Minutes

The British Museum Board Extraordinary Meeting
21 September 2015

Held at the British Museum

Present

Sir Richard Lambert Chairman
The Hon Nigel Boardman (by phone to Item 3.2)
Ms Patricia Cumper
Professor Clive Gamble
Mr James Lupton
Sir Deryck Maughan (by phone to Item 3.3)
Mr John Micklethwait
Sir Paul Nurse
Mr Gavin Patterson (by phone to Item 3.3)
Mr Grayson Perry
Ms Ahdaf Soueif
Lord Stern (by phone to Item 3.3)
Baroness Wheatcroft

In Attendance

Mark Bates
Governance & Planning Manager
Joanna Mackle (from Item 3.4)
Deputy Director
Christopher Yates (from Item 3.4)
Deputy Director
1. **Apologies**

1.1 Apologies had been received from Ms Karen Armstrong, Ms Cheryl Carolus, Dame Liz Forgan, Ms Wasfi Kani, Professor Nicola Lacey, Lord Sassoon, Professor Amartya Sen and Lord Turner.

2. **Declaration of Interests**

2.1 No interests were declared.

3. **Appointment of the Director**

3.1 All Trustees present expressed their views on the Search Committee’s recommended candidate. Those Trustees unable to attend the meeting had given their views to the Chairman. There was unanimous support for the appointment of Dr Hartwig Fischer as Director of the British Museum, subject to the Prime Minister’s approval.

3.2 The Trustee’s approved a remuneration package, subject to ministerial approval.

3.3 Given that it was likely that there would be a gap between the current Director’s departure and the new Director’s arrival, the Trustees agreed that Christopher Yates, Deputy Director, should be recommended to DCMS for appointment as interim Accounting Officer, and that he should also fulfil the role of Acting Director.

*Joanna Mackle and Christopher Yates joined the meeting*

3.4 Joanna Mackle presented a communication plan for the announcement of the Director’s appointment, which the Trustees approved.

4. **Spending Review**

4.1 Christopher Yates updated the Trustees on the Spending Review.

5. There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting.

____________________________Chairman