

**PE1523/P**

FAO Parliament Public Petitions Committee.

Update on the Tinker's Heart Petition  
Jess Smith, Petitioner.  
29/4/2015

It was decided by Historic Scotland to do a consultation to gain evidence from Travellers and the wider population of the Tinker's Heart.

This was to take place through a consultation form, or phone calls to HS.

I believe this has proved very active.

The closing date is 15<sup>th</sup> May.

26<sup>th</sup> March. Jess Smith, MSP Mike Russell, George Findlater, and colleague (Historic Scotland) met at the Parliament to discuss the matter of the Heart. We spoke at great length about all issues and had a genuine conversation, which we promised to work on and take forward to the next stage.

31<sup>st</sup> March. A meeting was arranged to meet with Dr. George Findlater and members of Historic Scotland at the site.

Several Travellers and friends attended and were able to speak personally at length to Historic Scotland.

I have continued to contact interested parties to send their stories about the site to HS, which I'm informed they have been doing.

Professor Colin Clark of West of Scotland University, Dr Donald Smith of The Scottish Storytelling Centre and Tracs, have added their support.

Further support for scheduling of the site has come from many prominent voices.

George Findlater has met with Cairndow local group 'Here We Are' and has had contact with Kate How (landowner). He has requested a meeting, where our views and thoughts can be discussed and hopefully a way forward.

Awaiting a meeting with landowner.

Meanwhile I have gained the support of a dedicated group of people and together we have formed HOTT (Heart of the Traveller) Now registered (reg no Sco45416) as a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of our culture. We await the outcome of Historic Scotland's consultation review and subsequent decisions on their findings.

Jess Smith