

**THE BRITISH MUSEUM**  
**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**HELD ON 5 JULY 2007**  
**AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM**

**PRESENT**

Mr Niall FitzGerald KBE (Chairman)  
Lord Broers  
Sir Barry Cunliffe  
Mr Francis Finlay  
Miss Val Gooding  
Mr Antony Gormley  
Mr Stephen Green  
Ms Bonnie Greer  
Mr George Iacobescu  
Dr Olga Kennard  
Mr David Lindsell  
Mr David Norgrove  
Lord Powell  
Mr Vikram Seth  
Mr Eric Salama  
Sir Keith Thomas  
Sir John Tusa

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr Neil MacGregor	- Director
Dr Andrew Burnett	- Deputy Director
Dr Chris Herring	- Director of Finance and Administration
Ms Zoe Hancock	- Head of Planning and Programmes
Miss Heidi Weeks	- Directorate Manager
For item 7	- Ms Joanna Mackle, Director of Communications
For item 8	- Mr Simon Neale, Head of Capital Projects and Estates
For item 18	- Mr Peter Dart, WPP Group PLC - Ms Joanna Mackle, Director of Communications
For item 19	- Mr Michael Barnett, Security Manager Mr Andrew Sinclair, Security

## **1. APOLOGIES**

- 1.1 Apologies had been received from Chief Emeka Anyaoku, Sir Ronald Cohen, Baroness Kennedy, Mr Richard Lambert, Ms Edmée Leventis and Ms Penny Hughes.

## **2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

- 2.1 *Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees: 29 March 2007.* The Minutes were approved and the Chairman was authorized to sign them as a true record.
- 2.2 The Director reported that progress in connection with the future plans for the Percival David Foundation Collection continued.
- 2.3 The Chairman advised the Board that the relay of the Annual Nelson Mandela Lecture to the BM would not take place.
- 2.3 The Director reported that the Head of Learning and Audiences would present a paper at the September Board meeting on the audience development strategy.

## **3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

- 3.1 No conflicts of interest were reported.

## **4. TRUSTEE BUSINESS**

- 4.1 The Chairman confirmed that the Prime Minister had approved the appointment of Ms Penny Hughes and Mr George Iacobescu to the Board of Trustees.
- 4.2 The Chairman welcomed Mr Gormley and Mr Iacobescu to the meeting.

## **5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

- 5.1 The Board conveyed its congratulations to Sir John Tusa on his appointment as Chairman of the V&A. He would stand down from the BM Board at the end of September.
- 5.2 The Chairman informed the Board that Mr Brian Oldman had been appointed Managing Director of BMCo. Mr Oldman was expected to take up this post in September.
- 5.3 On behalf of Trustees and staff, the Chairman thanked Dr Herring for his service to the Museum over the last six and a half years. Dr Herring would leave the Museum on 13 July.
- 5.4 The Board conveyed its congratulations to Sarah Collins for the OBE she received in the Queen's Birthday list, honouring her work in Baghdad and Sidon.
- 5.5 The Chairman informed the Board that Lord Rees had been appointed as a member of the Order of Merit.

5.6 The Chairman reported on the launch of the Annual Review which took place yesterday.

5.7 The Chairman reminded Trustees of the current campaign to recruit Patrons. It was suggested that an event for new Patrons might be arranged.

**(Action Directorate)**

## **6. MANAGEMENT REPORT**

6.1 The Board noted the content of the Management Report.

## **7. CSR 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*.

7.2 The Director of Communications reported on the meeting of the Advocacy Advisory Group.

## **8. MASTERPLAN**

8.1 The Board discussed and approved the Masterplan.

## **9. 2006/2007 ACCOUNTS**

9.1 The Board discussed and approved the 2006/2007 accounts.

## **10. ETHICS POLICY**

10.1 The Board discussed and approved the Ethics Policy.

## **11. LOAN TO MUSÉE DU QUAI BRANLY, PARIS, FOR THE EXHIBITION *BENIN: A WEST AFRICAN KINGDOM***

11.1 The Board approved the loan to the Musée du Quai Branly, Paris, for the exhibition *Benin: A West African Kingdom*.

## **12. ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP OF THE COLLECTION REPORT**

12.1 The Deputy Director presented a paper entitled *Annual Stewardship of the Collection Report*.

## **13. ACQUISITIONS REGISTER**

13.1 The Deputy Director presented a paper entitled *Acquisitions 2006-2007*. Copies of the Acquisitions Register were available from the Director's Office.

## **14. HUMAN REMAINS UPDATE**

14.1 The Board noted the paper entitled *Human Remains Updated*. A further report would be made to Trustees at the Board meeting in September.

**15. MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEES**

- 15.1 The Minutes of the Standing Committee meeting held on 24 April 2007 were noted.
- 15.2 The draft Minutes of the Investment Sub Committee meeting held on 30 May 2007 were noted.
- 15.3 The Minutes of the Standing Committee meeting held on 14 June 2007 were noted.
- 15.4 The Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 20 June 2007 were noted.

**16. SCHEDULE OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

- 16.1 The schedule of forthcoming events was noted.

**17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 17.1 *Security* – The Director introduced Michael Barnett, temporary Security Manager, to the Board.

Mr Barnett reported on the response to current security threats facing the Museum in the light of recent terrorist activity.

- 17.2 *April 2008 Board meeting date* – The Chairman advised Trustees that the date of the April 2008 Board meeting may need to be rescheduled. The date would be confirmed within the next few weeks.

**(Action Chairman)**

**18. PUBLIC PRESENTATION OF THE MUSEUM: FINAL REPORT FROM PETER DART**

- 18.1 The Board discussed the papers prepared by Peter Dart on the public presentation of the Museum.
- 18.2 A further discussion would take place at the meeting in September.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 27 and 28 September 2007, in Glasgow.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman