

UNRESTRICTED

Minutes

Meeting of the British Museum Board of Trustees

30 September & 1 October 2016

King Street Townhouse, Manchester

Present

Sir Richard Lambert
Chairman
Ms Karen Armstrong
The Hon Nigel Boardman
Ms Cheryl Carolus
Dame Liz Forgan
Professor Clive Gamble (from Item 4)
Ms Muriel Gray
Ms Wasfi Kani
Professor Nicola Lacey
Lord Lupton
Mr John Micklethwait
Sir Paul Nurse
Mr Gavin Patterson
Mr Grayson Perry
Lord Sassoon
Dame Nemat Shafik
Ms Ahdaf Soueif
Lord Stern
Lord Turner
Baroness Wheatcroft

In Attendance

Hartwig Fischer
Director
Joanna Mackle
Deputy Director
Marilyn Standley
Deputy Director
Jonathan Williams
Deputy Director
Christopher Yates
Deputy Director
Jane Whittaker (for Items 3 & 11)
Head of Finance & Human Resources
Mark Bates
Governance & Planning Manager

Ms Clarissa Farr (observer)
Sir Paul Ruddock (observer)

Part One: Friday 30 September, 14.00-16.00

1. Welcome and apologies

- 1.1 Apologies had been received from Miss Patricia Cumper, Sir Deryck Maughan and Professor Amartya Sen.
- 1.2 The Chairman welcomed Ms Clarissa Farr and Sir Paul Ruddock to the meetings as observers prior to their appointment as Trustees from 2 October.

2. Declaration of Interests

- 2.1 Professor Clive Gamble had declared an interest in the Blythe House project (Item 3) and would join the meeting after this item had been discussed. No other interests were declared.

3. Blythe House Project

- 3.1 Christopher Yates and Jonathan Williams gave a presentation on the potential location of off-site facilities and the process and criteria used to assess their suitability.
- 3.2 The Board approved some additional selection criteria to those approved in March to identify a shortlist for the location of off-site facilities, and also agreed the criteria for determining the scale of the off-site facility. The Board approved a shortlist.

Professor Clive Gamble joined the meeting from Item 4

4. Onsite visits and exhibitions

- 4.1 Joanna Mackle gave a presentation on the onsite visits to Bloomsbury in the financial year to date. The Board noted that the decline in visits on the previous year was not unique to the Museum and that the reasons were not yet known.
- 4.2 Joanna Mackle also gave a presentation on the performance of recent special exhibitions and the programme for the next few years.

5. Minutes of Meeting

- 5.1 The minutes of the Board meeting held on 7 July 2016 were approved as a true record. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

6. Chairman's report

- 6.1 The Chairman was pleased to confirm that the Prime Minister had approved the reappointment of Nigel Boardman for a further four years from 1 January 2017.
- 6.2 On behalf of the Board, the Chairman had approved the Museum's statement on modern slavery which had been published on the website.
- 6.3 As Chairman of the British Museum Friends, the Chairman had approved amendments to the British Museum Friends Governance Principles and Procedures.

7. Management Report

7.1 The Board noted the Management Report.

8 Advocacy Update

8.1 The Board noted the Advocacy Update.

9. Committee minutes

9.1 The Board noted the minutes of the Standing Committee meeting of 2 June and the Audit Committee meetings of 21 January and 24 March.

10. Loan approvals

10.1 The Board noted the loans approved by the Standing Committee.

Part Two: Saturday 1 October, 08.30-11.00

11. The masterplan

11.1 Jane Whittaker gave a presentation about the approach to developing a masterplan.

11.2 The Director gave a presentation on his vision for the Museum, which would help shape the masterplan. Following discussion, the Board endorsed the vision and the approach to developing a masterplan.

12. Any other business

12.1 The Chairman thanked Karen Armstrong, Liz Forgan and Nick Stern for their enormous contribution to the Board over the last eight years.

_____Chairman