

Minutes

The British Museum Board Meeting 1 December 2016

Held at the British Museum

Present

Sir Richard Lambert
Chairman
The Hon Nigel Boardman
Ms Cheryl Carolus (by phone)
Ms Elizabeth Corley
Ms Patricia Cumper
Ms Clarissa Farr
Ms Muriel Gray
Ms Wasfi Kani
Professor Nicola Lacey
Lord Lupton
Sir Deryck Maughan
Mr John Micklethwait (by phone to
Item 9.2)
Sir Paul Nurse
Mr Gavin Patterson
Mr Grayson Perry
Sir Paul Ruddock
Lord Sassoon
Ms Ahdaf Soueif
Baroness Wheatcroft

In Attendance

Hartwig Fischer
Director
Joanna Mackle
Deputy Director
Jonathan Williams
Deputy Director
Marilyn Standley
Deputy Director
Christopher Yates
Deputy Director
Mark Bates
Governance & Planning Manager

1. Welcome and Apologies

- 1.1 The Chairman welcomed Elizabeth Corley, Clarissa Farr and Paul Ruddock to the Board.
- 1.2 Apologies had been received from Clive Gamble, Amartya Sen, Minouche Shafik and Adair Turner.

2. Declaration of Interests

- 2.1 No interests were declared.

For Approval

3. Acceptance of Donations Principles

- 3.1 The Board approved the Acceptance of Donations Principles, subject to some minor amendments to be approved by the Chairman.

Action: Christopher Yates

4. Anti-Money Laundering and Refusal of Donations Policy

- 4.1 The Board approved the revisions to the Anti-Money Laundering and Refusal of Donations Policy, subject to some minor amendments to be approved by the Chairman.

Action: Christopher Yates

5. British Museum Friends grant

- 5.1 The British Museum Friends Board approved a grant to the British Museum.

For Discussion

6. International cultural relations

- 6.1 Jonathan Williams briefed the Trustees on the Museum's international cultural relations.

Standing Business

7. Minutes

- 7.1 The minutes of the Board meeting held on 30 September and 1 October 2016 were approved as a true record of the meeting. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

8. Chairman's Report

- 8.1 The Chairman informed that Board that he had scheduled a number of informal meetings in 2017 with a core group of Trustees to discuss fundraising.

9. Management Report

- 9.1 The Board noted the Management Report.
- 9.2 The Director reported on his recent visit to New York which had included an event for the American Friends of the British Museum. He also reported that he had held a briefing session for staff about his vision for the Museum.
- 9.3 Christopher Yates and Jonathan Williams updated the Board on the Blythe House project.
- 9.4 Joanna Mackle provided an update on the Zayed National Museum project.
- 9.5 Marilyn Standley provided an update on security.

10. Committee Reports

- 10.1 Nigel Boardman reported that the recent Audit Committee meeting had considered BMCo pension funding, interim arrangements for Internal Audit and the risk management of the ZNM and Blythe House projects.
- 10.2 Patience Wheatcroft reported on the main business of the Nominations and Remuneration Committee meeting held earlier in the day.

For Information

11. Committee Minutes

- 11.1 The Board noted the minutes of the Standing Committee meeting of 1 September and the Audit Committee meeting of 7 July.

12. Advocacy Update

- 12.1 The Board noted the update.

13. Loans

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

14. Any other business

- 14.1 The Chairman thanked Marilyn Standley for everything she had done for the Museum and wished her well for the future.

The management team withdrew from the meeting.

15. Closed Session

- 15.1 The Board held a closed session.

_____Chairman

Date of next meeting: 23 March 2017, 15.00-17.30, The British Museum