

NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of the 151st Meeting

Date: 23 October 2014

Location: Ergon House

Present: General Sir Richard Shirreff (Chairman), Mr Keith Baldwin, Mr Patrick Bradley, Mr Algy Cluff, Brigadier Douglas Erskine Crum, The Rt Hon The Lord Hamilton of Epsom, Professor William Philpott, Lieutenant General Sir Barney White-Spunner, and Mrs Deborah Younger.

Field Marshal Sir John Chapple and Mr David Scott.

The Director General, Museum Director, Assistant Director (Collections)(Minutes), Assistant Director (Development), Assistant Director (Human Resources), Assistant Director (Public Programmes).

1 Opening remarks

The Chairman recorded his honour at being appointed to Council, and acknowledged the strength of the existing Council and its strategic purpose to both support the Executive and maintain standards of public probity.

2 *Register of Members' Interests*

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

3 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from HRH The Duke of Kent and Ms Caroline Wyatt.

4 Minutes of the 150th Meeting of Council held on 17 July 2014

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

5 Matters arising

The Director General reported that she had written to MyCSP regarding pension costs and to the Palace regarding the opening.

6 Reports from Committee

a. Building for the Future

Council noted the appointment of Gilbert-Ash as the preferred Management Contractor following a competitive tendering process.

Council were updated on build progress and exhibition design since RIBA D. They requested an additional, more detailed, presentation to be scheduled for formal approval.

The Chairman requested that re-naming options for the new Museum are considered in the next round of audience testing.

61 NAM outreach events were taking place across the country during the closure period and attention was drawn to the very positive media response to the touring exhibitions and NAM staff attendance at nationwide events.

The Director General presented Council with the terms of the proposed Loan offer from RBKC. Council delegated power to draw down monies to the Director General. Council also authorised the Director General to draw down up to £1m of the loan without prior approval. Sums over that amount must be approved by a majority of all Council.

b. NAMTL

Council noted NAMTL's efforts to reduce stock during the closure period and generate income through sales of redundant material and a limited Speakers programme.

c. Audit & Risk Assurance

The Director General was asked to bring a paper to the next meeting of Council exploring options in the event of there being a shortfall

d. NAM Foundation

Council noted the Foundation's strategy.

7 Finance 2014-2015

Council noted cash flow was acceptable and all spending within limits. A business case will be written to allow any surplus of the MOD grant to be carried over in FY 15/16.

8 Constitutional Matters

It was agreed that the two vacancies on Council should be filled by Trustees recruited from a commercial, financial or cultural background. There was also a requirement for Trustees to work on the Acquisition & Disposal Committee and NAMTL Board. Council recommended Caroline Wyatt for the A&D Committee.

9 Any Other Business

An aide memoire regarding the NAM's fundraising campaign was circulated. Feedback from Council was requested at 1:1 meetings to be scheduled with the Assistant Director (Development).