

## ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

---

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	City Growth and Resources
<b>DATE</b>	03 February 2022
<b>EXEMPT</b>	No
<b>CONFIDENTIAL</b>	No
<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	Chanonry Grounds Plaque
<b>REPORT NUMBER</b>	COM/22/012
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	Gale Beattie
<b>CHIEF OFFICER</b>	Richard Sweetnam
<b>REPORT AUTHOR</b>	Ross MacLennan
<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>	2.1.1

---

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the erection of a plaque commemorating Chanonry Grounds, home ground of the Aberdeen Association Football Club from 1888 to 1898.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 Approves the erection of a plaque commemorating Chanonry Grounds, home ground of the Aberdeen Association Football Club from 1888 to 1898, at its location within the current Cruikshank Botanic Garden, University of Aberdeen.

### 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Aberdeen Football Club Heritage Trust has proposed to erect a commemorative plaque to the Chanonry Grounds, home ground of the Aberdeen Association Football Club (prior to the founding of the modern Aberdeen Football Club in 1903) from 1888 to 1898, at the Cruikshank Botanic Garden, University of Aberdeen.
- 3.2 The proposal is for a Place Plaque (see pp 13-14 Appendix 1 as an example) to be erected on the east wall of the Cruikshank Building in Cruikshank Botanic Garden at the south-east corner of the building (see Appendix 2).
- 3.3 The proposed location meets the requirement for Place Plaques as set out in the Plaques Policy (see Appendix 1 (5.3 Location) ) as the site is focussed near or at the vicinity of the proposed plaque. The Aberdeen Football Club Heritage Trust as the promoters for the plaque will be responsible for obtaining all necessary statutory and other third party consents to allow the commemorative plaque to Chanonry Grounds to be erected at the Cruikshank Building, Cruikshank Botanic Garden. The wording proposed is:-

*The Aberdeen Association Football Club first played at Chanonry Grounds on 25<sup>th</sup> February 1888 and last played here on 16<sup>th</sup> April 1898 before making way for the development of Cruickshank Botanic Garden.*

- 3.4 Other notable fixtures include the inaugural Aberdeenshire Cup final in March 1888, the visit of a Scottish International XI to play an Aberdeen select in April 1888 and the visit of Notts County in January 1893, the first visit of an English League side to Aberdeen. (see Appendix 3 for a more detailed history)
- 3.5 This plaque application is the fourth application by the Aberdeen Football Club Heritage Trust, with three previous successful applications. The first commemorating the inaugural meeting of the Aberdeen Association Football Club in Correction Wynd, the second at Pittodrie and the third commemorating Donald Colman, former player and coach of Aberdeen Football Club, on King Street.
- 3.6 The Council's Planning Service and the building owners (the University of Aberdeen) have approved this location for the plaque.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report. All financial costs shall be covered by Aberdeen Football Club Heritage Trust.

#### **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

#### **6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Risk</b>	<b>Low (L) Medium (M) High (H)</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
<b>Strategic Risk</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Compliance</b>	Installation does not comply with the Council's Plaque Policy.	L	AAGM Officers responsibility to confirm specific location on building in line with policy guidelines and get agreement from nominator and building owners. Then arrange installation with ACC Building Services and

			AAGM Officer to go and inspect once it is installed.
<b>Operational</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Financial</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Reputational</b>	Risk of not acknowledging the significance of the Aberdeen Association Football Club's heritage prior to the formation of the modern Aberdeen FC.	L	The erection of the plaque would continue to promote the important history of Aberdeen FC and its development, and its importance as a major institution of the city.
<b>Environment / Climate</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A

## 7. OUTCOMES

<u><a href="#">COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN</a></u>	
Impact of Report	
<b>Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan</b>	
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	The proposals within this report support the delivery of LOIP Stretch Outcome 1.1 - Diversification of the economy into other growth sectors including wider energy related sectors; tourism; food and drink; life sciences; health and social care and construction. The advancement of the Commemorative Plaques Scheme may encourage tourism in highlighting and promoting important heritage sites within the city.
Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	The proposals within this report support the delivery of LOIP Stretch Outcome 15 - 38% of people walking and 5% of people cycling as main mode of travel by 2026. The inclusion of commemorative plaques in Heritage Trails, whether published by ACC or organisations such as Aberdeen Football Club Heritage Trust, help to encourage people to walk.
<b>Regional and City Strategies</b>	The proposals within this report support the Tourism and Strategy Action Plan in encouraging tourists to engage with an aspect of Aberdeen's heritage.

## 8. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
<b>Impact Assessment</b>	Full impact assessment not required.

<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>	Not required
--	--------------

## **9. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

9.1 Plaque Application for the Chanonry Grounds from the Aberdeen Football Club Heritage Trust.

## **10. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Plaques Policy

Appendix 2 – Photograph of proposed location on Cruikshank Building

Appendix 3 – Chanonry Grounds Notes by Chris Gavin and Stewart Eaton, Aberdeen Football Club Heritage Trust

## **11. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS**

<b>Name</b>	Ross MacLennan
<b>Title</b>	Curator (History)
<b>Email Address</b>	rmaclennan@aberdeencity.gov.uk
<b>Tel</b>	01224 337706