

FINANCE AND RISK COMMITTEE OF THE BARBICAN CENTRE BOARD
Monday, 11 January 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Risk Committee of the Barbican Centre Board held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Monday, 11 January 2021 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Deputy Tom Sleight (Chair)
Deputy Dr Giles Shilson (Deputy Chairman)
Randall Anderson
Russ Carr
Deputy Wendy Hyde
Jeremy Mayhew
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

There were no apologies.

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

There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES

The draft public minutes of the Finance & Risk Committee meeting held on 2 November 2020 were approved as a correct record.

4. INTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE

The Committee considered a report of the Head of Audit & Risk Management providing Members with an update in respect of Internal Audit activity related to the Barbican Centre since the November meeting of this Committee.

Members were informed that the review of the Centre's Bars had been completed; however, the recommendations from that review would be delayed in the absence of trading as a result of the current national lockdown.

The security audit was signed off and the Draft Audit Report due to be issued imminently. It was highlighted that this was given an amber assurance rating purely in light of the seriousness of the risks being addressed.

A summary of the 2021 Audit Plan for the year was presented to Members and it was noted that the planned Health and Safety Review would now likely be delayed until next year. The Head of Audit & Risk Management confirmed that other assurance sources could be used to measure health and safety concerns in the meantime.

A typo was noted in paragraph 12 of the report whereby the wrong year was listed and should say 2021/22.

With regards to audit recommendations, Members were advised that recommendation 3 concerning corporate sponsorship had been implemented and two follow-ups were undertaken.

In response to a query concerning Barbican retail systems, Members were informed that all recommendations were audited and closed prior to the last meeting and the systems were now completely compliant.

A Member felt it was important that the Committee gave Management a clear steer that dealing with Covid related risks were the priority and closing minor risks was not urgent and could be delayed until 2022. Members supported this sentiment.

RESOLVED - That Members:-

- Note the report;
- Consider the appropriateness of the delays in high priority recommendations implementation;
- Provide input to high level audit planning proposals for 2021-22 by suggesting potential areas of coverage.

5. **HEALTH AND SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Operations and Buildings providing Members with an update on the Centre's Health and Safety activities and provision over the last year and agenda items for 2021.

The Director of Operations and Buildings advised that the focus for the year had been the Covid-19 pandemic. When the Centre was open, over 70k people visited with 98% of visitors recorded that they felt safe or very safe. Risks and security continued to be reviewed with management to deal with the appropriate recommendations.

RECEIVED.

6. 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.

The Director of Operations and Buildings confirmed that the Officers had used the time during the lockdowns wisely and the Centre looked better than ever. Thanks was given to the City Surveyor's, Engineering and Projects Teams for their assistance.

RECEIVED.

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

There were no questions.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no urgent items.

9. 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.

10. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

The draft non-public minutes of the Finance & Risk Committee meeting held on 2 November 2020 were approved as a correct record.

11. 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.

12. BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Operating & Financial Officer updating Members on the Barbican business plan, setting out a reporting framework for future Board meetings.

13. BREXIT PLANNING UPDATE

The Committee received a report of the Managing Director setting out the out the key areas of the business likely to be affected by the end of the Brexit transition period and how this could impact the Barbican's work.

14. BARBICAN BUSINESS REVIEW - NOVEMBER 2020 (PERIOD 8 - 20/21)

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Operating & Financial Officer setting out the Business Review for the November 2020 (Period 8 – 20/21) accounts.

15. **CYBER SECURITY ANNUAL REPORT**

The Committee received a report of the Chief Operating & Financial Officer providing Members with an annual summary of the Barbican's Information Security posture, covering the most prominent external cyber threats, the cyber-related achievements for the year, professional training and development, current system proposals, staff cyber training programme and current risks.

16. **BAD DEBTS ANNUAL UPDATE**

The Committee received a report of the Chief Operating & Financial Officer providing Members with an annual summary of the Barbican's bad debts for the period up to December 2019.

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

The Committee received the non-public Projects Update appendix to be read in conjunction with item 6.

18. **CONTROVERSIAL 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.

19. **COTE RESTAURANT UPDATE**

The Committee received a verbal update from the Director of Operations and Buildings concerning Cote Restaurant.

20. **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.

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

There was one question.

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

There was one urgent item.

The meeting ended at 3.31 pm

Chairman

Contact Officer: Leanne Murphy

tel. no.: 020 7332 3008
leanne.murphy@cityoflondon.gov.uk