

BARBICAN CENTRE BOARD

Wednesday, 18 February 2015

Minutes of the meeting of the Barbican Centre Board held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Wednesday, 18 February 2015 at 10.30 am

Present

Members:

Deputy John Tomlinson (Chairman)	Trevor Phillips (External Member)
Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Deputy Chairman)	Judith Pleasance
Lucy Frew	Deputy Richard Regan
Tom Hoffman	Keith Salway (External Member)
Roly Keating (External Member)	Deputy Dr Giles Shilson
Jeremy Mayhew	Emma Kane (Ex-Officio Member)
Wendy Mead	Vivienne Littlechild (Ex-Officio Member)
Cllr Guy Nicholson (External Member)	

In Attendance

Officers:

Gregory Moore	Town Clerk's Department
Niki Cornwell	Chamberlain's Department
Sir Nicholas Kenyon	Managing Director, The Barbican Centre
Michael Dick	Barbican Centre Board
Sandeep Dwesar	Barbican Centre
Sean Gregory	Barbican Centre
Louise Jeffreys	Barbican Centre
Leonora Thomson	Barbican Centre
Jo Daly	Barbican Centre
Michael Bradley	City Surveyor's Department
Steve Eddy	Barbican Centre
Robert Rider	Barbican Centre

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Alderman David Graves, Sir Brian McMaster and Jeremy Simons.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were none.

3.1 Minutes of the Board

The public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 3 December 2014 were approved as a correct record.

3.2 **Minutes of the Finance Committee**

The draft public minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2015 were received.

3.3 **Minutes of the Risk Committee**

The draft public minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2015 were received.

4. **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Board's terms of reference were noted, with Members content to leave them unchanged at this point in time. However, it was noted that the Nominations Committee had requested the Town Clerk prepare a report for a future meeting of the Board which would allow Members to consider the merits of expanding the number of external Members.

5. **MANAGEMENT REPORT BY THE CENTRE'S DIRECTORS**

Members received a report of the Managing Director providing updates from the six Barbican Directors on their respective areas. The Managing Director prefaced discussion by referencing the recent success of the Berliner Philharmoniker's performances at the Barbican. Board Members were shown an extract from a BBC Four programme which had focussed on the performances and the Barbican itself.

The Directors spoke to each update, with a number of questions asked by the Board:

Exhibition Hall 1/London Film School (LFS): It was confirmed that the agreement for the lease had now been signed and that enabling works would commence shortly. These would be completed by March 2016, allowing the LFS to then undertake their own works for completion by September 2017. It was confirmed that the Barbican had shared the various acoustic reports concerning the recent cinema works with the LFS, so as to ensure they could use the learning developed in terms of minimising noise impact on residents. Assistance had also been provided in developing communications plans so that residents would be kept updated on the status of works in as transparent and timely a manner as possible.

It was advised that the LFS were required to meet three conditions prior to the formal completion of the lease; one condition had already been met, the other two related to fundraising and planning applications. Members sought clarity as to the position should the LFS fail to meet these conditions and any potential impact on the Barbican; following discussion, the City Surveyor was asked to liaise with the Town Clerk and Chairman following the meeting and produce a note clarifying the position for Board Members.

Exhibition Hall 2: It was confirmed that this matter had been considered by the Cultural Hub Working Party and there was general consensus that the space should be used for cultural purposes. The Centre was now reconsidering plans

for the Hall in the light of ongoing work around the Cultural Hub and a collaborative approach was emerging.

Young Orchestra for London: Members sought clarity as to the relationship between the Young Orchestra for London (which had been established as part of the Berliner Philharmoniker's tour) and those existing various youth and school orchestras in the City. The Managing Director clarified that the Young Orchestra for London project had been set up as a completely distinct initiative from existing orchestras, with the intention to have a diverse group of children involved representing all age groups and ability levels and coming from all London boroughs. The orchestra was also time-limited and not a continuing group; this contrasted with the likes of the London Schools Symphony Orchestra, which was an ongoing orchestra comprised of individuals of consistently high ability.

East London Cultural Partnership: The Director of Creative Learning, in response to a Member's query, confirmed that ... It was also advised that, in addition to partnership work with individual boroughs, over-arching strategic programmes of cross borough collaboration were also being developed and implemented.

RECEIVED.

6. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD

There were no questions.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no urgent items.

8. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED – That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item No.

9a - 23

24

Paragraph No.

3

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9.1 Non-Public Minutes of the Board

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2014 were approved.

9.2 Non Public Minutes of the Finance Committee

The draft non-public minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2015 were received.

9.3 Non-Public Minutes of the Risk Committee

The draft non-public minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2015 were received.

10. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS OF THE BOARD

The Board received a report of the Town Clerk setting out the outstanding actions list and noted the various updates and additions.

11. BUSINESS REVIEW

The Board received a report of the Chief Operating & Financial Officer presenting the Business Review for the Period 9 Accounts 2014/15.

12. BAD DEBTS AND WRITE-OFFS

The Board received a report of the Chief Operating & Financial Officer detailing the Barbican debts incurred over a three year period from 2010 to 2013 and advising of those which it was proposed be written off.

RESOLVED: That the Committee:-

- note that the Managing Director intends to approve, under delegated authority, the write off of sixty items, each below £5,000, and
- approves the writing-off of eight items in excess of £5,000, as detailed in the report.

13. DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The Board received a report of the Chief Operating & Financial Officer which set out the 2014/15 fundraising results, to date, against budget.

14. CINEMA PRESENTATION

The Board received a report of the Director of Arts providing an update on the Cinema's performance over the past year and presenting a look forward for 2015/16.

15. CATERING TENDER - RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT CONTRACTORS

The Board considered a report of the Chief Operating & Financial Officer concerning the Barbican's catering offer and proposing the appointment of contractors to deliver the associated services.

16. COFFEE POINTS AND MOBILE BARS

The Board considered and approved a report of the Chief Operating & Financial Officer concerning proposed investment in coffee points and mobile bars in the Barbican Centre.

17. CAPITAL CAP UPDATE

The Board received a report of the Director of Operations & Buildings providing an update on the Barbican Centre's Capital Cap programme and a number of non-Capital Cap projects.

18. INTELLIGENT LIGHTING & SYSTEM REPLACEMENT - GATEWAY 3/4 OPTIONS APPRAISAL

The Board received a Gateway 3/4 report of the Director of Operations & Buildings relative to the replacement of intelligent lighting and systems within the Barbican Concert Hall.

19. ISSUE REPORT: BARBICAN CENTRE WEBSITE AND CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Board considered a report of the Director of Audiences & Development concerning the development of the Barbican Website and the future direction of the previously approved project.

20. CONCERT HALL BACKSTAGE - GATEWAY 7 OUTCOME REPORT

The Board received a report of the Director of Operations & Buildings detailing the outcome of refurbishment works to the backstage area and proposing that the completed project now be closed.

21. RISK REGISTER

The Board received a report of the Chief Operating & Financial Officer advising Members of the risk management system in place at the Barbican, updating on those significant risks which had been identified and outlining measures for mitigation of these risks.

22. REPORT OF URGENT ACTION TAKEN

Members received a report of the Town Clerk advising of two decisions taken in accordance with urgency procedures since the last meeting of the Board.

23. QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD

There was one question.

RESOLVED: With two hours having elapsed since the start of the meeting, in accordance with Standing Order No. 40 the Board agreed at this point to extend the meeting by up to thirty minutes.

24. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There was one urgent item.

The meeting ended at 12.35 pm

Chairman

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