

NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of the 148th Meeting

Date: 13 February 2014

Location: NAM Chelsea

Present: General Sir Jack Deverell (Chairman), Mr Keith Baldwin, Mr Patrick Bradley, Brigadier Douglas Erskine Crum, The Rt Hon The Lord Hamilton of Epsom, Professor William Philpott and Lieutenant General Sir Barney White-Spunner.

Field Marshal Sir John Chapple and Colonel Tony Figg.

The Director General, Museum Director, Assistant Director (Collections), Assistant Director (Development), Assistant Director (Human Resources), Assistant Director (Public Programmes), and the Access & Outreach Manager (Minutes).

Apologies: HRH The Duke of Kent, Mr Algy Cluff, Mr David Scott, Major General Charles Vyvyan and Mrs Deborah Younger.

1 Opening remarks

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

2 *Register of Members' Interests*

The *Register* was made available before the meeting, in accordance with Charity Commission advice.

3 Minutes of the 147th Meeting of Council held on 21 October 2013

Council approved the Minutes and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

4 Matters arising

The Siborne Model: The Chairman outlined the current situation. It was agreed a decision could not be made until evidence of ownership had been received from RUSI.

5 Finance

Council noted an additional sum had been received from the MOD for enabling works at Stevenage.

6 Reports from Committee

a. Building for the Future

Treasury had approved an MOD contribution to project funding of £5m, subject to an MOD underspend in the Financial Year 2013-14.

Given the rise in construction costs the Chairman of the Committee recommended that Council should look to overfund the project by at least £2m.

The Director General advised Council that a decision on NAM's planning application had been referred to the Planning Applications Committee.

b. NAMTL

Council noted that income generated during closure would be minimal.

7 Council Membership

Members were reminded that the Chairman would be standing down after the July 2014 meeting. Council approved the start of the recruitment process.

8 Building for the Future Project

Council authorised the Director General to pursue a short-term loan facility as a bridge to enable the project to start in April 2014.

Council approved the suggested procurement strategy.

Council agreed that there was a need to strengthen the BFTF Committee and reword its terms of reference to reflect its increased responsibilities. The Chairman would join the Committee to facilitate this process.

Council reviewed the sign-off mechanism for the project and agreed that the requirement to get sign off from the Chair of the A&RA Committee and an additional Member of Council should be amended to any two Members of Council.

9 Visual Communications Project

The Assistant Director (Public Programmes) gave a presentation on the Museum's visual communications strategy.

10 Business Planning: Draft Business Plan 2014-15

Council agreed that the draft Business Plan should be left as it was until after the HLF decision, when the situation would be clearer.

The Chairman congratulated the NAM team on an excellent report from Defence Internal Audit.

11 Any Other Business

The Chairman drew Council's attention to the retirement of Tony Figg as Head of Heritage Branch (AG). He discussed the achievements of Heritage Branch and paid tribute to Colonel Figg for his stewardship.