

**THE BRITISH MUSEUM
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HELD ON 29 MARCH 2007
AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM**

PRESENT

Mr Niall FitzGerald KBE (Chairman)
Chief Emeka Anyaoku
Lord Broers
Sir Barry Cunliffe
Mr Francis Finlay
Miss Val Gooding
Mr Stephen Green (by conference call)
Ms Bonnie Greer
Dr Olga Kennard
Baroness Kennedy
Mr Richard Lambert
Mrs Edmée Leventis
Mr David Lindsay
Mr Vikram Seth
Mr Eric Salama (by conference call)
Sir Keith Thomas
Sir John Tusa

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Neil MacGregor	- Director
Dr Andrew Burnett	- Deputy Director
Dr Chris Herring	- Director of Finance
Ms Zoe Hancock	- Head of Planning and Programmes
Mr Tony Doubleday	- Head of Legal Services
For item 1	- Mr Peter Dart, WPP Group PLC - Ms Joanna Mackle, Director of Communications
For item 7	- Ms Joanna Mackle, Director of Communications
For item 15	- Ms Carolyn Marsden-Smith, Head of Exhibitions, - Ms Jan Stuart, Keeper of Asia - MsJane Portal, Curator, Department of Asia - Mr Stephen Greenberg, Metaphor

The reports and minutes referred to below may contain exempt information within the meaning of Part II of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

1. PRESENTATION FROM PETER DART

1.1 The Chairman introduced Mr Peter Dart, who presented his initial thoughts on the public presentation of the Museum.

1.2 The Board thanked Mr Dart for his pro bono work and for his presentation and discussed the issues he had raised. A further report would be made to the Board meeting in July 2007

(Action: Peter Dart/Director of Communications)

2. APOLOGIES

2.1 Apologies had been received from Sir Ronald Cohen, Mr David Norgrove and Lord Powell

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

3.1 *Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees: 23 November 2006.* The Minutes were approved and the Chairman was authorized to sign them as a true record.

3.2 The Director reported continued progress in connection with the future plans for the Percival David Foundation Collection.

4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

4.1 No conflicts of interest were reported.

5. TRUSTEE BUSINESS

5.1 *Board Meeting: 27-29 September 2007.* The Director explained the proposed arrangements for the meeting of the Board of Trustees at the Glasgow Museums and Galleries.

5.2 The Chairman asked Trustees to arrive in time for a board meeting at 4.00 pm on 27 September. The formal business of the Board would be completed on 28 September.

(Action: Directorate)

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

6.1 The Chairman reported that the interview process for the recruitment of two new Trustees was proceeding well, and that the Royal Academy had proposed its new appointee to the Secretary of State.

(Action: Chairman)

6.2 The Chairman reiterated to Trustees the importance of their roles in seeking new patrons.

(Action: Trustees)

7. COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING REVIEW AND ADVOCACY

- 7.1 The Director of Communications presented a paper entitled, *Summary of the BM's advocacy/positioning programme for the next six months*. She would be producing a six month advocacy plan for circulation to Trustees.

(Action: Director of Communications)

- 7.2 The Director presented a paper entitled *Capital and Resource Expenditure Bids to DCMS*.
- 7.3 Trustees were asked to support two particularly important advocacy dates: (i) the Annual Nelson Mandela Lecture on 22 July 2007 which would take place in Johannesburg and be simultaneously broadcast at the British Museum); and (ii) the Annual Trustees' Dinner on 30 October.
- 7.4 The Board discussed the event *Resistance and Remembrance* on 25 March, and noted that it had worked well on many different levels. The Board thanked Ms Greer and the Museum's staff for all their efforts. At Ms Greer's suggestion, it was agreed that the Director should form a review group to learn from the success of event.

(Action: Directorate)

8. MANAGEMENT REPORT

- 8.1 The Board noted the content of the Management Report.

9. THE BRITISH MUSEUM PLAN AND BUDGET 2007/08

- 9.1 The Board discussed and approved the Annual Plan and Budget 2007/08.
- 9.2 The Board noted the progress of the space planning board in the selection of an architect for the North West development. A day of workshops with short listed architects had been arranged for 19 April.
- 9.3 The Deputy Director said he would ask the Head of Learning and Information to present a paper on audience development to the Board meeting in July.

(Action: Deputy Director)

10. TRANSFER OF DAGUERREOTYPE

- 10.1 The Board approved the transfer of the daguerreotype 1936-12-31-16 to the Victoria and Albert Museum pursuant to section 6(1) Museums and Galleries Act 1992.

(Action: Keeper of Prints and Drawings)

11. HUMAN REMAINS

- 11.1 The Deputy Director reported the progress in the preparation of reports from independent experts in relation to the Te Papa Claim. It was anticipated that the reports would be available for the Board meeting on 5 July 2007.

(Action: Deputy Director)

12. MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEES

- 12.1 The Minutes of the Standing Committee meeting held on 14 December 2006 were noted.
- 12.2 The Minutes of the Standing Committee meeting held on 18 January 2007 were noted.
- 12.3 The Minutes of the Investment Sub Committee meeting held on 31 January 2007 were noted.
- 12.4 The Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 15 February 2007 were received. Mr Lindsell said the Audit Committee was satisfied that matters were being properly addressed.

13. SCHEDULE OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 13.1 The schedule of forthcoming events was noted.
- 13.2 The Director asked Trustees to support The Guardian Debate (24 April) and the Partons' Dinner (16 May).

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 14.1 There was no other business.

15. FIRST EMPEROR: EXHIBITION DESIGN PRESENTATION

- 15.1 The Board received a presentation on the design for the First Emperor Exhibition.
- 15.2 The Board noted the level of public use of the public library in its new temporary location in the Middle Room.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 5 July 2007

_____ Chairman