just had to look at the faces of the people seeing the pictures projected onto the side of the city hall to know what your decision should be. They were excited yet sad as one turned to another saying "remember that". Perth has lost too much as what it should have kept. Not even all the Councillors agree the city hall should go, therefore are they serious in the proposal to knock it down? I do not think so. They did not all even get the chance to vote. Please do NOT make a decision to knock it down before the people vote in May for Councillors based on who will represent THEIR views on this.

Hopefully the people at Historic Scotland will love our City Hall from the cherubs which watch over the people to the foundations lovingly laid with pride by our forefathers with their hopes and dreams for it.

For the above reasons, I request that the Council's application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to engage in an open, genuine exercise to find a restoring

Heritage Manangement Directorate,

purchaser.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth M Smith

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: smith elizabeth Sent: 22 December 2011 22:09 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Perth City Hall - Please keep it

Dear Ms Johnston

Although this is very busy time for people I hope that people will find the time to contact you to try to keep Perth City Hall. My letter is attached.

Please do not knock it down!

Your most sincerely

Elizabeth M Smith

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From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 22/12/2011 11:42:05 Subject: PatersonM_Representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 22/12/2011 11:42:05

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: Margaret Sent: 22 December 2011 08:57 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Demolition of Perth City Hall

Heritage Manangement Directorate, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH Email : hs.consultationsperthandkinross@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Hall

Demolition of Perth City

Dear Ms Johnston,

I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this important listed building. My objection is based on the following grounds.

1. Para 3.50 of your SHEP

guidelines states "...it is Scottish Ministers' policy that no listed building shall be demolished unless it can be clearly demonstrated that every effort has been made to save it." The Council have not fulfilled this requirement of your policy because:

(a) at the end of the abortive negotiations with Wharfside in 2009 they failed to contact the "reserve bidders" at least one of whom was still interested in acquiring the building.

(b) Instead of re-marketing the building, as required by para 3.50 (d), of your SHEP guidelines, they appointed consultants to advise them on potential alternative uses. This was a technique that was less likely to make contact

with restoring purchasers than open marketing and, furthermore, the brief they gave the consultants excluded a requirement to consider "...the symbolic, personal and social value of the City Hall or its importance in the collective memory of the local population and their sense of place." (see page 53 para4.8 of the Locum Report). They also unnecessarily constrained the brief by requiring the consultants to work within the framework of Best Value and Green Book Treasury guidelines which, if they are relevant at all, apply only to public sector users. Finally, they have refused, within the past month, to consider a scheme lodged by Mr. V Linacre and Simpson and Brown, architects to re-use the entire building as a market, retail and cultural facility. The case for demolition of 2. the building rests on a claim that demolishing it would meet the criterion set out at para 3.50 (d) of your SHEP guidelines, namely "...the demolition of the building is essential to delivering significant economic benefits to economic growth and the wider community." This claim is based only on the guesswork of the Locum consultants that replacing the building with a civic square would generate an extra 210,000 visitors a year. As one example of the "events" that will generate such benefits the consultants suggest that ice skating on the square for 5 weeks each winter will generate a surplus revenue of £50,300. Despite the easily verifiable fact that a comparable facility in Edinburgh has accrued losses in the order of £250,000 since 1998, and the George Square Glasgow facility also runs at a loss, these predictions have been accepted unguestioningly by the Council. The economic justification for demolition is, in fact, entirely conjectural and is, I believe, an inadequate basis for the removal of such an important building. Apart from St. John's 3.

Kirk, the buildings around the proposed square are mediocre in terms of their architectural quality and the space created would be windswept and undistinguished in comparison with squares which have genuine visitor appeal. In environmental terms, the loss would be greater than the gain.

4. The proposed square would

be relatively small and has a considerable number of residential properties on its north and south sides and in all the adjacent streets. None of the reports considered by Council's committees since 16th June 2010

including the Development Control Committee of 16th November

– gives a single thought to the issue of whether the events programme, which is integral to the economic case, is compatible with the need to maintain an adequate standard of residential amenity for existing properties.

For the

above reasons, I request that the Council's application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to engage in an open, genuine exercise to find a restoring purchaser.

Yours sincerely, Margaret Paterson

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From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 23/12/2011 10:11:05 Subject: McLarenG_Representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 23/12/2011 10:11:05

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----From: G MACLAREN Sent: 22 December 2011 20:28 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Perth City Hall - 11/01083/LBC

Dear Sir,

Living in the last day of comment to Historic Scotland is the 23rd December 2011, hence this late submission.

Please be aware I completely disagree with the proposal to demolish the Perth City Hall and deprive Perth of yet another historical and architecturally important building. Sadly in past years Perth's local representitives have been instrumental in removing other irreplaceable important and historical buildings and here we have the oportunity to avoid a similar travesty occurring. Once these buildings are removed they are lost to the City and country for ever

I consider to remove this iconic building is a wrong decision and request Historic Scotland duly recommennd rejection of the Perth Council's plans to demolish the City Hall.

Yours Faithfully

Garrow MacLaren



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From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 23/12/2011 10:10:38 Subject: McKenzieC_Representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 23/12/2011 10:10:38

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

www.historic-scotland.gov.uk -----Original Message-----From: Colin McKenzie Sent: 22 December 2011 19:53 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Demolition of Perth City Hall

Heritage Manangement Directorate,

Historic Scotland,

Longmore House,

Salisbury Place,

Edinburgh EH9 1SH

Demolition of Perth City Hall

Dear Ms Johnston,

I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this important listed building. My objection is based on the following grounds.

Para 3.50 of your SHEP guidelines states "...it is Scottish Ministers' policy that no listed building shall be demolished unless it can be clearly demonstrated that every effort has been made to save it." The Council have not fulfilled this requirement of your policy because: (a) at the end of the abortive negotiations with Wharfside in 2009 they failed to contact the "reserve bidders" at least one of whom was still interested in acquiring the building.

(b) Instead of re-marketing the building, as required by para 3.50 (d), of your SHEP guidelines, they appointed consultants to advise them on potential alternative uses. This was a technique that was less likely to make contact with restoring purchasers than open marketing and, furthermore, the brief they gave the consultants excluded a requirement to consider "...the symbolic, personal and social value of the City Hall or its importance in the collective memory of the local population and their sense of place." (see page 53 para4.8 of the Locum Report). They also unnecessarily constrained the brief by requiring the consultants to work within the framework of Best Value and Green Book Treasury guidelines which, if they are relevant at all, apply only to public sector users. Finally, they have refused, within the past month, to consider a scheme lodged by Mr. V Linacre and Simpson and Brown, architects to re-use the entire building as a market, retail and cultural facility.

The case for demolition of the building rests on a claim that demolishing it would meet the criterion set out at para 3.50 (d) of your SHEP guidelines, namely "...the demolition of the building is essential to delivering significant economic benefits to economic growth and the wider community." This claim is based only on the guesswork of the Locum consultants that replacing the building with a civic square would generate an extra 210,000 visitors a year. As one example of the "events" that will generate such benefits the consultants suggest that ice skating on the square for 5 weeks each winter will generate a surplus revenue of £50,300. Despite the easily verifiable fact that a comparable facility in Edinburgh has accrued losses in the order of £250,000 since 1998, and the George Square Glasgow facility also runs at a loss, these predictions have been accepted unquestioningly by the Council. The economic justification for demolition is, in fact, entirely conjectural and is, I believe, an inadequate basis for the removal of such an important building.

Apart from St. John's Kirk, the buildings around the proposed square are mediocre in terms of their architectural quality and the space created would be windswept and undistinguished in comparison with squares which have genuine visitor appeal. In environmental terms, the loss would be greater than the gain.

The proposed square would be relatively small and has a considerable number of residential properties on its north and south sides and in all the adjacent streets. None of the reports considered by Council's committees since 16th June 2010 – including the Development Control Committee of 16th November – gives a single thought to the issue of whether the events programme, which is integral to the economic case, is compatible with the need to maintain an adequate standard of residential amenity for existing properties.

For the above reasons, I request that the Council's application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to engage in an open, genuine exercise to find a restoring purchaser.

Yours sincerely,

Colin McKenzie



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PECEIVED

22nd 1 ecomber 2011

lear Sir.

Why on Earth does PERTH+ KINROSS Council Want to Waste Millions of pounds to demotion The City Hall? No we rever a open Space? lithen we don't have the Weather here in Scotland to sit out Sicle And drink bueridges, Unless, they like sitting in the rain."

This is a lavely building Why destroy it When the monay would Letter spint on Building a new Shapping Mall and putting it Ether projects to drow Shaps and business into Perth

Dame times think this Council live on a different Continent

I'm sure this beautiful building Could Deput to better use than Lying empty.

Why don't they put a vote to the people of Porth?

Perth was always such a lovery town raw it sums to me, The Council don't seem to bother anymore. They should be apharmed of this server of the waste money on dismoliphing His Lavely Building.

Yours Suncanelu



Heritage Manangement Directorate, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH Email : hs.consultationsperthandkinross@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Demolition of Perth City Hall

Dear Ms Johnston,

I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this important listed building. My objection is based on the following grounds.

 Para 3.50 of your SHEP guidelines states "...it is Scottish Ministers' policy that no listed building shall be demolished unless it can be clearly demonstrated that every effort has been made to save it." The Council have not fulfilled this requirement of your policy because:

(a) at the end of the abortive negotiations with Wharfside in 2009 they failed to contact the "reserve bidders" at least one of whom was still interested in acquiring the building.
(b) Instead of re-marketing the building, as required by para 3.50 (d), of your SHEP guidelines, they appointed consultants to advise them on potential alternative uses. This was a technique that was less likely to make contact with restoring purchasers than open marketing and, furthermore, the brief they gave the consultants excluded a requirement to consider "...*the symbolic, personal and social value of the City Hall or its importance in the collective memory of the local population and their sense of place.*" (see page 53 para4.8 of the Locum Report). They also unnecessarily constrained the brief by requiring the consultants to work within the framework of Best Value and Green Book Treasury guidelines which, if they are relevant at all, apply only to public sector users. Finally, they have refused, within the past month, to consider a scheme lodged by Mr. V Linacre and Simpson and Brown, architects to re-use the entire building as a market, retail and cultural facility.

- 2. The case for demolition of the building rests on a claim that demolishing it would meet the criterion set out at para 3.50 (d) of your SHEP guidelines, namely "...the demolition of the building is essential to delivering significant economic benefits to economic growth and the wider community." This claim is based only on the guesswork of the Locum consultants that replacing the building with a civic square would generate an extra 210,000 visitors a year. As one example of the "events" that will generate such benefits the consultants suggest that ice skating on the square for 5 weeks each winter will generate a surplus revenue of £50,300. Despite the easily verifiable fact that a comparable facility in Edinburgh has accrued losses in the order of £250,000 since 1998, and the George Square Glasgow facility also runs at a loss, these predictions have been accepted unquestioningly by the Council. The economic justification for demolition is, in fact, entirely conjectural and is, I believe, an inadequate basis for the removal of such an important building.
- 3. Apart from St. John's Kirk, the buildings around the proposed square are mediocre in terms of their architectural quality and the space created would be windswept and undistinguished in comparison with squares which have genuine visitor appeal. In environmental terms, the loss would be greater than the gain.

4. The proposed square would be relatively small and has a considerable number of residential properties on its north and south sides and in all the adjacent streets. None of the reports considered by Council's committees since 16th June 2010 – including the Development Control Committee of 16th November – gives a single thought to the issue of whether the events programme, which is integral to the economic case, is compatible with the need to maintain an adequate standard of residential amenity for existing properties.

For the above reasons, I request that the Council's application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to engage in an open, genuine exercise to find a restoring purchaser.

Yours sincerely,

Sandra Lanni

From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 22/12/2011 14:05:01 Subject: JohnstonR_Representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 22/12/2011 02:05:01

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: Robin J Sent: 22 December 2011 11:55 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: City Hall

Dear Sir,

I understand the proposed demolition of the City Hall is contrary to conservation policy and moreover that the full process of finding alternative uses / ownership for the building has not been worked through. I light of the above I hope that you will assert the powers available to you to insure that the council in question does not go forward with this demolition and that the past reluctance demonstrated by yourselves to refuse council applications for demolition of publically owned listed buildings will not be shown in this case.

It is essential that you are seen as being free from political influence and this high profile case is a great opportunity to illustrate this.

Regards,

Robin Johnston

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Heritage Manangement Directorate, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH Email : <u>hs.consultationsperthandkinross@scotland.gsi.gov.uk</u>

Demolition of Perth City Hall

Dear Ms Johnston,

I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this important listed building. My objection is based on the following grounds.

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The Council have not fulfilled this requirement of your policy because: (a) at the end of the abortive negotiations with Wharfside in 2009 they failed to contact the "reserve bidders" at least one of whom was still interested in acquiring the building.

(b) Instead of re-marketing the building, as required by para 3.50 (d), of your SHEP guidelines, they appointed consultants to advise them on potential alternative uses. This was a technique that was less likely to make contact with restoring purchasers than open marketing and, furthermore, the brief they gave the consultants excluded a requirement to consider "...the symbolic, personal and social value of the City Hall or its importance in the collective memory of the local population and their sense of place." (see page 53 para4.8 of the Locum Report). They also unnecessarily constrained the brief by requiring the consultants to work within the framework of Best Value and Green Book Treasury guidelines which, if they are relevant at all, apply only to public sector users. Finally, they have refused, within the past month, to consider a scheme lodged by Mr. V Linacre and Simpson and Brown, architects to re-use the entire building as a market, retail and cultural facility.

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For the above reasons, I request that the Council's application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to engage in an open, genuine exercise to find a restoring purchaser.



Yours sincerely,

From: Yvette.Brough@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 22/12/2011 08:03:57 Subject: Jenkins_A Representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 22/12/2011 08:03:57

Yvette Brough | Heritage Management Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| 0131 668 8707 e| yvette.brough@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: Arthur Jenkins Sent: 22 December 2011 00:01 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Perth City Hall

Dear Ms Johnston,

Please find attached a letter of objection to the demolition of Perth City Hall.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Jenkins.

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Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: Louise Gordon Sent: 22 December 2011 21:28 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: 11/01083/LBC Demolition of Perth City Hall and construction of a new City Square



22nd Dec 2011

Heritage Management Directorate, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH Email : hs.consultationsperthandkinross@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Ms Johnston, Demolition of Perth City Hall

I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this important listed building. My objection is based on the following grounds.

1. Para 3.50 of your SHEP

guidelines states "...it is Scottish Ministers' policy that no listed building shall be demolished unless it can be clearly demonstrated that every effort has been made to save it." The Council have not fulfilled this requirement of your policy because: (a) at the end of the abortive negotiations with Wharfside in 2009 they failed

to contact the "reserve bidders" at least one of whom was still interested in

acquiring the building.

(b) Instead of re-marketing the building, as required by para 3.50 (d), of

your SHEP guidelines, they appointed consultants to advise them on potential alternative uses. This was a technique that was less likely to make contact

with restoring purchasers than open marketing and, furthermore, the brief

they gave the consultants excluded a requirement to consider "...the symbolic, personal and social value of the

City Hall or its importance in the collective memory of the local population and their sense of place." (see page 53 para4.8 of the Locum Report). They also unnecessarily constrained the brief by requiring the consultants to work within the framework of Best Value and Green Book Treasury guidelines which, if they are relevant at all, apply only to public sector users. Finally, they have refused, within the past month, to consider a scheme lodged by Mr. V Linacre and Simpson and Brown, architects to re-use the entire building as a market, retail and cultural facility.

2. The case for demolition

of the building rests on a claim that demolishing it would meet the criterion set out at para 3.50 (d) of your SHEP guidelines, namely "...the demolition of the building is essential to delivering significant economic benefits to economic growth and the wider community." This claim is based only on the guesswork of the Locum consultants that replacing the building with a civic square would generate an extra 210,000 visitors a year. As one example of the "events" that will generate such benefits the consultants suggest that ice skating on the square for 5 weeks each winter will generate a surplus revenue of £50,300. Despite the easily verifiable fact that a comparable facility in Edinburgh has accrued losses in the order of

£250,000 since 1998, and the George Square Glasgow facility also runs at a loss, these predictions have been accepted unquestioningly by the Council. The economic justification for demolition is, in fact, entirely conjectural and is, I believe, an inadequate basis for the removal of such an important building.

3. Apart from St. John's Kirk, the buildings around the proposed square are mediocre in terms of their architectural quality and the space created would be windswept and undistinguished in comparison with squares which have genuine visitor appeal.

In environmental terms, the loss would be greater than the gain.

4. The proposed square would

be relatively small and has a considerable number of residential properties on its north and south sides and in all the adjacent streets. None of the reports considered by Council's committees since 16th June 2010 – including the Development Control Committee of 16th November – gives a single thought to the issue of whether the events programme, which is integral to the economic case, is compatible with the need to maintain an adequate standard of residential amenity for existing properties.

For the above reasons, I request that the Council's application

for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed

to engage in an open, genuine exercise to find a restoring purchaser.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Henderson

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This

From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 23/12/2011 10:11:24 Subject: GordonM_Representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 23/12/2011 10:11:24

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From:

Sent: 22 December 2011 20:58 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: 11/01083/LBC Demolition of Perth City Hall and construction of a new City Square



22ndDecember 2011 Heritage Manangement Directorate, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH Email : hs.consultationsperthandkinross@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Demolition of Perth City Hall Dear Ms Johnston,

I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this important listed building. My objection is

based on the following grounds.

1. Para 3.50 of your SHEP guidelines states "...it is Scottish

Ministers' policy that no listed building shall be demolished unless it can be clearly demonstrated that every effort has been made to save it." The Council

have not fulfilled this requirement of your policy because:

(a) at the end of the abortive negotiations with Wharfside in 2009 they failed to contact the "reserve bidders" at least one of whom was still interested in acquiring the building.

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residential amenity for existing properties.

For the above reasons, I request that the Council's

application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to engage in an open, genuine exercise to find a restoring purchaser.

Yours sincerely, Margaret

Gordon

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From: Yvette.Brough@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 22/12/2011 08:12:26 Subject: FoleyA_representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 22/12/2011 08:12:26

Yvette Brough | Heritage Management Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| 0131 668 8707 e| yvette.brough@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: Amanda Foley Sent: 22 December 2011 07:42 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Saving Perth City Hall

Heritage Manangement Directorate,

Historic Scotland,

Longmore House,

Salisbury Place,

Edinburgh EH9 1SH

Email: hs.consultationsperthandkinross@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

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Demolition of Perth City Hall

Dear Ms Johnston,

I wish to object to the proposal by Perth and Kinross Council to demolish this important listed building. My objection is based on the following grounds.

1.

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gave the consultants excluded a requirement to consider "...the symbolic, personal and social value of the City

Hall or its importance in the collective memory of the local population and their sense of place." (see page 53 para4.8 of the Locum

Report). They also unnecessarily constrained the brief by requiring the consultants to work within the framework of Best Value and Green Book Treasury guidelines which, if they are relevant at all, apply only to public sector users. Finally, they have refused, within the past month, to consider a scheme lodged by Mr. V Linacre and Simpson and Brown, architects to re-use the entire building as a market, retail and cultural facility.

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delivering significant economic benefits to economic growth and the wider community." This claim is based only on the guesswork of the Locum

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extra 210,000 visitors a year. As one example of the "events" that will

generate such benefits the consultants suggest that ice skating on the square for 5 weeks each winter will generate a surplus revenue of \$50,300. Despite the

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from St. John's Kirk, the buildings around the proposed square are mediocre in terms of their architectural quality and the space created would be windswept and undistinguished in comparison with squares which have genuine visitor appeal. In environmental terms, the loss would be greater than the gain. 4.

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Committee of 16th November – gives a single thought to the

issue of whether the events programme, which is integral to the economic case, is compatible with the need to maintain an adequate standard of residential

amenity for existing properties.

For the above reasons, I

request that the Council's application for consent to demolish the City Hall be refused and that they be instructed to engage in an open, genuine exercise to find a restoring purchaser.

Yours sincerely,

Amanda Foley

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Date Sent: 22/12/2011 02:04:49

Representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk)

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From:

Subject:

Sent: 22 December 2011 10:34 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Demolition of City Hall Perth-ref11/01083/LBC

Dear Sir

As a long-standing resident of Perth I wish to add my voice to the ever growing volume of protest against the demolition of Perth City Hall.

The fact that the hall is included on the

statutory list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest with a category B grading, and is therefore of national importance, speaks for itself. There is, of-course, a policy presumption against the demolition of such a building unless it can be shown that it is beyond saving and has no viable future. I do not believe that case has been proven by Perth and Kinross Council.

The Council's decision to demolish is partly driven by the desire to avoid the burden of future maintenance costs which will be incurred, on the assumption no other user could be found for the site, and partly by the determination to create a city square. On the first point, the building is 100 years old and has been redundant for a mere five of those years. Admittedly the chances of finding a developer in the short term are rather bleak. Taking the long view however, the economic climate will improve and any decision to demolish should therefore be deferred at least until the longer term prospects for the future development of the site can be properly assessed.

As for the city square idea, this smacks of PKC trying to impress the judges in advance of the vote on which towns should be be awarded city status. After all most major cities have a central square. While the creation of a civic space in the middle of Perth may have some merit in itself (although I remain to be convinced) this does not provide justification for demolition of a building which is greatly valued for its architectural value. Any civic or economic benefit to be derived from the proposed square would be completely outweighed by the cost in terms of lost heritage.

In summary, the rush to demolish such a magnificent Edwardian building is nothing more than a knee jerk reaction based on political expediency and one which future generations will find difficult to understand. The City Hall is integral to Perth's architectural heritage as well it's cityscape and, before condemning it to the bulldozer, must be retained until such time as all hope of finding an alternative use for the site has gone.

Regards

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From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 23/12/2011 10:12:20 Subject: DuncanG_Representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 23/12/2011 10:12:20

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

From: Rita Duncan Sent: 22 December 2011 23:06 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Cc: Subject: FW: Perth City Hall - 11/01083/LBC

Graham Duncan,

Dear Sir,

Although I have been resident in St Andrews for many years I still have a love for my hometown. I would be extremely disappointed if the decision is made to demolish the wonderful architectural building that is The City Halls. The frontage in particular has for long been a focal point in the centre of Perth. Along with the Art Gallery & Museum and the Fair Maid's House it is part of the history and heritage of Perth. Too many buildings of architectural value are demolished to be replaced by a modern monstrocity.

The craftsmanship of the men who created such buildings is a thing of the past.

I would therefore urge that Perth & Kinross council are not given permission to go ahead with demolition of this much loved building.

Yours faithfully, Graham Duncan

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Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

Historic Scotland | Alba Aosmhor Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH t| Number 0131-668 0315 e| Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----From: Anne Clackson Sent: 22 December 2011 19:57 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: Perth City Hall

Dear Sir or Madam,

I should like to register my strong objection to the proposed demolition of Perth City Hall. I cannot believe that this course of action is being considered when such viable and exciting alternative plans have been produced. I have read in detail the specification drawn up by the Edinburgh architects Simpson & Brown and can honestly say that it is one of the most inspired, imaginative and practical ideas for reconfiguring an historic building I have ever seen. It would be a tragedy if the Hall were to be destroyed while such proposals existed. A flexible multi-purpose space such as this could be an invaluable asset to the City centre, generating so much in the way of new employment and training, and a variety of retail opportunities to benefit residents and tourists alike.

I understand that one of the reasons for demolition is to improve the visibility of the historic St. John's Kirk; surely no justification can be made for demolishing a building which is itself listed in order to achieve this. The City Hall is no less worthy a building than the Kirk, and does not deserve to be sacrificed in this way; both are important and tangible parts of Perth's history and deserve equal respect. The idea that a civic square would enhance the centre of the City is not one that I would share.

When a building is demolished it is gone for ever. Much of the destruction of the City of Glasgow in the 1960s and 1970s is now bitterly regretted. There is still a chance to save an important part of Perth from the same fate.

Yours,

Anne M. Clackson



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From: Lynn.Allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk Received: 23/12/2011 10:10:22 Subject: ValentineJ_Representation To: "" (incoming@lh23hisa.scotland.gov.uk) Date Sent: 23/12/2011 10:10:22

Lynn Allen | Business Support Assistant

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From: Robin Sent: 22 December 2011 17:56 To: HS.Consultations Perth & Kinross Subject: FW: Demolition of Perth City Hall - ref 11/01083/LBC

Subject: Demolition of Perth City Hall - ref 11/01083/LBC

Dear Sirs Demolition of Perth City Hall – Ref: 11/01083/LBC I wish to object to Perth and Kinross Council' decision to demolish the old Perth City Hall on the following grounds: a) Perth has virtually no historic buildings left and, if Perth and Kinross Council continue to demolish the few old buildings left in the town, none of its history will remain for future generations. b) Perth developed over the centuries on a grid system of streets and buildings - historically, there

has never been a large open space in from of St. John's Kirk.

c) There is a total lack of

buildings suitable for public use and the old Perth City Hall has been used for the past 100 years for functions of all types.

d) Perth and Kinross Council

have ignored all requests to debate the future of the City Hall in public.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Julia Valentine



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