

CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE

Monday, 25 January 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee held
virtually on Monday, 25 January 2021 at 11.30 am

Present

Members:

Deputy Wendy Hyde (Chair)	Alderman Robert Howard
Jeremy Simons (Deputy Chairman)	Alderman Alastair King
Munsur Ali	Deputy Edward Lord
Matthew Bell	Andrew Mayer
Deputy John Bennett	Jeremy Mayhew
Peter Bennett	Wendy Mead
Deputy David Bradshaw	Barbara Newman
Thomas Clementi	Graham Packham
Mary Durcan	John Petrie
Deputy Kevin Everett	Judith Pleasance
Tracey Graham	Deputy Dr Giles Shilson
Caroline Haines	Deputy Tom Sleigh (Ex-Officio Member)
The Revd Stephen Haines	Mark Wheatley
Graeme Harrower	Dawn Wright
Deputy Tom Hoffman	

In Attendance

Officers:

Chloe Rew	- Town Clerk's Department
Peter Lisley	- Assistant Town Clerk/Director of Major Projects
Nick Bodger	- Town Clerk's Department
Andrew Buckingham	- Town Clerk's Department
Tim Jones	- Town Clerk's Department
Laurie Miller-Zutshi	- Town Clerk's Department
Geoff Pick	- Town Clerk's Department
Graham Nickless	- Chamberlain's Department
Julie Smith	- Chamberlain's Department
Jessica Lees	- City Surveyor's Department
Peter Shadbolt	- Department of the Built Environment
Carol Boswarthack	- Department of Community & Children's Services
Colin Buttery	- Director of Open Spaces
Christopher Earlie	- Open Spaces Department
Gerry Kiefer	- Open Spaces Department
Rob Shakespeare	- Open Spaces Department

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Ann Holmes, Vivienne Littlechild, Sylvia Moys and James Tumbridge.

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

There were none.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that – the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 23 November 2020 be agreed as a correct record.

4. **DRAFT MINUTES - BENEFICES SUB-COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED, that – the draft minutes of the Benefices Sub-Committee meeting held on 9 November 2020 be received.

5. **FORWARD PLAN**

The Committee's forward plan was noted.

6. **ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Members considered a report of the Town Clerk & Chief Executive relative to the Annual Review of the Committee's Terms of Reference.

RESOLVED, that Members –

1. agree the addition at (i) 'and applications to the City's Blue Plaque Scheme';
2. agree the addition at (j) 'and Aldgate Square Public Programme';
3. not agree the proposed amendment at (r) due to the imminent changes which will be implemented as a result of the Target Operating Model; and,
4. agree to delegate authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair, any further changes to the Committee's Terms of Reference including those resulting from the Target Operating Model.

7. **CITY ARTS INITIATIVE: RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE**

Members considered a report of the Director of Major Projects relative to the City Arts Initiative (CAI) Recommendations to the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee.

RESOLVED, that Members ratify the CAI's recommendations in relation to the following proposals:

1. **HSBC Gates** – approval for the artwork to be decommissioned and placed in storage for the immediate future, noting that the CAI will review its location in December 2021;
2. **City of London Blue Plaque Scheme** – approval for the CAI to provide strategic oversight of the Blue Plaque Scheme, providing a peer review system for future applications;

3. **Tackling Racism Taskforce: Historic Landmarks Consultation** – approval for the CAI to form a working group to help deliver the recommendations of the Tackling Racism Taskforce, noting that the Taskforce's recommendations were due to be ratified by the Policy & Resources Committee in January 2021.

8. **OUTDOOR ARTS PROGRAMME: 2020 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION REPORT**

Members received a report of the Director of Major Projects relative to the Outdoor Arts Programme: 2020 Performance Evaluation Report.

It was reported that due to the pandemic, officers were not anticipating being permitted to hold any outdoor events until June 2021. The situation was being reviewed monthly to ensure contracts going forward reflect caution over the reopening period.

RESOLVED, that Members note the report.

9. **DELIVERING CULTURE THROUGH PLANNING - DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE**

Members received a report of the Director of the Built Environment relative to the Cultural Plan draft Supplementary Planning Guidance. The guidance related to the City of London Local Plan 2036 and a new policy to incorporate culture within the City's local plan. The supplementary guidance would accompany the plan and serve a statutory function as part of the consideration for new planning applications to outline what type of cultural elements should be developed in the City. The guidance would demonstrate to developers that culture is a core aspect of the City and should be incorporated into development to attract visitors and workers to the Square Mile, as well as occupiers to their buildings.

With respect to the legal basis for a cultural requirement for developers, this would be further examined during the public consultation phase. The aim would be to demonstrate that incorporating culture into development plans would be beneficial to developers.

The draft guidance would be brought back to the Committee prior to its presentation to the Planning & Transportation Committee and public consultation.

RESOLVED, that – the report be received and its contents noted.

10. **LONDON METROPOLITAN ARCHIVES ACCREDITATION REPORT**

Members received a report of the Director of Major Projects relative to the London Metropolitan Archives being awarded Archives Service Accreditation. The Director of the LMA provided a further update with respect to improvements to digital preservation, noting that more archives were available digitally and staff had been trained on this. With respect to questions on the increase in digital access to the archives, the Director of the LMA advised that

there had been an increase in accessing the digital catalogue and online enquiries, and could provide exact figures following the meeting.

RESOLVED, that – the report be received and its contents noted.

11. GATEWAY 2: LONDON METROPOLITAN ARCHIVES - REPLACEMENT OF FIRE ALARM, CHILLERS AND LANDLORDS LIGHTING AND POWER (REF - CS 410/20)

Members considered a Gateway 2 report of the City Surveyor relative to the London Metropolitan Archives replacement of the fire alarm, chillers, and landlords lighting and power.

With respect to Members concerns that the LMA was looking to relocate, the Director of the LMA advised that it was likely the LMA would occupy the building for another 10 years and therefore the works are essential for the period that the LMA would remain in the building.

RESOLVED, that Members –

1. approve a budget of £145,000 to carry out more detailed surveys to prepare the M&E design and tender documents to reach the next Gateway;
2. note the total estimated cost of the project of £1,145,000 (excluding risk);
3. note that there is a Costed Risk of £180,000 (post-mitigation);
4. note that the total estimated cost of the project of £1,325,000 (including risk);
5. note that 'in principle' central funding from City Fund reserves was agreed as part of the 2020/21 annual capital bids, together with an element of funding recoverable from the Finsbury Business Centre (elements that additionally benefit FBC) – giving a total funding envelope of £1,630,073.

12. REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS - 2021/22

Members considered a joint report of the Chamberlain, the Assistant Town Clerk & Director of Major Projects; Director of Open Spaces; and the Director of Community & Children's Services with respect to revenue and capital budgets for 2021/22. The estimates had been prepared in accordance with the budget envelope set by the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee, and there were savings yet to be identified. Monetising digital services was under consideration to increase revenue. Whilst there was concern about the affect that budget cuts would have on people and services, the Chair emphasised that the Committee must make decisions to work the budget allocation.

RESOLVED, that Members –

1. review the proposed allocation of the 2021/22 revenue budget to ensure that it reflects the Committee's objectives and approve the budget for submission to the Finance Committee;
2. authorise the Chamberlain, in consultation with the Directors of Community and Children's Services, Open Spaces and the Assistant Town Clerk and Director of Major Projects to revise these budgets to

allow for any further implications arising from Corporate Projects, other reviews and changes to the Cyclical Works Programme;

3. review and approve the draft capital budget; and,
4. agree that any minor amendments for 2020/21 and 2021/22 budgets arising during budget setting be delegated to the Chamberlain.

13. DRAFT TOWN CLERK'S CULTURAL SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN FOR 2021/22

Members considered a report of the Assistant Town Clerk & Director of Major Projects relative to the draft Town Clerk's Cultural Services Business Plan for 2021/22.

RESOLVED, that Members –

1. note the factors taken into consideration in compiling the Town Clerk's Cultural Services Business Plan under the heading what's changed since last year; and,
2. approve, subject to the incorporation of any changes sought by this Committee, the departmental Business Plan for Town Clerk's Cultural Services for 2021/22 (or the elements therein that fall within this Committee's Terms of Reference).

14. OPEN SPACES DEPARTMENT BUSINESS PLAN FOR 2021/22

Members received a report of the Director of Open Spaces relative to the Open Spaces Department Business Plan for 2021/22.

RESOLVED, that the report be received and its contents noted.

15. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were none.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

Members were pleased with the preview of the Noël Coward exhibition and looked forward to this being publicly available.

17. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED, that – under Section 100(A) 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 I of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

18. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

RESOLVED, that – the non-public minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 November 2020 be agreed as a correct record.

19. DRAFT NON-PUBLIC MINUTES - BENEFICES SUB-COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, that – the draft non-public minutes of the Benefices Sub-Committee held on 9 November 2020 be received.

20. TOWER BRIDGE (BRIDGE HOUSE ESTATES CHARITY REGISTRATION NO. 1035628) AND THE MONUMENT PRICING PROPOSAL FOR 2021/22

Members considered a report of the Director of Open Spaces relative to the Tower Bridge and the Monument Pricing Proposal for 2021/22.

21. CULTURE AND COMMERCE TASKFORCE: PUBLICATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Members received a report of the Director of Major Projects relative to the publication of recommendations from the Culture and Commerce Taskforce.

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

There were none.

23. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

There was one item of other business.

Members considered a confidential joint report of the Director of Innovation & Growth and the Director of Major Projects with respect to proposed 2021/22 budget savings across the Guildhall Art Gallery, Cultural and Visitor Development and the Outdoor Arts Programme.

The meeting ended at 12.58 pm

Chair

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