

# Minutes

## The British Museum Board Meeting 8 December 2022

### Held at the British Museum

#### Present

Mr George Osborne  
Chair  
Professor Abhijit Banerjee  
Professor Dame Mary Beard  
Dame Elizabeth Corley  
Ms Clarissa Farr  
Professor Chris Gosden  
Mr Grayson Perry  
Mr Philipp Hildebrand  
Dame Vivian Hunt  
Lord Marland  
Sir Charlie Mayfield  
Mr Mark Pears  
Sir Paul Ruddock  
Baroness Shafik (Items 1-6)  
Mr Alejandro Santo Domingo  
Mr Weijian Shan  
Professor Sir Mark Walport  
Mr George Weston  
Professor Dame Sarah Worthington

#### In Attendance

Hartwig Fischer  
Director  
Jonathan Williams  
Deputy Director  
Christopher Yates  
Deputy Director  
Elizabeth Knight  
Governance Manager  
Jane Whittaker (Items 3-5)  
Director of Resources  
Kary Kelly (Items 3-5)  
Director of Advancement  
Jill Maggs (Items 3-5)  
Director of Public Engagement

**1. Apologies**

1.1 Apologies had been received from Muriel Gray and Priyanka Wadhawan.

**2. Declaration of Interests**

2.1 No interests were declared.

***Discussion and Approval***

**3. Collections Discussion**

3.1 The Chair summarised previous discussions and outlined principles and proposals that could guide decisions relating to the Collection.

3.2 Following a detailed discussion, including risks and how these would be managed, the Board resolved that:

3.3.1 the Collection would be held and shared in accordance with the principles discussed; and

3.3.2 two particular cases would be managed in line with the proposals discussed.

3.3 It was agreed that the Directorate Group would give further consideration to the matters raised by the Trustees.

***Action: The Directorate Group***

3.4 It was noted that any loans that may be proposed pursuant to the proposals would be brought back to the Board for consideration, including an assessment of the risks.

***Action: The Directorate Group***

**4. Round Reading Room**

4.1 Jills Maggs summarised a proposal to enable some limited public access to the Round Reading Room.

4.2 Following a discussion, the Board approved the proposal.

**5. Communications**

5.1 Kary Kelly and Jill Maggs gave a presentation regarding the vision development project and the proposed work to be carried out by Wonderhood Studios. A discussion followed.

5.2 It was agreed that an update would be provided to the Standing Committee in January 2023, and then to the full Board in March 2023.

***Action: Kary Kelly and Jill Maggs***

SENSITIVE

## **6. Privacy Policy**

- 6.1 Following a discussion, the Board approved the updated policy.

### ***Standing Business***

## **7. Minutes**

- 7.1 The minutes of the Board meeting held on 8 October 2022 were approved as a true record of the meeting.
- 7.2 Matters arising:
- 7.2.1 Item 3.4: a paper on the Museum's welcome arrangements would be brought to a future Board meeting.
- 7.2.2 Item 3.6: a digital strategy would be prepared for the March 2023 Board meeting.

## **8. Chair's Report**

- 8.1 The Chair reported on the successful Trustees' Dinner.
- 8.2 The Chair reminded Trustees that the Board meeting on 23 March 2023 would be held at the BM\_ARC in Reading.

## **9. Management Report**

- 9.1 The Board noted the report.

## **10. Committee reports**

- 10.1 Vivian Hunt reported on the work of the Audit Committee. At the October meeting the Committee discussed the management of reputational risk and undertook the annual review of the risk management policy, recommending no changes.
- 10.2 The Chair reported on the work of the Nominations & Remuneration Committee, in Minouche Shafik's absence. He invited Trustees to suggest potential Trustee candidates to the Chair or to Minouche Shafik.

### ***Information***

## **11. Committee minutes**

- 11.1 The Board noted the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting on 7 July 2022.

## **12. Loan approvals**

- 12.1 The Board noted the report of loan approvals by the Chair.

## **13. Any other business**

13.1 There was no other business.

\_\_\_\_\_Chair

**Date of next meeting:** 23 March 2023