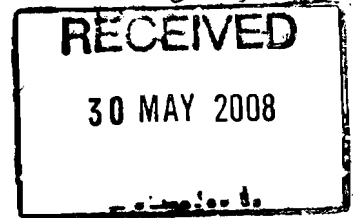


Your ref. CIN/ABS/001

71 Overstone Road  
London W6 0AD

Directorate of Planning  
& Environmental Appeals.

29 May 2008



Dear Ms. Redpath,

Merie House Inquiry.

Many thanks for the briefing papers on the above. I attach a brief further representation and ask your indulgence as it is strictly 'out of time'.

Whatever is possible, I hope it can be sent to John Swinney, VisitScotland, Scottish Heritage, <sup>Mr. Mc. Culloch</sup> and the Trump organisation as it is as relevant to the 'post inquiry' processes as to the inquiry itself.

Perhaps public officials and members of the Scottish Government can draw strength and inspiration from the title of Donald Trump's new book: 'Think big and kick ass'. They need to identify a public interest that is different from red-carpeting a world-be developer.

Yours sincerely,

P.S. From 10 June, I will be in Scotland at: 1 Hope Street, St. Andrews, KY16 9HJ  
Tel: 01334 474136  
but am not free to attend the inquiry in Aberdeen.

Supplementary Written Representation  
re public local inquiry: Developments at Menie House

In my original submission, I queried the viability and robustness of the proposals for the Menie House estate and also suggested that there could be a future in Scotland for the Trump organisation even if plans for Menie House were rejected.

Much has changed in the 6 months since I wrote it. The price of oil has gone through the roof, casting great doubt on any previous estimates for both building material costs and inward tourist numbers for Scotland. In spite of, or perhaps because of, Visit Scotland's ambitions to double the industry, numbers have been in retreat for the last few years. Their ambitions are now surely 'pie in the sky'.

In the last 6 months at least two other golf tourism developments in Scotland have, unambiguously, run into trouble, viz.

1. Taymouth Castle.
2. Grand Apartments (ex. Hamilton Hall), St. Andrews (David Wasserman, Rhode Island).

The word in the street, in the pubs and in the golf clubs is that this building is to be disposed of. The original planning undertaking envisaged 18 months of restoration work. The building, obvious to any frequent passer-by, has been untouched for at least 2 years. About 100 yrs old, this iconic building is on a prime site, adjacent to the 18th green of the world famous Old Course. Contiguous buildings include the R & A Club House and a well established hotel. The planning authority, Fife Council, which has a maverick ~~representation~~ representation, has not taken any effective action, to my knowledge.

The restoration of this, building, images of which are transmitted round the world during the Open (next in St. Andrews in 2010), would be a fitting memorial for D. Trump's Scottish born mother. It could be used year round as a 'Grand Hotel' or in a hybrid mode, let out to University students in the winter months at say £80 - £100 per student per week. Its last use was as a hall of residence, offering beds by summer. The location gives easy access to 10 golf courses in the immediate area and to some 50 throughout the Kingdom of Fife. St. Andrews offers much to interest non-golfing partners (golf widows/widowers). It is about an hour from Edinburgh Airport and 10 minutes from RAF Leuchars.

This alternative vision could be a cost-effective win-win for all.

If Menie House plans are branded 'golfopolis', the St. Andrews situation is surely Andrapolis Golymegalopolis!

J. Michael Buchanan,

71 Overstone Road,  
London W6 0AD.