

THE BRITISH MUSEUM
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2007
AT THE GLASGOW SCHOOL OF ART, GLASGOW

PRESENT

Mr Niall FitzGerald KBE (Chairman)
Chief Emeka Anyaoku
Sir Barry Cunliffe
Mr Francis Finlay
Miss Val Gooding
Mr Antony Gormley
Ms Bonnie Greer
Ms Penny Hughes
Dr Olga Kennard
Baroness Kennedy
Mr Richard Lambert
Mr David Lindsell
Mr David Norgrove
Sir Keith Thomas
Sir John Tusa

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Neil MacGregor	- Director
Dr Andrew Burnett	- Deputy Director
Ms Zoe Hancock	- Acting Director of Finance and Administration
Mr Chris Yates	- Director of Finance and Administration (<i>newly appointed and officially taking up post on 1 January 2008</i>)
Miss Heidi Weeks	- Directorate Manager
For item 8	- Mr Xerxes Mazda, Head of Learning and Audiences

1. APOLOGIES

1.1 Apologies had been received from Lord Broers, Sir Ronald Cohen, Mr Stephen Green, Mr George Iacobescu, Mrs Edmée Leventis, Lord Powell, Mr Vikram Seth, and Mr Eric Salama.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.1 *Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees: 5 July 2007.* The Minutes were approved and the Chairman was authorized to sign them as a true record.

2.2 *Matters Arising*

2.2.1 *Trustee Business*

The Chairman welcomed Ms Penny Hughes to her first Board meeting.

The Chairman confirmed that as Sir John Tusa had not taken on the role of Chairman of the V&A, he would remain on the Museum's Board for the duration of his term.

The Chairman reported that he would not be in attendance at the April 2008 Board meeting and that Mr Richard Lambert would Chair the meeting in his absence.

2.2.2 The Chairman confirmed that Brian Oldman had taking up the position of Managing Director of BMCo.

2.2.3 *Human Remains Update* – the Deputy Director informed the Board that additional reports were being prepared and that a fuller update would be made at the November Board meeting.

3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

3.1 No conflicts of interest were reported.

4. **TRUSTEE BUSINESS**

4.1 Miss Val Gooding reported on the business conducted at the June meeting of the Nominations and Governance Committee.

4.1.1 The Board approved the reappointment of Lord Broers for a second four year term.

4.1.2 The Board approved the reappointment of Mrs Edmée Leventis for a second four year term.

4.1.3 The Board recommended the reappointment by the Royal Society of Dr Olga Kennard. ***(Directorate to action)***

4.1.4 The Board recommended the reappointment by the Prime Minister of Mr David Norgrove. ***(Directorate to action)***

4.2 The Board discussed the current and future composition of the Board.

4.2.1 The Chairman reported that discussions continued with the British Academy regarding Sir Keith Thomas' successor.

4.3 The Board agreed to recommend Mr David Norgrove to the Council of the British Museum Friends.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- 5.1 *Governance* – the Chairman had undertaken to review of current Governance Guidelines and would report to the Board at the November meeting with proposals for any future changes.
- 5.2 The Chairman reported on recent meetings with key political figures, including the Prime Minister's attendance at the opening of *The First Emperor* exhibition.

James Purnell, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, would speak at the Trustee dinner on 30 October.

- 5.3 *Patrons* – The Chairman reported on the current campaign to recruit new Patrons.

6. MANAGEMENT REPORT

- 6.1 The Board noted the content of the Management Report.
- 6.2 The Director reported on the success of *The First Emperor* exhibition.
- 6.3 The Director informed the Board that an object in the Museum in Britain tour of the exhibition *Across the Board* had been misplaced. The object, a printed board game titled *The Royal Game of the British Sovereigns*, was valued at £50. The Director would write a formal report to the Chairman. **(Director to action)**

7. MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

- 7.1 The Director presented the new senior management organisation structure. The Board endorsed the proposals.

8. NW DEVELOPMENT

- 8.1 The Acting Director of Finance and Administration presented a paper entitled *North West Development Update*.
- 8.2 The Board approved the Project Brief.
- 8.2.1 A further discussion would take place at the November Board meeting, with the architects in attendance.
- 8.2.2 A site visit for Trustees would be arranged. **(Directorate to action)**

9. MASTERPLAN SUMMARY DOCUMENT

- 9.1 The Director presented the draft Masterplan summary document and fundraising proposals.

10. CSR: POTENTIAL RESPONSE

10.1 The Acting Director of Finance and Administration presented the paper entitled *Comprehensive Spending Review Update*.

11. AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

11.1 The Head of Learning and Audiences presented the paper entitled *Audiences Development Strategy*.

12. ADVOCACY

12.1 The Board noted the paper entitled *Summary of the BM's advocacy/positioning programme for the next six months*.

13. MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEES

13.1 The draft Minutes of the Nominations and Governance Committee meeting held on 17 July 2007 were noted.

13.2 The minutes of the Standing Committee meeting held on 6 September 2007 were noted.

14. SCHEDULE OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

14.1 The schedule of forthcoming events was noted.

14.2 Mr Francis Finlay informed the Board that the Board meeting of the American Friends of the British Museum would be held in London in October and that the Directors of the AFBM would attend the Trustees dinner on 30 October. A briefing note on the Directors and their programme in London would be circulated to the Board. ***(Directorate to Action)***

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 There was no other business reported.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 22 November 2007.

_____Chairman