

CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE

Monday, 26 January 2015

Minutes of the meeting of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee held at Guildhall on Monday, 26 January 2015 at 11.30 am

Present

Members:

Vivienne Littlechild (Chairman)	Jeremy Mayhew
John Scott (Deputy Chairman)	Sylvia Moys
Mark Boleat	Barbara Newman
Dennis Cotgrove	Deputy John Owen-Ward
Deputy Billy Dove	Graham Packham
Deputy Anthony Eskenzi	Ann Pembroke
Kevin Everett	Judith Pleasance
Alderman Sir Roger Gifford	Emma Price
Tom Hoffman	Deputy Gerald Pulman
Wendy Hyde	Stephen Quilter
Jamie Ingham Clark	Mark Wheatley
Deputy Alastair King	Alderman David Graves (Ex-Officio Member)
Paul Martinelli	Deputy John Tomlinson (Ex-Officio Member)

In Attendance

Officers:

Julie Mayer	Town Clerk's Department
Mark Jarvis	Chamberlain's Department
Steven Chandler	City Surveyor's Department
Margaret Jackson	Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
Emma McGovern	Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
David Pearson	Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries
Geoff Pick	Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
David Wight	Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
Carol Boswathack	Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
Andrew Buckingham	Public Relations Department
Nick Bodger	Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
Christopher Earlie	Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
Paul Gudgin	Director, City of London Festival
Sir Richard Evans	Provost, Gresham College

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Lucy Frew, Deputy John Owen-Ward, Deputy the Rev. Stephen Haines, Henrika Priest, Deputy Richard Regan, Delis Regis, Alderman William Russell and Deputy Dr Giles Shilson.

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

- Mr Jeremy Mayhew and Mr Tom Hoffman both declared a general, non-pecuniary interest in respect of item 7 - City of London Festival, as they are Directors of the City of London Festival.
- Mr Paul Martinelli declared a general, non-pecuniary interest in respect of an urgent item of business being presented under item 10 – Special Events on the Highway, as he is Chairman of Smithfield Tenants' Association.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that:

The public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 24th November 2014 were approved.

Matters arising

- In respect of Animating Guildhall Yard (item 8), officers advised that they would be working closely with Mansion House in respect of the entrance and exit of the Lord Mayor on Court of Common Council Days.
- The Museum of London leaflet, referred to under item 5 (Revenue and Capital Budgets) had agreed to remedy the omission of the City of London Corporation's Logo in future publications.
- The Shoe Lane Library Christmas Fayre on 27th November 2014 had been very well attended.
- In respect of item 12 (Keats Foundation), the Director advised that their Trust Deed specified the nomination of 2 Trustees who were elected members of the Corporation, from the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, one of whom should normally be the Chairman or Deputy Chairman. Members challenged whether '*normally*' could justify an exception, if one of the above Members was unable to attend the meetings. The Director agreed to seek further legal advice and report back to the Committee.
- In respect of item 11 (Barbican and Community Libraries Customer Survey), Members noted that, in 2012, the Director of Community and Children's Services took the overall lead role for the management of the Barbican Common areas. Signage and wayfinding were currently being considered as part of the Barbican Area Strategy Review, for which Planning and Transportation had oversight.

4. **MAGNA CARTA**

Members received a presentation and short film from the Head of Culture and Visitor Development, in respect of the Magna Carta 2015 celebrations.

During the discussion, the following matters were raised/noted:

- Various merchandise was being developed by the National Committee. Members noted that 'mini magna carta' were very expensive to produce but t-shirts and tea towels were more viable, if sold in high volumes.
- Members were reminded that 'Friends of the Guildhall Art Gallery' would receive a 25% discount in the shop.
- The new Magna Carta film was previewed and Members noted that this would be uploaded to the BritainisGREAT webpages where previous films, such as our City for Chinese Tourists film, had received as much as 50,000 views in the first weeks.
- Members noted that visits to the Heritage Gallery might dip whilst three Magna Carta were on display at the British Library.

5. **GRESHAM COLLEGE**

The Provost of Gresham College, Sir Richard Evans, was heard and provided Members with a summary of the history of the College, leading to its role today as a global educational resource. Members thanked Sir Richard for an excellent presentation and during the discussion and questions, the following matters were raised/noted:

- Some patrons had been turned away from lectures due to lack of space and the size of the premises remained an issue, due to budget restrictions.
- The Provost was advised to seek 'in-kind' benefit when hiring premises; i.e. the Livery Hall or Old Library for popular events. A Member also suggested approaching the two large churches closeby.
- In response to a question about whether the work of the College should be included in Education Board agendas; officers explained that the Board's current focus was on schools but this might be possible in future.

6. **LONDON METROPOLITAN ARCHIVES (LMA) - DIGITISATION UPDATE**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries in respect of the LMA digitisation programme. Members commended an excellent report and during the discussion, the following matters were raised/noted:

- In respect of the Ancestry contract, Members noted that exclusivity had been the norm in 2007 but there was currently more inclination toward non-exclusivity. Members noted that Ancestry had committed funding to indexing, which they owned but the images were owned by the City of London Corporation.

- The Department of Culture, Heritage and Libraries were working closely with other Local Authorities as part of the 'Supporting London' agenda and the next iteration of this report would receive an update on this work.

RESOLVED, that:

The report be noted and particularly the next steps up to March 2015, as follows:

1. Construction of the first five year/ten year digitisation action plan, based on the multi-strand, to set goals to 2020 and 2025. (This will include the potential bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund).
2. Full identification of the requirements for the web platform, including lead times and the capital and revenue cost implications. (NB This research work will require significant support from IS).
3. A timetable and action plan agreed by senior staff in Comptrollers, Chamberlains and the LMA on work for the next contract for the commercial digitisation programme; with Ancestry or another provider. (The current Ancestry contract ends in 2017).
4. Specifically the potential for a closer strategic partnership with the Wellcome and the identification of role the Venice Time Machine project could play in LMD, particularly in the use of emerging technologies

7. CITY OF LONDON FESTIVAL 2014 PROGRAMME

Members considered a joint report of the Chamberlain and the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries in respect of the City of London Festival 2014 Programme.

The Festival Director (Mr Paul Gudgin) was in attendance to take questions, as follows:

- It was accepted that some aspect of the 'Bowler Hat' exhibition in 2014 had been more successful than others. Members noted that the comedy, circus and cabaret aspects had been very successful but children's theatre less so. In 2015, it was planned to host a 'lunchtime live' programme for City workers.
- There had been a lot of interest in hiring the Bowler Hat, including enquiries from the Edinburgh and Brighton Festivals but, given the amount of infrastructure involved, this was more likely to happen in 2016. Members noted that the hat had attracted considerable media attention, including 2 slots on the 'Today' Programme.
- Members noted that the City Arts Trust had set up a Finance and Risk Committee and would share their findings with the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee.

- Given that the 2 St Paul's concerts had been sold out last year, tickets for 6 of this year's concerts had already gone on sale and sales were up 55% on last year. Members asked if they could be advised of the concert dates scheduled for 2015.
- Some Members stressed the need for the City Corporation to take a lead in improved co-ordination for arts funding from commercial sponsors and funders, given that this was a highly competitive market. It was suggested that a co-ordinated approach would be more successful.

RESOLVED, that:

The contents of the report and its highlights be noted.

1. The requests to reschedule the 2015 grant to the Trust be agreed, so that the whole £297,000 is paid in three instalments, by the end of March 2015, rather than May as originally envisaged
2. A further report be received in May 2015, regarding the 2016 grant to the Festival.

8. MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS - CITY OF LONDON POCKETBOOK

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk in respect of the City of London pocket book survey, which had taken place in December 2014. The report asked Members to note the outcome of the survey and consider the future production of the pocket book.

During the discussion of this item, the response rate (of 47%) and comments from the outcome of the survey were noted and the following matters were raised/noted:

- The Deputy Chairman suggested that a decision be delayed until 2017; i.e. the next Court of Common Council Elections. In the interim, the Deputy Chairman suggested that the pocket book continue, in its current format, seeking to address members' dissatisfaction with the paper weight and quality, its size and the positioning of page numbers. The leather folder should also be retained.
- The Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee asked to proof read the next version, before it was sent for printing.
- Members noted that the pdf version had now been updated with Adobe reader, which enabled it to be annotated. Committee and Member Services would offer full support to any Member wishing to use the pdf version.
- Members were reminded that, if they were to continue with the pocket book, then the savings identified, of £17,000, would still need to be found elsewhere.

RESOLVED, that:

1. The hard copy pocket book continue in its current format until 2017, with the dissatisfaction expressed by Members, in respect of paper weight and quality, its size and the positioning of page numbers, addressed in the next version.
2. The General Purposes Committee of Aldermen be asked to consider combining the two pocket books, in order to achieve a further saving.

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

There were no questions.

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

The Chairman agreed to the admission of two items of urgent business, as follows:

Special Events on the Public Highway

The Committee received a report of the Director of the Built Environment, in respect of special events on the public highway. The report was before the Committee as urgent business as it covered events during February 2015 and the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee would not meet again until 2nd March 2015.

During the discussion of this item, the following matters were noted:

- Impact of the Cycle Super Highway on this year's special events – the Policy and Resources Committee would need to agree the recommendations, at least by the end of this week, in order to give officers and organisers sufficient time to deliver them. Members noted that the Streets and Walkways Sub Committee had approved this part of the report.
- Go Kart Event - In the last week, the City Police, Remembrancers & City Solicitor had confirmed that the City of London Corporation cannot legally close the public highway to allow racing, so this part was only relevant in terms of whether Members would be interested in supporting such events, should the law change. Members noted that the Streets and Walkways Sub Committee had not supported this, for reasons of air quality & noise.
- Nocturne - In the last week, the organisers had submitted a new event proposal based around Cheapside. Members noted that officers would shortly be organising a further Member briefing, initially to Chairman & Deputy Chairmen.
- Resident Members, who generally stayed in the City during the weekend expressed on-going concerns that, during the summer, the City becomes blighted with highway events and suggested that alternative venues, such as Victoria Park, be investigated.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted.

Chairman of the Benefices Sub Committee

The Town Clerk was heard in respect of the election of the Chairman to the Benefices Sub Committee. This item was before Members today, rather than at the next meeting on 2nd March 2015, to ensure that the outcome could be considered in good time for the preparation of the White Paper to the Annual Court of Common Council, in April 2015.

Members noted that the current Benefices Sub Committee Chairman had served the Sub Committee well for a number of years and was willing to stand again in 2015/16. However, the Chairman had also been elected as Chief Commoner, with effect from April 2015 and Standing Order 18 (6) excluded the Chief Commoner from Chairing, amongst others, the Benefices Sub Committee.

RESOLVED, that:

The Court of Common Council be requested to waive Standing Order 18 (6) (c); so that the Chief Commoner/existing Chairman of the Benefices Sub Committee can be considered for re-election as Chairman of the Benefices Sub Committee.

Guildhall Art Gallery Re-hang

In respect of the Guildhall Art Gallery, the Chairman and Members thanked the sterling work of Julia Dudkiewicz for the re-hang of the Guildhall Art Gallery and the excellent press coverage it had received.

11. 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.

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Paragraph No.</u>
12- 15	3
16-17	-

12. NON PUBLIC MINUTES

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 24th November 2014 were approved.

13. SERVICE BASED REVIEW: TRANSFORMING LIBRARY SERVICES

The Committee considered and approved a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries in respect of transforming library services, as part of the Service Based Review.

14. LONDON METROPOLITAN ARCHIVES - ROOF PROJECT - OPTIONS APPRAISAL (GATEWAY 3/4)

The Committee considered and approved a report of the City Surveyor, in respect of the London Metropolitan Archives (LMA) Roof Project.

15. LORD MAYORS' STATE COACH PROGRESS - CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Committee considered and approved a report of the City Surveyor in respect of the Lord Mayor's State Coach.

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

There were no questions.

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

There were no items of urgent business.

The meeting ended at 1.15 pm

Chairman

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