



Minutes of Meeting

Meeting:	HOLBURNE MUSEUM HE STRATEGY BOARD
Date and Time:	Wednesday 7th November 2007 at 10.15 am
Venue:	Library Level 4 Meeting Room, University of Bath

Present:	Professor Jane Millar	Chair
	* Dr Michael Forsyth	University of Bath
	Professor Vaughan Hart	University of Bath
	Professor Elizabeth Prettejohn	University of Bristol
	Mr Howard Nicholson	University of Bath
In attendance:	Mr Mark Humphriss	University Secretary
	Dr Alexander Sturgis	Director of the Holburne Museum
	Ms Clare Henderson	Secretary
Apologies:	Dr Elaine Chalus	Bath Spa University
	Professor Paul Gough	University of the West of England
	Mr John Struthers	Director of the Institute of Contemporary and Interdisciplinary Arts

* Dr Forsyth was present for the business recorded in minutes 23 and 24.

ACTION

20 MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Board noted Membership and Terms of Reference as set out in Paper HM07/08-1.

21 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2 May 2007 (Paper HM07/08-2) were approved and signed by the Chair.

22 MATTERS ARISING

(1) Minute 15 (2), MA – Marus Library

The Director reported that a new fundraising manager had been appointed at the Museum, who was reviewing opportunities for funding for both core activities and other projects. Her advice would be sought on the best source of funding for the Marus Library.

Professor Prettejohn supported an approach to Dr Victoria Mier at the University of Bristol regarding updating the Library catalogue. She suggested that the Museum's Fundraising Manager, Marnie Whiting, should get in touch with Kerry Vernon, Research Development Manager at the University of Bristol, to discuss possible funding sources.

(2) Minute 19, Strategy and Plan for the Museum

It was noted that Director's report 'HE Strategy for the Holburne Museum' (July 2007) had been submitted to the University's Executive Committee and the Holburne Museum Board of Trustees.

23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 14 May 2008 at 10.15 am at the University

24 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) **AHRC Research Grant**

The Librarian drew attention to an AHRC (Arts and Humanities Research Council) call to museums, galleries, archives and libraries for grant-funding of up to £350,000 to undertake scholarly research to underpin some form of widely accessible output located either in or via, museums, galleries, archives or libraries. The Director said that he would look into the details of the call and ascertain whether the AHRC grant for the MUSE project would preclude the Museum from making an application.

(2) **Museum Closure for Development Project**

There was discussion of the nature of the projects that the Museum would undertake during its period of closure between April 2008 and early 2010 if the development project went ahead.

The Director noted that work would be ongoing in the following areas:

- (1) Collections work including research and conservation
- (2) Cataloguing
- (3) Exhibitions planning including mounting the Portrait exhibition probably at the Chapel Row Gallery, loan of objects to other Museums (National Gallery, Museum of Costume) and displays at Compton Verney
- (4) Education Service including outreach work in schools and activities in the Gardener's Lodge
- (5) HE Sector courses and FE events.

Professor Prettejohn suggested that consideration be given to a collaborative doctoral project on the collections.

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