

Minutes

The British Museum Board Meeting 22 March 2018

Held at the British Museum

Present

Sir Richard Lambert
Chairman
The Hon Nigel Boardman
Ms Cheryl Carolus
Ms Elizabeth Corley
Ms Clarissa Farr
Professor Clive Gamble
Ms Muriel Gray
Professor Nicola Lacey
Sir Deryck Maughan
Mr John Micklethwait
Sir Paul Nurse
Mr Gavin Patterson
Mr Mark Pears
Mr Grayson Perry
Sir Paul Ruddock
Lord Sassoon
Dame Minouche Shafik
Ms Ahdaf Soueif
Baroness Wheatcroft (to Item 8)

In Attendance

Hartwig Fischer
Director
Joanna Mackle
Deputy Director
Jonathan Williams
Deputy Director
Christopher Yates
Deputy Director
Mark Bates
Governance & Planning Manager
Jane Whittaker (Items 3-6)
Director of Resources
Emma Hayes (Item 3)
Collections Programme Manager

1. Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies had been received from Miss Pat Cumper, Professor Amartya Sen and Lord Turner.

2. Declaration of Interests

- 2.1 Nigel Boardman declared a conflict of interest in relation to the liquidation of Carillion. Clive Gamble declared a potential conflict of interest in relation to the Masterplan.

For Approval

3. Masterplan and Financial Sustainability

- 3.1 Following an introduction from the Director, Christopher Yates, Jane Whitaker and Jonathan Williams presented proposals for the Museum's Masterplan. Following discussion, the Trustees approved the proposals as presented and agreed that investment in essential infrastructure works was a priority.

4. Budget and Operating Plan 2018/19 – 2020/21

- 4.1 The Board approved the Budget and Operating Plan.

5. BM Reserves Policy, Grants and Designations

- 5.1 The Board approved the British Museum reserves policy, grants and designations.

6. British Museum Friends

Note: this item constituted a meeting of the British Museum Friends (BMF) Board

- 6.1 The BMF Board approved a budget for 2018/19.
6.2 The BMF Board approved the reserves policy, grants and designations.

Standing Business

7. Minutes

- 7.1 The minutes of the Board meeting held on 7 December 2017 were approved as a true record of the meeting.
7.2 Under matters arising, the Chairman thanked Nicola Lacey for volunteering to be a Trustee contact point for whistleblowers.

8. Chairman's Report

- 8.1 The Chairman provided an update on the Trustee recruitment campaign being led by DCMS.

9. Management Report

- 9.1 The Board noted the Management Report.
- 9.2 The Director provided an update on a potential loan to the Museum and the upcoming music festival.
- 9.3 Christopher Yates provided an update on facilities management at the Museum following the liquidation of Carillion.

10. Committee Reports

- 10.1 Nigel Boardman reported that the Audit Committee meeting held earlier in the day had considered the risks associated with the liquidation of Carillion. He reported that the Committee's annual review of performance had shown that it was effective. The Committee had also recommended to the Chairman the re-appointment of co-opted member, Sir Ian Johnston.
- 10.2 The Nominations and Remuneration Committee meeting held earlier in the day had discussed the outcome of the annual Board performance review, the Chairman's performance and upcoming vacancies.

For Information

11. Committee Minutes

- 11.1 The Board noted the minutes of the Standing Committee meeting of 18 January, the Audit Committee meeting of 26 October and the Nominations and Remuneration Committee meeting of 7 September.

12. Advocacy Update

- 12.1 The Board noted the update.

13. Loans Approvals

- 13.1 The Board noted the loans approved by the Standing Committee.

14. Any Other Business

- 14.1 There was no other business.

The management team withdrew from the meeting before a closed session of the Board was held.

15. Closed session

- 15.1 The Board held a closed discussion.

The Chairman withdrew from the meeting.

- 15.2 The Board discussed the outcome of the review of the Chairman's performance.

_____Chairman

Date of next meeting: 5 July 2018, the British Museum