

RISK COMMITTEE OF THE BARBICAN CENTRE BOARD

Monday, 4 November 2019

Minutes of the meeting of the Risk Committee of the Barbican Centre Board held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Monday, 4 November 2019 at 10.30 am

Present

Members:

Deputy Dr Giles Shilson (Deputy Chairman)	Alderman David Graves
Russ Carr (External Member)	Alasdair Nisbet (External Member)
Deputy Wendy Hyde	

Officers:

Sir Nicholas Kenyon	- Managing Director, Barbican Centre
Sandeep Dwesar	- Chief Operating & Financial Officer, Barbican Centre
Jonathon Poyner	- Director of Operations and Buildings, Barbican Centre
Louise Jeffreys	- Artistic Director, Barbican Centre
Matthew Lock	- Head of Internal Audit and Risk Management
Sarah Wall	- Group Accountant, Barbican Centre
Niki Cornwell	- Head of Finance and Business Administration, Barbican Centre
Nick Adams	- Senior Policy & Communications Manager, Barbican Centre
Cirla Peall	- Audit Manager, Chamberlain's Department
Leanne Murphy	- Town Clerk's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Judith Pleasance.

2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF ANY PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

The public minutes of the meeting held on 24 July 2019 were approved as a correct record.

In response to a query concerning the green priority recommendations, Members were advised that these would be circulated via email.

4. INTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE - IMPLEMENTATION OF AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee received a report of the Head of Audit and Risk Management providing a status update on the implementation of high priority Internal Audit Recommendations made relating to the Barbican Centre.

Members received a verbal update on current and recent work and were advised that the Financial Monitoring review of the Barbican Centre had been finalised since papers were circulated. A further draft audit report had been issued in relation to IT Projects and three reviews were at fieldwork stage.

The Head of Audit and Risk Management confirmed that the Team was broadly on track to deliver the audit plan for the year, but a slow start incurred by carry over from the previous year had caused delays. It was noted that there had been a high instance of implementation slippage in relation to Internal Audit recommendations made, with revised implementation dates provided by management for all live recommendations. The Chairman highlighted the importance of setting accurate, honest timescales in response to the work of Internal Audit.

A Member voiced disappointment at the lack of information in the management response to the recommendations in relation to the retail service and argued the importance of Members having the full picture.

In response to concerns from Members with regards to the lack of progress concerning the implementation of the new system, Members were advised that finding an appropriate system had been challenging but a suitable system from New Zealand had been found. The Centre was working with Procurement and the supplier to implement the new system which needed to be demonstrated. In the meantime, the old system was being used but improvements had been made including controls providing better oversight. It was noted that the new system was being looked at through the Fundamental Review process as a potential City-wide system. Members agreed it was important to get the system right rather than rush it but urged the Team to keep up the pressure.

A Member noted that the report gave no quantitative feedback/data and felt that this should be categorised on a summary sheet. Members were advised that the data existed and could be provided in an email update but that such an update was within the remit of Barbican Officers rather than Internal Audit and so not relevant for this update report.

In response to a query regarding what was being audited, Members were advised that a longer-term Audit Plan was in place looking at key priorities and objectives. The Director of Operations and Buildings clarified that there was a difference between Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Control (QC), QA forming part of the remit of Internal Audit and QC part of the management remit including KPIs as part of the new process

The Chairman stated that more work was needed and recommended a meeting between Senior Officers and Members to clarify roles and responsibilities and address the audit concerns.

RECEIVED.

5. **SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY UPDATE**

The Committee received a report of the Managing Director concerning the updated Barbican social media policy.

A Member suggested editing the wording of a sentence in the Policy to read: "Transparent: if we do something embarrassing, our policy is to rectify it and to learn from experience."

RESOLVED – That Members note the updated social media policy.

6. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

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.

Paragraph No.

9-13

3

9. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 24 July 2019 were approved subject to a typo under Item 12.

10. **PROGRAMMING RISK REGISTER**

The Committee received a report of the Artistic Director concerning potential risks associated with forthcoming programmed activities at the Barbican Centre along with a Programming Controversial Risk Register.

11. **RISK UPDATE**

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

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

There were no questions.

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

There was one item.

The meeting ended at 11.29 am

Chairman

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