

CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 25 November 2015

Minutes of the meeting of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee held at Guildhall on Wednesday, 25 November 2015 at 11.30 am

Present

Members:

Vivienne Littlechild (Chairman)	Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark
Graham Packham (Deputy Chairman)	Deputy Alastair King
Keith Bottomley	Paul Martinelli
Dennis Cotgrove	Jeremy Mayhew
Deputy Billy Dove	Sylvia Moys
Deputy Anthony Eskenzi	Barbara Newman
Lucy Frew	Ann Pembroke
Alderman Sir Roger Gifford	Emma Price
Alderman Alison Gowman	Deputy Gerald Pulman
Deputy the Revd Stephen Haines	John Scott
Graeme Harrower	Deputy Dr Giles Shilson
Ann Holmes	Deputy John Tomlinson (Ex-Officio Member)
Wendy Hyde	Deputy John Bennett (Ex-Officio Member)

In Attendance

Officers:

Julie Mayer	- Town Clerk's
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
Nick Bodger	- Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
Christopher Earlie	- Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
Andrew Buckingham	- Public Relations Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mark Boleat, Tom Hoffman, Henrika Priest, Stephen Quilter, Judith Pleasance and Mark Wheatley.

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

Mr Mayhew and Mrs Littlechild declared general (non-pecuniary) interests in respect of agenda item 9: City of London Festival, by virtue of their positions as Directors of the City of London Festival Board.

3. **MINUTES**

The public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 23rd September 2015 were approved.

4. **TERMS OF REFERENCE AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS OF THE CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk in respect of the Committee's Terms of Reference and frequency of its meetings.

Members were asked to consider the following addition to the Committee's Terms of Reference, in response to progress with the Corporate Review of Grants project:

“dealing with requests for grants for cultural/arts programmes from funds under the Committee's control, as allocated by the Resource Allocation Sub (Policy and Resources) Committee”.

In response to queries about the Committee's visibility and role in evaluating all requests for grants for cultural/arts programmes and allocation of funding, the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries explained that these matters were also being resolved as part of the Corporate Review of Grants. Members noted that this sought to deliver a more co-ordinated approach to corporate grant giving and recognised the importance of ensuring that a funding stream around culture and the arts becomes one of the outcomes of the Review.

In response to a suggestion that the Committee's Terms of Reference include a paragraph on monitoring and oversight of the Department's Risk Register, the Director considered this to be part of regular day-to-day management of the Department, as set out in item 7 on today's agenda. The Town Clerk agreed to consider this request, in conjunction with similar reports going before the grand committees, in preparation for the Annual White Paper, which would be presented to the Annual Court of Common Council in April 2016.

RESOLVED, that - the above reference to requests for grants from cultural/arts programmes be included in the Terms of Reference for the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee.

5. **CULTURE HERITAGE & LIBRARIES BUSINESS PLAN 2015-2018 - QUARTER 2 MONITORING REVIEW**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries in respect of the Department's Business Plan 2015-18 – Quarter 2 – Monitoring Review.

RESOLVED, that:

1. The Quarter 2 progress shown against the Department's Key Objectives, KPIs and Corporate Service Response Standards be noted.
2. The financial information and capital projects spend to date be noted.

3. The visitor comparison data be noted.

6. REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS - 2016/17

The Committee considered a joint report of the Chamberlain and the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries, which presented the annual submission of the revenue and capital budgets overseen by the Committee.

RESOLVED, that:

1. The provisional 2016/17 revenue budget be approved for submission to the Finance Committee;
2. The draft capital budget be approved;
3. The Chamberlain, in consultation with the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries be authorised to revise these budgets to allow for any further implications arising from corporate projects, departmental reorganisations and other reviews and changes to the additional works programme.

7. DEPARTMENTAL RISK REPORT - QUARTERS 1 & 2

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries, which sought to assure Members that the risk management procedures in place within the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee were satisfactory and met the requirements of the Corporate Risk Management Framework.

Members expressed some frustration at the length of time taken to repair a leak in Guildhall Library. The City Surveyor advised that a repair initially made six months ago had been unsuccessful but a more recent repair seemed to have fixed the problem, however further monitoring during wet weather would be necessary before confirming this.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

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

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries, which presented the recommendations of the City Arts Initiative meeting on 5th November 2015.

RESOLVED, that:

1. Banksy be approved for preservation, using appropriate covering to be specified in accordance with requirements
2. Premier be approved, subject to further clarification on location and potential electrical requirements.
3. Barbara Princic be rejected for lack of artistic merit and suitable space.
4. Mexican Embassy be referred to Broadgate Estates (and located within Broadgate Circus) with the agreement of the applicant.
5. Heartstone be referred to the Museum of London, with who the applicant is already in discussion, due to the photographic focus of

the Martin Parr exhibitions at Barbican and Guildhall Art Gallery (in house and on-street) at the same time.

6. Display Gallery be approved, subject to further clarification and commission agreement.

9. **THE CITY OF LONDON FESTIVAL**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries in respect of the City Arts Trust's Annual Report on the 2015 City of London Festival and its plans for 2016.

The Chairman of the City Arts Trust had been invited to address the Committee and answer Member questions. During his presentation, the following points were noted:

- The Festival had experienced some organisational challenges since the Chairman became involved. The 2014/15 Festival made a significant loss which depleted the reserves; however, losses in 2011/12 had reduced considerably.
- 2015 had seen increased ticket sales and very good reviews. The deficit position of £200,000 had reduced to £11,000 and a small surplus was expected in 2016.
- The Festival Board's aspiration was to continue to deliver a broader sustainable festival; to include comedy, theatre and outreach projects, such as office choirs. The Museum of London would be included in the programme for the first time in 2016.
- Planning for 2015/16 was at an advanced stage and would be shared with the Festival Board shortly. The Chairman was confident of a high quality, diverse offer.
- The appointment of a new Director was expected by mid-December; there had been other senior management appointments, including an internal promotion and a new Development Team was in place.
- Historically, the Festival had received more individual than corporate sponsorship but once programmes and volumes had been confirmed, this should attract more interest.
- The Festival was currently redeveloping its website and would like to add a ticketing capability but the Barbican service would be used for 2016.
- The Chairman of the Barbican Centre Board (an ex-officio Member) invited the Chairman of the City of London Festival to email the Managing Director of the Barbican Centre, setting out his requirements in respect of ticketing and audience data. Members were keen to facilitate joined up working with the Barbican Centre in this matter.

- There were several options under consideration for the Bowler Hat in 2016; i.e. Patternoster, Broadgate, Finsbury Square and the Moat at the Tower of London. A cabaret format was also proposed for 2016 rather than arena style, running for 2 weeks, not 2 and a half. Further suggestions from Members were welcomed.

RESOLVED – that, the report be noted.

10. LOCAL AUTHORITIES DESIGNATED OFFICER ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee received a resolution of the Community and Children’s Services Committee, which sought to present the Local Authorities Designated Officer (LADO) Annual Report to the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, amongst others, for information.

RESOLVED, that – the Annual LADO report be noted.

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

In response to a question about publicity of various events, officers explained that some were not communicated early as they were waiting on sponsorship. The Seasonal Events Guide would continue to be placed in Members’ pigeon holes.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

- The Chairman commended Nick Bodger and his team for the excellent Tourism Management Institution event at the Guildhall Art Gallery, Tower of London and Tower Bridge, the delegates were highly enthusiastic and provided very positive feedback on the event.
- Following a visit to the National Library of Scotland by Mrs Pembroke and a discussion with the Curator about their collection of Keats documents, the Chairman agreed to provide this information to the Curator at Keats House.

13. 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.
14 – 20	3
21	1, 3

14. NON PUBLIC MINUTES

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 23rd September 2015 were approved.

15. **TOWER BRIDGE AND THE MONUMENT PRICING REVIEW - 2016/17**
The Committee considered and approved a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries.

16. **TOWER BRIDGE AND MONUMENT PERFORMANCE REVIEW - APRIL - SEPTEMBER 2015**
The Committee received a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries and received a short presentation on September's Bascule concerts which had been very successful and attracted considerable media interest.

17. **REFURBISHMENT OF TOWER BRIDGE ENGINE ROOMS INTERNAL RECEPTION AND GIFT SHOP**
The Committee received a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries, which had been approved by the Projects Sub Committee on 8th October 2015.

18. **THE GREAT FIRE COMMEMORATIONS 2016 - ORAL UPDATE**
The Director of Artichoke provided Members with an update on proposed commemorations for the 350th Anniversary of the Great Fire in 2016.

19. **NON PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
There was one question while the public were excluded.

20. **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.

21. **SERVICE BASED REVIEW SAVINGS 2016/17**
The Committee received a Confidential (Member only) report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries in respect of a decision which had been approved, in principle, 12 months previously and was progressing accordingly.

The meeting ended at 1.10 pm

Chairman

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