

Minutes

The British Museum Board Meeting 5 December 2019

Held at the British Museum

Present

Sir Richard Lambert
Chairman
The Hon Nigel Boardman
Ms Clarissa Farr (to Item 9.2)
Ms Muriel Gray
Mr Philipp Hildebrand (by phone to
Item 9.2)
Dame Vivian Hunt
Sir Deryck Maughan (by phone to
Item 9.2)
Sir Charlie Mayfield
Sir Paul Nurse
Mr Gavin Patterson (to Item 9.2)
Mr Mark Pears (to Item 9.2)
Mr Grayson Perry
Sir Paul Ruddock
Lord Sassoon (by phone)
Dame Minouche Shafik
Mr George Weston

In Attendance

Hartwig Fischer
Director
Jonathan Williams
Deputy Director
Christopher Yates
Deputy Director
Jane Whittaker (Items 1-8)
Director of Resources
Russell Torrance (Item 4)
Head of Capital Planning and
Programme Management
Mark Bates
Governance & Planning Manager

1. Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies had been received from Dame Elizabeth Corley, Miss Patricia Cumper, Ms Cheryl Carolus, Professor Chris Gosden and Lord Turner.

2. Declaration of Interests

- 2.1 No interests were declared.

3. Introduction

- 3.1 The Chairman presented a summary of key achievements since the last meeting.

For approval

4. Conservation Management Plan

- 4.1 The Board approved a draft Conservation Management Plan for discussion with external stakeholders.

5. Public Engagement Strategy

- 5.1 Jonathan Williams presented a framework for a Public Engagement Strategy which the Board approved.

6. Blythe House archaeological material

- 6.1 The Board confirmed that decisions on the treatment of archaeological material at Blythe House should be taken by the Standing Committee, with the Chairman reserving the right to refer matters to the Board at his discretion.

Standing Business

7. Minutes

- 7.1 The minutes of the Board meeting held on 5 October 2019 were approved as a true record of the meeting.
- 7.2 There were no matters arising from the minutes.

8. Chairman's Report

- 8.1 The Chairman informed the Board that he had appointed Vivian Hunt, Philipp Hildebrand and George Weston to the Audit Committee, and Charlie Mayfield to the Rosetta Project Committee.

9. Management Report

- 9.1 The Board noted the Management Report.
- 9.2 The Director, Christopher Yates and Jonathan Williams briefed the Board on the new Directorate Group structure and the staffing of the Rosetta Project.

9.3 Jonathan Williams briefed the Trustees on a recent restitution request. The Board endorsed the proposed response.

10. Committee reports

10.1 Nigel Boardman reported on the Audit Committee meeting of 31 October where the main topic of discussion was a detailed review of security.

10.2 Minouche Shafik reported that the Nominations and Remuneration Committee held earlier in the day had discussed potential Trustee candidates for vacancies arising over the next year.

For Information

11. Donations report

11.1 The Board noted the annual report of donations of £25,000 and more for 2018/19.

12. Loans

12.1 The Board noted the Loans Strategy Report 2018/19.

12.2 The Board noted loans approved by the Standing Committee and the Chairman.

13. Committee minutes

13.1 The Board noted the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of 4 July and the Standing Committee meeting of 5 September.

14. Any other business

14.1 There was no other business.

The management team withdrew from the meeting and the Board held a closed session.

_____ Chairman

Date of next meeting: 19 March 2020, 15.00-17.30, the British Museum

UNRESTRICTED