

CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 23 September 2015

Minutes of the meeting of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee held at Guildhall on Wednesday, 23 September 2015 at 11.30 am

Present

Members:

Vivienne Littlechild (Chairman)	Paul Martinelli
Graham Packham (Deputy Chairman)	Jeremy Mayhew
Deputy John Bennett (Ex-Officio)	Sylvia Moys
Mark Boleat	Judith Pleasance
Keith Bottomley	Deputy Gerald Pulman
Dennis Cotgrove	Stephen Quilter
Deputy Billy Dove	Delis Regis
Alderman Sir Roger Gifford	John Scott
Alderman Alison Gowman	Deputy John Tomlinson (Ex-Officio)
Deputy the Revd Stephen Haines	Mark Wheatley
Graeme Harrower	
Tom Hoffman	
Ann Holmes	
Wendy Hyde	
Deputy Alastair King	

In Attendance

Officers:

David Pearson	Director, Culture, Heritage and Libraries
Nick Bodger	Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
Margaret Jackson	Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
Geoff Pick	Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
Carol Boswarthack	Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
Sara Pink	Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
Howard Bengé	Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
Andrew Buckingham	Public Relations Department
Steven Chandler	City Surveyor's Department
Julie Mayer	Town Clerk's

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Deputy Anthony Eskenzi, Deputy Kevin Everett, Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark, Barbara Newman, Emma Price, Henrika Priest and Deputy Giles Shilson.

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

Mr Jeremy Mayhew, Mr Tom Hoffman and Mrs Vivienne Littlechild declared general (non-pecuniary) interests in respect of agenda item 10 (City of London Festival–2016 Grant) by virtue of their positions as Directors of the City of London Festival Board.

Mr Mark Boleat declared a general (non-pecuniary) interest in respect of Agenda Item 7 (Request for a Budget Uplift to Finance the City's Platinum Membership of London and Partners) as he is a Member of London and Partners, by virtue of his position as the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee of the City of London Corporation.

3. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th July 2015 were approved.

4. **CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LIBRARIES BUSINESS PLAN 2015-18 - QUARTER 1 PROGRESS REPORT**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries, which provided progress against Quarter 1 of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Business Plan for 2015-18.

The Director highlighted the following:

- The success of the Guildhall Yard food markets on Court of Common Council days and Members noted plans for a Christmas Market. Officers advised that Guildhall Market days did not clash with any other City markets and alcohol was not served at the Guildhall Markets.
- Members noted that the Barbican Music Library had celebrated Elvis Presley's 80th birthday and it was suggested that Frank Sinatra's 100th birthday in December 2015 year be similarly commemorated.
- The Rivers of London event had been excellent and the Chairman particularly commended Barbican Library staff for putting on an enjoyable Punch and Judy show, in their own time.
- In response to a question about the Lottery bid for the LMA's 5-year digitisation plan, Members noted that the formal process would start before Christmas.
- In response to a question about LMA and Ancestry, Members noted this would be a 2-stage process; (1) to sign off on the addendum to additional works within the current agreement and (2) to work with the City Solicitor and City Procurement to ensure processes were correct and on track for the review of the current agreement in 2017.

RESOLVED, that - the following be noted:

1. The Quarter 1 progress shown against Key Objectives, KPIs and Corporate Service Response Standards, as set out in Appendix A.
2. The financial information contained in Appendix B.
3. The Capital Projects spend to date summary at Appendix C.

5. **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015 - KEATS HOUSE**

The Committee received the Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2015. Members noted a drafting error in the report in that the Financial Statements would be submitted by 31 January 2016 (not 2015).

RESOLVED, that – the Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2015, for Keats House, be noted.

6. **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015 - GUILDHALL LIBRARY CENTENARY FUND**

The Committee received the Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2015. Members noted a drafting error in the report in that the Financial Statements would be submitted by 31 January 2016 (not 2015). Furthermore, a donation of £500 from Messrs Lloyd Rehman and Co was from the Estate of Mr Michael Denville.

In respect of the bottom line figure of £23,378, Members were reminded that their Committee has agreed to build this as an endowment fund and not use it for any other purpose, for the time being.

The Director offered to investigate whether there were plans to display a sword to commemorate the Battle of Agincourt, which was currently stored in Mansion House's vaults.

RESOLVED, that – the Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2015, for the Guildhall Library Centenary Fund, be noted.

7. **REQUEST FOR A BUDGET UPLIFT TO FINANCE THE CITY'S PLATINUM MEMBERSHIP OF LONDON AND PARTNERS**

Members considered a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries, requesting a budget uplift to finance the City's Platinum Membership of London and Partners. Members noted that the Policy and Resources Committee would also consider this report on 19th October 2015.

RESOLVED, that - a permanent budget uplift of £20,000 from 2016/17, for Culture, Heritage and Libraries, Cultural and Visitor Development be approved, for the specific purpose of retaining the City of London's Platinum Membership of London and Partners.

8. **GREAT FIRE UPDATE**

The Head of Cultural and Visitor Development provided a verbal update on progress with the Great Fire Commemorations in 2016. Members noted the following:

- Whilst there had been a number of expressions of interest, there were currently no concrete financial commitments. However, once Artichoke has secured a core sponsor at £500k, other sponsor leads would be confirmed under this. It was expected that another one or two sponsors would be identified who could commit £300k, equalling the City's sponsorship; i.e. "founding sponsors". The Development Board was due to meet on 29th September 2015.
- The commemorations were expected to include activities focussing on the City's bridges and St Pauls as well as an international conference on resilience. A technical, feasibility study was underway for the bridges project.
- The bridges project would include a 'Skills for Work' programme aimed at young people from deprived backgrounds in South London and City.
- The resilience conference would be held at Milton Court over 1-2nd September 2015.
- The Dean and Chapter at St. Pauls were due to meet with Artichoke shortly to agree whether the focus of the cathedral event would be inside and outside the building. It was anticipated that an application would be made to Heritage Lottery Funding for an educational project with the Museum of London, St Paul's and the London Metropolitan Archives as the lead partners.
- There were no open spaces in the City suitable for a finale performance of a '*dominoes*' project. Rather, it had been suggested that they start in the City centre and sprawl outwards to a number of satellite points.
- The 'Phoenix' project would be particularly expensive and not feasible in the City's narrow streets. However, it might be possible to develop a sculpture as part of the Cultural Hub over the next couple of years. If feasible, an announcement would be made during the 2016 Great Fire programme.
- The 'Umbrella' programme of activities hosted by City Venues, which would include the Museum of London and the Guildhall Art Gallery, would run from January–November, given that there were significant events taking place outside of the City (within London) during the early months of next year and this would present an excellent opportunity to drive up audiences. There would be no financial consequences to extending the umbrella programme window, as the work to the website had already been accounted for.
- Once the plans were underway, Artichoke would work closely with the Highways Team to understand the potential for road closures and ensure minimal disruptions.

- The Director of Artichoke, Helen Marriage, would be invited to the next meeting of the Committee to provide a further update.

9. CITY OF LONDON FESTIVAL

Members received a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries in respect of the City of London Festival. Members were reminded that, following further discussions over the summer, the delegated authority agreed by the Committee on 13th July 2015 had been exercised; i.e. an allocation of £355,835 to the City Arts Trust for delivery of the 2016 Festival.

Members discussed the current governance arrangements; in particular the roles of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman as Members of the City Arts Trust Board (i.e. the vehicle which runs the Festival). Concerns were expressed about accountability, particularly as the Bowler Hat loan was still to be repaid.

There was a consensus in that the Festival was a large part of the City's offer and, in order to ensure its continued success, Members asked officers to revisit the governance arrangements and ensure that a clear model of accountability was in place to deliver it; both artistically and financially.

The Director advised that relationships between the CAT and CoL officers could be better defined. However, Members noted that the Festival's outturn was reported regularly to the Chamberlain. Members asked for sight of the documents referred to in the report; i.e. the outline plan for 2016 and the cashflow situation of the Festival, with particular reference to the Bowler Hat Loan, which was approved by the Finance Committee in 2014.

It was suggested that the Barbican Centre could play a stronger role in promoting the Festival and Members noted that they currently assisted with the box office. Whilst not present at the meetings over the summer, the Chairman of the Barbican Centre Board advised that the Barbican's resources were currently stretched and a deeper collaboration, at this stage, would be unlikely.

Mr Boleat put the following Motion, Seconded by Paul Martinelli. There were 14 votes for, none against and 6 abstentions and it was **RESOLVED** - that:

1. The Chairman of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee be asked to resign forthwith her position on the City Arts Trust Board and that the Deputy Chairman be asked not to take up a position on the City Arts Trust Board. (*This would not preclude the Chairman and her Deputy from attending future City Arts Trust Meetings as guests, if the City Arts Trust Board agreed*).
2. The report be noted, with an expectation that further reports be brought during 2015-16, with updates on progress.

10. **CITY ARTS INITIATIVE: RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CULTURE, HERITAGE & LIBRARIES COMMITTEE**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries in respect of City Arts Initiative recommendations to the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee.

RESOLVED - that:

1. Southbank Mosaics CIC be approved, subject to further clarifications.
2. Sokari Douglas Camp be rejected, due to another similarly themed public art installation and unsuitable location.
3. Royal Mail be approved, subject to a suitable alternative location being identified.
4. Christ's Hospital School be approved following the unanimous election of a preferred artist, to be recommended to the applicant.
5. The Rothschild Foundation be approved, subject to further clarifications.

11. **E-BOOKS AND E-AUDIOBOOKS IN BARBICAN AND COMMUNITY LIBRARIES**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries, which provided an update on progress on the introduction of e-Books and e-Audiobooks in our lending libraries, which was relevant to the ongoing wider debates about libraries and digital futures. The Head of Barbican and Community Libraries, who is also the President of the Association of London Chief Librarians, provided an update on a project to renew Freedom Passes in London libraries, for those customers who were not on-line. London Councils had written to the Head of Barbican and Community Libraries, thanking her and colleagues across London for this initiative and would be extending it to all new Freedom Pass applications.

RESOLVED – that, the report be noted.

12. **DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED OR URGENCY PROCEDURES**

The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk in respect of action taken under urgency and delegated authority, since the last meeting of the Committee, as follows:

1. City of London Festival Grant (delegated decision) – also discussed under item 9 on today's agenda.
2. City Arts Initiative: Installation of Lonely Planet Sand Sculptures at Peter's Hill during the Summer (urgent decision)

RESOLVED – that, the report be noted.

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

There were no questions.

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

There were no items.

15. **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>
16 – 17	3
18 – 19	-

16. **KEATS HOUSE PRICING REVIEW 2015/16**

The Committee approved a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries seeking to review the admission charges for Keats House.

17. **LORD MAYOR'S STATE COACH**

The Committee received a resolution from the Policy and Resources Committee from 16th July 2015.

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

There were no questions.

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

The Chairman agreed to the submission of an urgent item of business, as follows:

Service Based Review: Departmental Monitoring - Department of Culture, Heritage and Libraries - the Committee received a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries.

The meeting ended at 13:10 pm

Chairman

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