

Community Archaeology Westray Links of Noltland Visitor and Learning Centre update

July 2019

The project has moved forward again. Westray Development Trust has kindly agreed to CAW leasing the land at the far end of the golf course subject to sensible terms and conditions to suit all parties including the Golf Club who has care of it at present. The track to the site will be improved and a high fence erected to protect the golf course and also to safeguard visitors from flying golf balls. CAW has identified a possible funding source for this stage.



The picture taken by Elizabeth Drever shows the site for the proposed Visitor and Learning Centre at the Links of Noltland, taken in June. Architect Mark Fresson is seen third from left taking a site photograph and chatting with CAW directors Ian Ricketts and Peter Needham, standing where will be the new building site entrance while co directors Bill Turnbull and Stephen Hagan stand at the approximate eastern edge, the land adjoining the sea being the northern perimeter. A direct entry to the dig site is likely to be cut through the sandy and grassy bank on the western aspect, to the left of the group of three directors. Mark Fresson has been commissioned to produce the initial proposal plans.

We await an update on HES's plans for the site's future regarding consolidation and future public access. Once we have that commitment CAW will be able to proceed with the preparation of the action plan, with the guidance of a specialist consultant. We have identified funding offered for this part of the project which will be accessed as soon as HES gives the go ahead.

Both our MP Alistair Carmichael and MSP Liam MacArthur have given their support for the project.

More details can be found in the June minutes posted on the web site www.westraycommunity.co.uk go to CAW/Links of Noltland minutes.