

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

Draft Minutes of the County Hall Museum Management Committee held on Thursday 8th October 2020 at 7.00 pm online

Present

Cllr Patrick Lonergan	Chair
Cllr Helen Pighills	Vice Chair
Cllr Cheryl Briggs	
Cllr Andy Foulsham	
Cllr Lorraine Oates	
Cllr Charlie Birks	Mayor of Abingdon-on-Thames (ex-officio)
Cllr Samantha Bowring	Chair of F & G P Committee (ex-officio)

In Attendance

Cllr Jim Halliday	
Mr Nigel Warner	Town Clerk
Mrs Susan Whipp	Treasurer/Responsible Financial Officer
Mr Dan Sancisi	Museum Operations Officer
Ms Elin Bornemann	Museum Collections Officer (Clerk to the Meeting)

SECTION I (Open to the public, including the press)

M85 Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence were received.

M86 Co-opted Member

Following the retirement of Mr Peter Clare, to consider and approve the co-option of Mr Steven Purnell as the representative of the Museum Friends, onto the committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2020-21.

The Chair, Cllr Patrick Lonergan, proposed, Cllr Andy Foulsham seconded and it was **resolved** that Mr Steven Purnell be a co-opted member of the Museum Committee.

It was acknowledged that Mr Peter Clare had given a significant number of years of service to this committee and the museum, and it was agreed that the Mayor, Cllr Charlie Birks, would write to Mr Clare passing on the Council's thanks and gratitude.

M87 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

M88 Public Participation

No representations or questions from the public.

M89 Minutes

The committee received and considered the minutes of the meeting of 16th July 2020.

Cllr Jim Halliday reminded the committee clerk that he is not a member of the committee, and was therefore in attendance only.

It was **resolved** that, subject to the correct listed above, the minutes be signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting.

M90 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

M91 SECTION II: Exclusion of the public, including the press

It was **resolved**:

That in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

The committee agreed to enter the confidential section of the meeting, the time being 7:07pm.

M92 Confidential report

The Committee received and considered the confidential report of the Treasurer/RFO.

It was **resolved** that the report and recommendations contained therein be approved (see Confidential Appendix to these minutes).

The committee then returned to the open section of the meeting.

SECTION III (Open to the public, including the press)

The meeting then returned to the open items on the agenda, the time being 7:30pm

M93 Report of the Operations Officer

The committee received and considered the report of the Operations Officer as circulated with the agenda.

Cllr Andy Foulsham congratulated the Operations Officer on the 3D tour which had recently been produced. The committee agreed this was a useful tool to increase diversity, providing a “virtual tour” of the museum, and was money well spent.

It was **resolved** that the report be approved.

M94 Report of the Collections Officer

The committee received and considered the report of the Collections Officer as circulated with the agenda.

It was **resolved** that the report be approved.

M95 Abingdon Museum Friends

The committee received and considered a report from the Abingdon Museum Friends as circulated with the agenda.

The committee noted the report.

M96 Financial Report

The committee received and considered the report and the appendix of the Treasurer, including the management accounts for the period 1st April – 31st August 2020, and the financial implications of the reopening the Museum.

The Chair, Cllr Patrick Lonergan, proposed, Cllr Lorraine Oates seconded, and it was **resolved** that the management accounts for 1st April – 31st August 2020, the report and the appendix be approved.

M97 Environmental implications

The Treasurer reported than an air purification unit had been purchased and had been in operation at the Museum since the reopening.

M98 Publicity

Cllr Andy Foulsham suggested that the new research about the Ichthyosaur should be used as the basis for more publicity.

Cllr Andy Foulsham asked whether the Museum could provide more information about the Abbey and make this information easily accessible. The Committee suggested that the matter be left with the Museum Officers.

M99 Dates and times of future meetings

The committee noted the dates of future committee meetings:

19th November 2020 (budget setting)
28th January 2021
25th March 2021
10th June 2021

The meeting rose at 7.49 pm.