

BARBICAN CENTRE BOARD

Wednesday, 20 March 2019

Minutes of the meeting of the Barbican Centre Board held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Wednesday, 20 March 2019 at 11.00 am

Present

Members:

Deputy Dr Giles Shilson (Chairman)	Deputy Wendy Hyde
Deputy Tom Sleight (Deputy Chairman)	Emma Kane (Ex-Officio Member)
Stephen Bediako (External Member)	Vivienne Littlechild MBE
Russ Carr (External Member)	Wendy Mead
Simon Duckworth	Graham Packham (Ex-Officio Member)
Alderman David Graves	Deputy John Tomlinson
Gerard Grech (External Member)	Jenny Waldman (External Member)

In Attendance

Officers:

Sir Nicholas Kenyon	-	Managing Director, The Barbican Centre
Sandeep Dwesar	-	Chief Operating & Financial Officer, Barbican Centre
Louise Jeffreys	-	Artistic Director, Barbican Centre
Jonathon Poyner	-	Director of Operations & Buildings, Barbican Centre
Jenny Mollica	-	Director of Creative Learning, Barbican Centre
Sean Gregory	-	Director of Learning & Engagement, Barbican Centre

Sarah Wall	-	Interim Head of Finance, Barbican Centre
Steve Eddy	-	Head of HR, Barbican Centre
Gali Gold	-	Head off Cinema, Barbican Centre

Leanne Murphy	-	Town Clerk's Department
Laura Simpson	-	Communications Team, Town Clerk's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Deputy Tom Hoffman, Lucy Musgrave, Trevor Phillips and Judith Pleasance.

The Chairman welcomed the new Head of Cinema, Gali Gold, to her first Board meeting.

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

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

a. Board Minutes

The public minutes and summary of the Board meeting held on 23 January 2019 were approved subject to one typo.

b. **Minutes of the Finance Committee**

The draft public minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 5 March 2019 were received. The Chairman thanked the Deputy Chair for chairing the meeting in his absence.

c. **Minutes of the Risk Committee**

The draft public minutes of the Risk Committee meeting held on 23 January 2019 were received.

4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS AND WORKPLAN**

The Board noted the various outstanding actions and the updates provided thereon. The workplan for Board meetings in 2019 was also noted.

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

The Board received a report of the Managing Director providing updates from the Barbican Directors on their respective areas. The following comments were made:

- The Managing Director advised Members that the annual theme 'Life Rewired' had been launched giving energy and coherence to the programme.
- Following positive C4M announcements in January, the Managing Director quoted an article in the Architects' Journal calling it an "urban regeneration project". It was agreed that London needed a cultural infrastructure to thrive and the Barbican was continuing to refine its business model and programme fundraising to progress with this.
- The Artistic Director highlighted a number of projects including *OpenFest: Art 50*, a free weekend of events in partnership with Sky Arts. Life Rewired events included the *Enterprising Adventures Showcase*, a project exploring collaborative approaches in arts and neuroscience, an experiment at pitting an AI composer trained on the works of Bach against the original pieces in a concert called The Eternal Golden Braid and *Unclaimed*, a Wellcome-funded commission telling the stories of a surreal lost property office.
- *Tune into Access*, a celebratory free day consisting of performances and participation exploring accessibility, technology and the arts, took place on 18 March marking Disabled Access Day.
- It was noted that proactive work was taking place to celebrate the Barbican Estate's 50th anniversary and the Barbican Centre would be hosting a key community event on 8 June for residents in collaboration with the Barbican Association celebrating the past, present and future of the estate.

- The Barbican and Guildhall Creative Learning team won the SEND Achievement (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) at the National Creative Learning Awards for its work with The Garden School in Hackney, a school for learners with autism aged 4 to 16.
- Members were advised that it had been 10 years since the Barbican and Guildhall formed its Creative Learning collaboration.
- The Director of Operations and Buildings advised that changes were happening with projects and engagement and the team was working on the destination of the future.
- The Director of Operations and Buildings thanked Commander Richard and the City of London Police for their service and support training.
- A holistic approach across one team was progressing with capital planning. It was noted that the gallery work was progressing nicely to not only transform the space but also improve accessibility and fire safety.
- The Board was invited by the Director of Operations and Buildings to view the project outcomes and improvements.
- Members were advised that the Barbican had a strong presence in China across a number of tours in 2019.
- It was expected that the summer would see large visitor numbers of over 200k people due to the AI: More than Human exhibition and Jesus Christ Superstar musical.
- Members congratulated the Communication Department for their excellent C4M coverage and the Creative Learning Team for their impressive work.
- In response to a query regarding whether the thick materials used for programmes, etc, were recyclable, Members were advised that the Marketing Team would be asked to respond.
- A Member queried how the green season parking would be managed for electric vehicles, how many spaces would be available and whether a charge could be introduced following the London car park review on 8 August. It was agreed that Officers would provide the Board with a report in six months to inform a discussion regarding the impact of this car park change.
- In response to a query, Members were advised that an invite to the Development Dinner and Review on 26 June would be circulated to the Board shortly.

- With regards to the Barbican’s growing presence in China, a Member noted that the Culture Ambassador of the Xinjiang Province was keen to work with the Centre.
- A Member requested an approved briefing on C4M to share with members of the public. The Managing Director agreed to provide a Board communication briefing for Members to use when publicising the C4M.
- It was noted that advance orders were being taken for a new book providing a series of photographs of the Centre.

RECEIVED.

6. CINEMA: ANNUAL PRESENTATION

The Board received a report of the Artistic Director regarding the Barbican Cinema Annual Report 2018/19 providing an overview of the Barbican Cinema Department’s activity through 2018-19 and setting out how this relates to the wider Barbican and City of London Corporation’s strategy.

RECEIVED.

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

There were no questions.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There was one urgent item:

Barbican Board Dinner 2019

The Chairman thanked everyone involved with preparing the enjoyable Barbican Board Dinner on 28 February 2019 and welcomed Members to provide feedback.

9. 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.
10-23

Paragraph No.
3

10. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

a. Non-Public Board Minutes

The non-public minutes and summary of the Board meeting held on 23 January 2019 were approved.

b. **Non-Public Minutes of the Finance Committee**

The draft non-public minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 5 March 2019 were received.

c. **Non-Public Minutes of the Risk Committee**

The draft non-public minutes of the Risk Committee meeting held on 23 January 2019 were received.

11. **CINEMA: ANNUAL PRESENTATION (NON-PUBLIC UPDATE)**

The Board received the non-public appendices to be read in conjunction with Item 6.

12. **HIGH LEVEL BUSINESS PLAN**

The Board received a report of the Managing Director providing an update on the Barbican Centre's 2019/20 Business Plan.

13. **INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY**

The Board received a report of the Artistic Director providing an update on the Barbican Centre's International Strategy.

14. **RETAIL REVIEW**

The Board received a report of the Chief Operating and Financial Officer providing an update on the Barbican Centre's Retail Review.

15. **RISK UPDATE**

The Board received a report of the Director of Operations and Buildings advising Members of the risk management system in place at the Barbican, updating on the significant risks that had been identified and outlining measures for mitigation of these risks.

16. ***FIRE RECTIFICATION WORKS - FIRE SIGNAGE (GATEWAY 2)**

The Board considered and approved a Gateway 2 Project Proposal report of the Managing Director regarding the Barbican Centre Fire Rectification Works concerning Fire Signage.

17. ***FIRE RECTIFICATION WORKS - SPRINKLER SYSTEMS (GATEWAY 2)**

The Board considered and approved a Gateway 2 Project Proposal report of the Managing Director regarding the Barbican Centre Fire Rectification Works concerning Sprinkler Systems.

18. ***CONCERT HALL STEINWAY PIANO PURCHASE (GATEWAY 2)**

The Board considered and approved a Gateway 2 Project Proposal report of the Managing Director and Head of Music concerning the Concert Hall Steinway Piano Purchase.

19. ***BARBICAN BUSINESS REVIEW - JANUARY ACCOUNTS (PERIOD 10)**

The Board considered a report of the Chief Operating & Financial Officer setting out the Business Review for the January 2018 Period 10 accounts.

20. ***UPDATE ON BARBICAN BUDGET 2019/20**

The Board considered a report of the Chief Operating & Financial Officer providing Members with an update on the Barbican Budget for 2019/20.

21. **REPORT OF URGENT ACTION TAKEN**

The Board considered three reports of the Town Clerk providing Members with an update on urgent actions taken since the last Board meeting.

22. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD**

There was one question.

23. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE BOARD AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There was one urgent item.

The meeting ended at 12.37 pm

Chairman

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