

Minutes The British Museum Board Meeting 28 August 2023

Held via MS Teams

Present

Mr George Osborne Chair
Professor Abhijit Banerjee
Professor Dame Mary Beard
Ms Clarissa Farr
Professor Chris Gosden
Mr Philipp Hildebrand
Dame Vivian Hunt
Lord Jonathan Marland
Sir Charlie Mayfield
Mr Mark Pears
Sir Paul Ruddock
Baroness Minouche Shafik
Ms Priyanka Wadhawan
Professor Sir Mark Walport
Mr George Weston
Professor Dame Sarah Worthington

In Attendance

Eoin Martin
Governance Manager

Sir Mark Jones (item 3)

1. Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies had been received from Elizabeth Corley, Muriel Gray, Alejandro Santo Domingo and Weijian Shan.

2. Declaration of Interests

- 2.1 Sir Paul Ruddock declared that he and Sir Mark Jones had worked together previously, as Chair and Director respectively of the V&A.

Discussion and Approval**3. Appointment of an Interim Director**

- 3.1 There was a discussion of the process by which the Director of the Museum is appointed.
- 3.2 Sir Mark Jones joined the meeting. He set out his previous experience and was interviewed by the Trustees on his suitability for the role of Director and what he would be able to contribute were he to lead the organisation on an interim basis.
- 3.3 Sir Mark Jones left the meeting. There was a discussion about his suitability for the role of Director. It was agreed that the Trustees would appoint Sir Mark Jones as Director of the British Museum, on an interim basis. It was agreed that the appointment should be submitted to the Prime Minister for approval in accordance with the British Museum Act.

Action: The Chair

_____Chair

Date of next meeting: 7 September 2023