

FINANCE AND RISK COMMITTEE OF THE BARBICAN CENTRE BOARD
Monday, 7 September 2020

Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Finance and Risk Committee of the Barbican
Centre Board held on Monday, 7 September 2020 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Deputy Tom Sleigh (Chair)
Deputy Dr Giles Shilson (Deputy Chairman)
Randall Anderson
Russ Carr
Deputy Wendy Hyde
Emma Kane
Alasdair Nisbet

Officers:

Sir Nicholas Kenyon	-	Managing Director, Barbican Centre
Jonathon Poyner	-	Director of Operations & Buildings, Barbican Centre
Sandeep Dwesar	-	Chief Operating & Financial Officer, Barbican Centre
Natasha Harris	-	Director of Development, Barbican Centre
Leonora Thomson	-	Interim Artistic Director, Barbican Centre
Sean Gregory	-	Director of Innovation & Engagement, Barbican Centre
Niki Cornwell	-	Head of Finance and Business Administration, Barbican Centre
Matt Lock	-	Head of Audit & Risk Management, Chamberlain's Department
Leanne Murphy	-	Town Clerk's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Jeremy Mayhew.

The Chair began the meeting by stating that the merger of the Finance and Risk Committees was considered to be a sensible move due to the concurrent and often overlapping themes that were being considered separately. It was hoped that the merger would bring a more streamlined approach for both Members and Officers. It was agreed that the Board Chairman would chair this Committee as opposed to the Deputy Chairman who previously chaired the Risk Committee. Audit and Risk colleagues were content with this arrangement; however, the Chair advised this would be reviewed if challenged in the future.

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

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Risk Committee

The public minutes of the Risk Committee meeting held on 22 January 2020 were approved as a correct record.

Following discussions at the last meeting, a Member requested an update on the new follow-up approach to recommendations. The Head of Audit and Risk Management confirmed that a new approach was being used across the City Corporation's entire portfolio of Internal Audit work which had been shared with the Chair and Deputy Chairman. The Town Clerk agreed to circulate this information with Members.

The Head of Audit and Risk Management provided a summary of the changes explaining that there had been a move from looking at individual recommendations when due to undertaking a consolidated follow-up of all recommendations on an audit by audit basis. This new approach allowed for the impact of the implementation/non-implementation of recommendations to be considered in the round and for a revised assurance opinion to be provided for each auditable area. Members were informed that this would improve the Committee's ability to properly scrutinise and challenge if necessary.

A Member highlighted that significant issues were raised at the last meeting and whilst priorities had changed since January due to Covid-19, it was important to have an update on all open issues, e.g. the new retail and bars system. The Head of Audit and Risk Management confirmed that there were currently two Audit reviews with open recommendations where implementation dates have passed and two further follow-up reviews had been completed in the last few weeks with all recommendations found to be implemented. It was agreed an update on follow-up activity would come to the next meeting.

3.2 Barbican Centre Board

The draft public minutes of the Barbican Centre Board meeting held on 22 July 2020 were noted.

4. PROJECTS UPDATE REPORT

The Committee received a report of the Director of Operations and Buildings providing Members with an update on the Centre's maintenance and refurbishment projects that fall under the Cyclical Works Programme (CWP) and additional projects funded from other sources.

Members were advised that there had been great progress with outstanding projects and the carpet refurbishment at the Centre looked great. The Director of Operations and Buildings gave thanks to staff, engineers and the City Surveyors team for their hard work and assistance completing projects and to residents for their patience whilst they took place.

RECEIVED.

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

There were no questions.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no urgent items.

7. **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.

8. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

8.1 **Risk Committee**

The draft non-public minutes of the Risk Committee meeting held on 22 January 2020 were approved as a correct record.

8.2 **Finance Committee**

The informal note of the Finance Committee meeting held on 6 July 2020 was noted.

8.3 **Barbican Centre Board**

The draft non-public minutes of the Barbican Centre Board meeting held on 22 July 2020 were noted.

9. **COVID-19 SITUATION UPDATE**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Operating and Financial Officer providing Members with an update on the current situation for the Centre as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

10. **PROJECTS UPDATE: NON-PUBLIC APPENDIX**

The Committee received the non-public Projects Update appendix to be read in conjunction with item 4.

11. **BUSINESS REVIEW - AUGUST 2020 (PERIOD 4 - 20/21)**

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Operating & Financial Officer setting out the Business Review for the August 2020 (Period 4 – 20/21) accounts.

12. **COMMERCIAL UPDATE**

The Committee noted a report of the Chief Operating & Financial Officer setting out the impact of Covid-19 on the Barbican's commercial activities, the mitigating steps being taken to minimise lost income and strategies for business recovery.

13. **BUSINESS PLANNING UPDATE**

The Committee received an oral update from the Chief Operating & Financial Officer providing an update on business planning.

14. **PROGRAMMING RISK REGISTER**

The Committee received a report of the Interim Artistic Director updating Members on the Programming Controversial Risk Register and the identified potential risks that occur as a result of specific programmed events and activities, as well as outlining the mitigation processes in place for each.

15. **RISK UPDATE**

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

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

There were no questions.

17. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There were no urgent items.

The meeting ended at 3.03 pm

Chairman

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