

Dundee Town Council Minutes - 24 September 1705 - 24 September 1706

This set of minutes was indexed by Damian Smith while an undergraduate student at Dundee University. As no page numbers are present in the minutes, cataloguing was done on the basis of dates.

Council Appointed 25 September 1705

Council Personnel: Provost	Alexander Blair
Baillies	David Maxwell, Alexander Prustone, George Yeoman, Thomas Abercrombie
Dean of Guild	Thomas Scott
Treasurer	James Guthrie

Other Council Personnel:

John Smith, George Watson, John Boyack, John Ballingall, James Fairweather, John Nicoll, John Gourlay, James Mitchellson, Thomas Fairweather.

Ale

- price of ale brewed in the town set at 20 pennies per pint (12 September 1706).

Arrears

- Baillie George Watson gives in an account of all arrears (10 January 1706).

Auction (roup)

- Hilltown and Logie lands to be auctioned (10 January 1706).

Audit

- audit of the malt milne and brewery account undertaken (25 April 1706).

- report on the wheat and malt culture accounts given (28 May 1706).

Bank

- the Council draws up a bill on the bank, for an advance of cess money (28 February 1706).

Barracks

- the barracks at the Westport and Seagate to be sold at auction (18 December 1705).

- sold to Andrew Paterson Wright (27 December 1705).

Benvie

- the parish of Benvie requests Mr Mitchell to move there (23 May 1706).

- Council to bring the matter up at the Brechin synod (23 May 1706).

Bond

- a five hundred mark bond received for use of the hospital (24 September 1795).

- late council members discharge all bonds and finish their business (27 September 1705).

- a bond for £450 given to the Provost as expenses in forthcoming parliament (26 March 1706).

Burgess Daughters

- Council considers giving burgesses daughters the benefits of their father's freedom (15 July 1706).

Charter

- charter given in favour of William Morisson concerning the lands at Coldside (1 June 1706).

Cess

- Baillies Alison and Yeaman to report on the amount of Hilltown rent due as public cess (6 August 1706).
- list of cess money entered in the minutes (7 September 1706).
- John Hodge, collector of the cess, keeps his farmer salary (17 September 1706).
- John Hodge ordered to pay outstanding balance for previous years newsletters (21 September 1706).

Cleington Parish

- stipend from Cleington Parish set at £36, 10 shillings, 6p (21 May 1706).

Commissioner

- letters sent to the Chancellor and Secretary of State requesting the queen's parliamentary Commissioner to befriend the burgh of Dundee (21 May 1706).

Commissions

- the following commissions given (23 September 1706)
 - to George Yeaman to accompany John Scrimgeour to the parliament.
 - to James Whyte, for collecting debt.
 - to Thomas Matthew, for raising labour to thresh grain.

Committee of Towns Creditors

- propose that the Barony of the Hilltown be sold in order to redeem the debt (6 December 1705).
- Logie Lands also the be sold to pay the debt (11 December 1705).
- Council inform creditors that the maltmen refuse to subscribe to 20 shillings price in each bowl of meal (10 January 1706).
- Council writes to the Committee of Creditors as the Hilltown dividend is ready for collection (9 May 1706).
- approve of the sale of hope to Blackness (28 May 1706).
- inform Council that £6522 15s 9p Scots remain to be paid (12 September 1706)
- given deposition listing towns rents and multures (19 September 1706)

Convention of Burghs/Parliament

- Provost reports on his effects to gain two pennies gift on the pint of drinking beer from the convention (24 September 1705).
- Provost claims expenses (25 September 1705).
- Council debate whether to send a Commissioner to the forthcoming convention of burghs (20 June 1706).
- Council votes unanimously not to send a Commissioner (20 June 1706).
- Letter arrives from Convention ordering that any complaints and difference between baillies in debate to be properly tabled (20 August 1706).

Councillor to the Guild

- Alexander Ballingall appointed (27 November 1705).

Coupar Trade

- Archibald Hunter, Coupar, fined for working as a Coupar without Burgess consent (18 April 1706).

Dean of Guild

- audit of late Dean of Guild's (James Alisone) accounts (24 September 1705).
- Dean of Guild meets with Maltmen to discuss relief measures for the town (11 December 1705).

[see also maltmen]

- ordered to search for the Charter of Logie Land (20 December 1705).
- reconvenes the Council of maltmen and offers them a new contract (12 February 1706).
- daughters of the Dean to be given the same privilege as their fathers (26 March 1706).
- accounts audited (12 September 1706).

Drum

- Town Drum to order the people to clean the streets (18 December 1705).
- tenants to be held responsible for the area outside their houses (18 December 1705).
- town drum proclaims an act of the privy Council, concerning levy of volunteer sailors (25 April 1706).

Factor(s)

- James Whyte appointed as factor to the hospital (20 December 1705).

Fines

- 12 shilling fine for Council members who miss church on Sundays or council sittings (27 November 1705).
- all fines ordered to be paid (4 December 1705).
- collector of the fines, James Yeoman has his accounts audited (14 March 1706).
- balance found to be fifty shillings only (19 March 1706).
- after audit balance found to be £3 8s (21 March 1706).
- new collector, John Ballingall to pay quarter due for newsletters (4 April 1706).

Funds

- funds required to pay town's debt, all fines ordered to be paid (4 December 1705).

General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

- Council to appear before the Assembly on 4 April, to answer for their minister, Samuel Johnstone (12 March 1706).
- Baillies Maxwell and Watson sent to assembly (1 April 1706).
- Baillie Maxwell reports (18 April 1706).
- Baillie Maxwell presents the act from the assembly confirming Mr Johnstone in his place (18 April 1706).

Heritors

- a commission to present the town as heritors of the Hilltown and Logie lands to be sent to the next heritors meeting in Forfar (27 December 1705).

Hilltown

- £20,000 of land in the Hilltown to be used to satisfy creditors (5 March 1706).
- John Hood resigns his lands in the Hilltown and hands them over (5 March 1706).
- see also Kirkmaster (12 March 1706).
- Thomas Mather, Hilltown Factor, to report on the level of rent (19 March 1706).
- tacks to be set in public auction (4 April 1706).
- Robert White's house on the Hilltown inspected and the rent set at six pounds yearly (30 April 1706).
- amount due in stipends from the Hilltown and East Clepington calculated (7 May 1706).
- Mr Johnstone (Minister) paid £222 one shilling stipend (7 May 1706).
- a report on the measurements of the arable land on the Hilltown, East Clepington and West Clepington given (9 May 1706).
- a list of the dividend money levied in the Hilltown given (24 May 1706).
- the lands of the Hospital guild, Kirkfabric, Kirk poor and fraternity of seamen sold but allowed to be redeemed at any time (21 May 1706).
- factor of the Hilltown sends in disposition concerning Hilltown's share of the town debt (4 June 1706).

Hilltown cont.

- disposition from the Kirk Treasurer concerning the two acres of Kirk poor land on the Hilltown (4 June 1706).
- Ministers and elders of Kirk session send in disposition concerning Hilltown lands (10 June 1706).
- see also cess (6 August 1706).
- 3 year tack for the barns of the Hilltown to be set at public auction (23 September 1706).

Hospital

- Hospital to purchase land (25 April 1706).

Hospital Master

- James Fairweather appointed (27 November 1705).
- a factor to be appointed to the hospital (27 November 1705).
- accounts of late hospitalmaster to be audited (27 November 1705).
- auditors submit report (4 December 1705).
- accounts approved and discharged (11 December 1705).
- hospital accounts found to be £76 short (14 March 1706).
- disposition given in favour of the hospitalmaster concerning some of the Hilltown lands (10 June 1706).
- hospitalmasters accounts to be audited (18 July 1706).
- report on audit given (7 September 1706).

House Rents

- a new list of town house rents to be drawn up (27 August 1706).

Hunter, David of Burnside

- offers to buy the lands of Draffin from the town on the condition that he is exempt from Hilltown head count (11 July 1706).

Jail

- Jail stocks and shackles repaired (15 January 1706).
- Andrew Hunter (Jailor) refuses to release prisoners (12 March 1706).
- Andrew Hunter jailed for using foul language against Baillie Prestone (12 March 1706).
- No alcohol to be given to Andrew Hunter in jail (12 March 1706).
- Andrew Hunter apologises and is reinstated (12 March 1706).
- prisoners complain about Andrew Hunter (Jailors) language (17 September 1706).
- Andrew Hunter discharged (17 September 1706).

Keys

- four keys made for the vault of Hospital rents at the Town House (17 September 1706).

Kirkmaster

- John Smith late baillie appointed (27 November 1705)
- Kirkmaster to use Kirkfabric funds to raise the value of the Hilltown lands (12 March 1706).
- to pursue the money owed via private marriages (4 April 1706).
- George Watson appointed as Baillie Smith died (18 July 1706).
- new Kirkmaster to pay balance due on the purchase of Hilltown lands by the late Kirkmaster (6 August 1706).
- accounts audited and outstanding balance to be paid (6 August 1706).
- new Kirkmaster given receipts of the bonds belonging to the old Kirkmaster (7 September 1706).

Letter

- Council receive a letter asking for a contribution towards building a bridge over the Deed (24 January 1706).

Lists

- lists of candidates for various offices made up (25 September 1705).

Maltmen

- maltmen meet to bid for the inheat multure (20 December 1705).
- provost tells the maltmen that more money would be required (20 December 1705).
- Maltmen's committee to be reconvened (20 December 1705).
- Maltmen refuse to give any more than 16 shillings 8 pence per bowl (27 December 1705).
- Dean of Guild requests 20 shillings price (8 January 1706).

Milne

- the Council investigate the running of the flour milne and cast milne due to the mounting debt (6 December 1705).
- the tenant of the East Milne given 20 merks for a new inner wheel (11 December 1705).
- a precept for the 20 merks drawn up (15 January 1706).

Minister(s)

- Mr Mitchell and Mr Dalgleish complaining about their overdue stipend (1 June 1706).
- Council consider deciding the lack of supply to towns ministers to be prejudiced to their petition before the parliament (23 September 1706).

Mortification (Undertaker's) Shop

- David Garland (wheel wright) given position in this Guthrie's mortification shop (18 July 1706).

Multure

- accounts audited and found to amount to 660 bowls (19 September 1706).

Oats

- John Boyack and James Mitchellson to supervise the carting of a stack of oats to Blackness (24 May 1706).
- 29 bolls and 10 packs of oats carted to Blackness (21 May 1706).

Parliament

- A member to be chosen to go to parliament (12 September 1706).
- Member to assist Commissioner in lobbying for 2p gift on the price of ale (17 September 1706).
- George Yeoman appointed (17 September 1706).

Petition

- from Thomas Tosh, requesting to be grave worker in place of Simon McKenzie (25 September 1705).
- petition by James Scott (catechist) requesting a share in the money from the sale of the Logie and Hilltown Lands (4 June 1706).
- from David Drummond requesting an allowance from the hospitalmaster (11 July 1706).
- Council acts on a petition given in by skippers requesting a duty on ships of a certain size (1 September 1706).
- proposed duty and tonnage levels given in the minutes (7 September 1706).
- petition from Elizabeth Smith regarding her deceased father's tenement (19 September 1706).
- Dean of Guild to inspect the gable wall of the tenement (19 September 1706).

Petty Customs

- all branches of the petty customs to be sold at public auction (27 November 1705).

Protest

- several baillies protest, refusing to take their offices due to the state of the town (27 September 1705).

Public News

- Council receive no public news by post and decide to send for some (4 December 1705).

Rent

- a list of the rent gained from all the houses in the town to be drawn up (13 June 1706).

Sale

- Sale of Logie Lands advertised in the Gazette and Courrant (15 January 1706).
- Council buys land for 1800 merks (5 February 1706).
- Council receives an offer of 17500 merks for the land (18 February 1706).
- Land sold to Sir Alexander Wedderburne for 17500 merks (28 February 1706).

Salmon fishing

- salmon fishing rates set (4 December 1705).
- fishing boats bought by the Treasurer as the rates could not be set (10 January 1706).
- four barrells of salmon caught in the town's salmon fishing to be auctioned (20 August 1706).
- Alexander Auchterlong (merchant) buys the fish (22 August 1706).
- Salmon and herring curings inspected (12 September 1706).

School(s)

- provost and baillies to visit the schools and report (28 February 1706).
- provost visited grammar school and ordered the school master to be punctual (14 March 1706).

School Master

- George Menzies, Grammar School master to be summoned before the Council (5 March 1706).
- George Menzies apologises for his lack of punctuality (12 March 1706).

Sheep

- Logie sheep and ploughs sold to Blackness in order to satisfy creditors (7 May 1706).

Simpson, Philip

- discharged as Town's Officer (5 March 1706).
- applies to be town gravemaker (9 March 1706).

Skippers (Sea Captains)

- Dutch skippers to be charged dues as strangers (19 March 1706).

Strathmartine

- Baillie Abercrombie attends a meeting at Strathmartine Church regarding the need of a new minister there (27 August 1706).
- Baillie Abercrombie reports on meeting (7 September 1706).

Stentmaster(s)

- the following appointed as Stentmasters (4 December 1705).

David Ramsay
 George Dempster
 David Hunter
 Oliver Barclay
 John Hayburton (Skipper)
 George Cramind (Maltman)

- stentmasters who refuse to take office to be called before the Council (6 December 1705).
- John Watt (Flesher) takes office as stentmaster (11 December 1705).
- John Hayburton (Skipper) takes his office (11 December 1705).
- John Hayburton goes to sea and is replaced by George Paton (2 February 1706).

Supersedence

- a transcript of a writ to supersede the creditors included in the Minutes (23 November 1705).

Tables

- Towns Bulker to mediate in any disputes between seamen and tacksmen (2 August 1790).
- a copy of the new tables to be posted on all warehouse doors (2 August 1790).
- tacksmen to carry a copy of the new tables at all times, for reference purposes (2 August 1790).

Tenement

- Council to inspect the tenement belonging to John Scott (11 July 1706).
- Baillie Alison reports on the sanitation in the tenement (6 August 1706).
- Baillie Watson allowed to build a dyke behind his tenement (17 September 1706).

Town Officer

- Philip Simpson discharged as Town's Officer (5 March 1706).

Trades Councillors

- tie in the election, John Boyack given casting vote (25 September 1705).
- Convener Gourlay chosen over James Mitchell (Baxter) [25 September 1705].

Treasurer

- to obtain cloathes for the officers (27 November 1705).
- improved to bid for the petty customs (3 December 1705).
- sells the multure wheat at £7 Scots per bowl (11 December 1705).
- to buy nets from the former tacksmen of the salmon fishing (15 January 1706).
- to repair the jail stocks and shackles (15 January 1706).
- to pay the Laird of Craigie for the use of his clay mine (24 January 1706).
- to draw up an account of expenses used on the windmillne (4 February 1706).
- Treasurer bids for the Logie Lands at 18,000 merks (5 February 1706).
- Treasurer looking for a buyer for the Logie Lands (7 February 1706).

Wedderburne, Sir Alexander

- to pay the ten thousand merk discharge owed by the town (21 March 1706).
- recognition and reward for his help given (10 June 1706).

Weight

- weight of wheat bread loaves set (16 April 1706).