

CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 5 December 2012

Minutes of the meeting of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee held at Guildhall, EC2 on Wednesday, 5 December 2012 at 11.30am

Present

Members:

John Scott (Chairman)	Julian Malins
Vivienne Littlechild (Deputy Chairman)	Deputy Wendy Mead
John Bird	Robert Merrett
Deputy Dennis Cotgrove	Sylvia Moys
Martin Day	Barbara Newman
Peter Dunphy	Deputy Janet Owen
Deputy Anthony Eskenzi	Ann Pembroke
Kevin Everett	Stephen Quilter
Martin Farr	Deputy Richard Regan
Brian Harris	Delis Regis
Michael Henderson-Begg	Deputy Michael Welbank
Tom Hoffman	Alderman Fiona Woolf
William Hunt	Alderman David Graves (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Alastair King	Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Ex-Officio Member)
Oliver Lodge	

Officers:

Matthew Pitt	- Town Clerk's Department
Mathew Lawrence	- Town Clerk's Department
Mark Jarvis	- Chamberlain's Department
William Heller	- City Surveyor's Department
Julian Kverndal	- City Surveyor's Department
David Summers	- City Surveyor's Department
David Pearson	- Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries
Carol Boswarthack	- Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
Geoff Pick	- Culture, Heritage and Libraries Department
David Wight	- Culture, Heritage and Libraries
Andrew Buckingham	- Public Relations Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mark Boleat, Billy Dove, Henry Pollard, Henrika Priest, and Alderman Andrew Parmley.

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

There were no declarations.

The Chairman took the opportunity to thank Robin Sherlock for his years of service on the Court of Common Council.

He also took the opportunity to welcome Colette Hiller from the organisation Sing London – who would be speaking to an item later on the agenda.

3. **MINUTES**

The public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 22 October 2012 were approved.

Matters Arising: -

Cultural Strategy Group

The Committee were informed that the next meeting of the Cultural Strategy Group would be held on 10 January 2013.

Artefacts from Prince Henry's Room

The Director advised the Committee that a report outlining options for the future of the artefacts previously housed in Prince Henry's Room would be brought to the next meeting.

Artizan Street Library

The Director reported that final preparations were being made for the Library to open on Monday 10 December. He further reported that whilst there were some problems with broadband as a result of the new library not yet having a postcode, staff were working with the service provider to resolve this as quickly as possible. Members were reminded that the official opening would be held on 24 January 2013.

Billingsgate Bathhouse Visit

The Director reported that the recent visit to the bathhouse had been useful. He added that a conversation was currently taking place with the Museum of London, looking to improve promotion of Roman heritage sites within the City.

Sanford Award

The Director reported that the City had received the Sanford Award for Heritage Education as recognition for its work in this area.

4. **CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LIBRARIES: PUBLIC RELATIONS UPDATE**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Public Relations updating Members on the activities undertaken by his department during the period October 2011- September 2012.

RECEIVED.

5. **REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS - 2013/14**

The Committee considered a joint report of the Chamberlain and The Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries seeking approval to the provisional revenue budget for 2013/14.

In response to Members' concerns, the Chamberlain undertook to circulate an explanatory note to the Committee, detailing movements between the two years budgets on the Culture, Heritage & Libraries Directorate and London Metropolitan Archive elements of the Service Analysis in Appendix 1.

RESOLVED: That: -

- i) the provisional 2013/14 revenue budget be approved for submission to the Finance Committee;
- ii) the draft capital budget be approved; and
- iii) the Chamberlain be authorised to revise these budgets to allow for any further implications arising from Corporate Projects, departmental reorganisations and other reviews, changes to the Additional Works Programme, and implications arising from Carbon Trading Allowances.

6. CULTURE HERITAGE & LIBRARIES BUSINESS PLAN 2012-2013 - Q2 MONITORING REVIEW

The Committee received a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries updating Members on progress made against the objectives and key performance indicators set out in the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Departmental Business Plan 2012-13.

RECEIVED.

6a. City Arts Initiative

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk which had recommendations from the City Arts Initiative Group meeting that took place on 8 November.

The Committee heard Collette Hiller from Sing Song, who spoke to the merits of her organisation's proposal, 'Talking Statues'.

RESOLVED: That: -

- i) the application 'Southbank Mosaics' be approved subject to the receipt of more detailed information from the applicant;
- ii) the application 'A New Aldgate' be approved for an extension in its current location;
- iii) the application 'Talking Statues' be approved subject to the receipt of more detailed information from the applicant; and
- iv) the application "Weather – it's raining or not" be rejected.

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

In response to a Member's question, the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries responded that Gresham College fitted more widely within the City's cultural frame and that he hoped to build upon existing links with the organisation.

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

The Lord Mayor's State Coach

The City Surveyor advised that a problem with the coach that occurred at the Lord Mayor's Show had been caused by wet sand getting into the bearing. He added that a team of officers would be meeting to examine ways of preventing the same problem affecting the coach in future years.

Guildhall Plumbing Issues

The City Surveyor advised that the recent flooding problems and leakage in certain areas of the Guildhall had been caused by a build-up of lime scale in the piping. He added that measures had been taken to clear the blockages and steps had also been taken to prevent recurrence.

The Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries reported that the incident highlighted the vulnerability of precious artefacts and manuscripts stored at Guildhall but stressed that the department had taken measures to protect these items from damage in the event of serious incidents.

The Chairman requested a further report on the matter be brought to the next meeting of the Committee.

9. **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.

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Exemption Paragraph(s)</u>
11 & 12	3
13 & 14	-

10. **NON PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 22 October were approved.

11. **HERITAGE GALLERY UPDATE - TO FOLLOW**

The Committee approved a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries.

12. **TOWER BRIDGE AND MONUMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT - APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 2012**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries.

RECEIVED.

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

There were no questions.

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

There were no urgent items.

The meeting closed at 12.48pm

Chairman

**Contact Officer: Matthew Pitt
tel. no.: 020 7332 1425
Matthew.Pitt@cityoflondon.gov.uk**