

CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE

Monday, 13 December 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee held at Committee Room 3 - 2nd Floor West Wing, Guildhall on Monday, 13 December 2021 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Deputy Wendy Hyde (Chair)	Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli
Jeremy Simons (Deputy Chairman)	Wendy Mead
Randall Anderson	Deputy Barbara Newman
John Bennett	Graham Packham (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Tom Hoffman	John Petrie
Ann Holmes	James Tumbridge
Deputy Edward Lord	

In Attendance

Officers:

Ben Dunleavy	- Town Clerk's Department
Nick Bodger	- Culture and Visitor Development Director
Elizabeth Scott	- Head of Guildhall Art Gallery
Carol Boswarthack	- Community and Children's Services
Christopher Earlie	- Head of Tower Bridge, Open Spaces Department
Matthew Cooper	- Town Clerk's Department
James Gibson	- Chief Operating Officer's Department
Tim Harris	- London Metropolitan Archives
Graham Nickless	- Chamberlains
Damian Nussbaum	- Director of Innovation & Growth
Charlotte Scott	- London Metropolitan Archives
Rob Shakespeare	- Keats House, Open Spaces Department
Gemma Stokley	- Town Clerk's Department

Also In Attendance

Danny Lopez	- Independent Reviewer
Kate Keating	- Independent Reviewer

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Matthew Bell, Peter Bennett, Deputy David Bradshaw, Mary Durcan, Tracey Graham, Alderman David Graves, Vivienne Littlechild and Henrika Priest.

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 21 September be agreed as a correct record.

4. **MINUTES - KEATS HOUSE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED, that – the draft minutes of the Keats House Consultative Committee meeting held on 1 October be received.

5. **MINUTES - BENEFICES SUB-COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED, that – the draft public minutes and non-public summary of the Benefices Sub-Committee meeting held on 25 October be received.

6. **FORWARD PLAN**

The Committee's forward plan was noted.

7. **CAI RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members received a report of the Director of Innovation & Growth in respect of the City Arts Initiative Recommendations to the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee.

RESOLVED, that – Members ratify the City Arts Initiative's recommendations in relation to the proposals above as follows:

- Sculpture in the City – Aldgate Square Commissions: approve subject to ongoing consultation and permissions from Highways and Planning.
- Whizz Kids – Morph's Epic Adventure in London: approve in principle subject to ongoing consultation with Environment, suitable locations being identified, and access guidance being incorporated.

8. **UPDATE ON GUILDHALL STATUES INTERPRETATION**

Members received a presentation of the Head of Guildhall Art Gallery in respect of the Guildhall Statues.

Members felt that the focus on youth panels in the consultation phase of the interpretation was too narrow and asked that a formal report considering intergenerational groups be submitted in order that they may endorse proposals to the Policy & Resources Committee.

RESOLVED, that – a report on the Guildhall Statues be brought to the Committee meeting on 31 January 2022.

9. **CHL REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS**

Members received a joint report of the Chamberlain and the Town Clerk in respect of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Revenue and Capital Budgets.

The Head of Tower Bridge and the Monument, and the Group Accountant, informed the Committee that the recommendation for the joint report was for the Committee to agree the Budget with the exception of the Monument for 2021/22 and 2022/23. The Monument was in a deficit position and would be unable to meet its pre-pandemic income targets.

Members felt that the Monument's budget position should be further analysed in order to explore possibilities to ease the pressure on the budget, and agreed that authority to agree the next steps should be delegated to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chairman.

RESOLVED, that – authority to proceed be delegated to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chairman.

10. **GUILDHALL LIBRARY CENTENARY FUND - TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Members received a joint report of the Chamberlain and the Town Clerk in respect of the Guildhall Library Centenary Fund Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements.

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

11. **KEATS HOUSE - TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Members received a joint report of the Chamberlain and the Town Clerk in respect of the Keats House Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements.

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

12. **KEATS HOUSE MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE UPDATE**

Members received a joint report of the Chamberlain and the Executive Director of Environment in respect of the Keats House Mid-Year Performance Update.

Members noted that the report incorrectly stated that the pre-pandemic opening hours of the Keats Community Library, and that this would be corrected to state that the Library had operated for 42 hours a week prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

13. **CITY INFORMATION CENTRE: ANNUAL REPORT**

Members received a report of the Director of Innovation and Growth in respect of the City Information Centre's Annual Report.

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

14. **CULTURE AND COMMERCE TASKFORCE: A YEAR OF FUELLING CREATIVE RENEWAL**

Members received a report of the Director of Innovation and Growth in respect of the Culture and Commerce Taskforce.

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

15. **PROMOTING OUTDOOR ARTS IN THE CITY: RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Members received a report of the Director of Innovation and Growth in respect of Resident Engagement Opportunities for Promoting Outdoor Arts in the City.

Members commented that, while the report focused on general communication with residents, the concerns expressed by Members at the July meeting had been on the issue of communication with Members representing residential wards. A Member added that it was also important to communicate to Members who represented wards not designated as residential wards, but which contained substantial numbers of residents.

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

16. **BUMPING SPACES PROJECT AT BARBICAN & COMMUNITY LIBRARIES**

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of the Bumping Spaces Project at Barbican & Community Libraries.

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

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

There were no questions.

18. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

There was no urgent business.

19. **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.

20. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

Members heard from the Cultural and Visitor Development Director.

RESOLVED, that – the non-public minutes of the meeting on 21 September be agreed as a correct record.

21. **BENEFICES NP MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that – the draft non-public minutes of the meeting on 25 October 2021 be received.

22. **SHOE LANE LIBRARY - POTENTIAL REDEVELOPMENT OF HILL HOUSE**

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of the Potential Redevelopment of Hill House.

RESOLVED, that – the recommendations in the report be approved.

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

There were no questions.

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

There was no non-public urgent business.

The meeting ended at 3.40 pm

Chairman

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