

NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of the 168 Meeting of the Council held at the NAM Chelsea on Wednesday 6 November 2019

Present

Gen Sir Richard Shirreff (Chair), Lt Gen Sir Simon Mayall, Mr William Wells, Mr Patrick Aylmer, Dr Paul Schreier, Mrs Sabine Vandembroucke, Ms Jessica Spungin, Mr John Duncan, Mr Guy Perricone, Professor Jonathan Boff.

In Attendance

Director, Deputy Director (Operations & Resources), Committee Clerk (Minutes), Mr Mike Robbins, Brigadier Simon Banton, Field Marshal Sir John Chapple.

Item 1. Council Administration

Item 1.1 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Item 1.2 Register of Members' Interests

The Register was made available in accordance with Charity Commission advice and no amendments or additions were made.

Item 1.3 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from HRH The Duke of Kent, Royal Patron of the NAM, Ms Brenda Hobday, Mrs Judith Donovan and Mr Richard Hughes.

Item 1.4 Minutes of the Previous Meeting & Matters Arising

The Minutes were approved and signed as a true record. The Chair ran through matters arising and the action tracker was updated.

Item 2 Director's Update

The Director reported that the Museum was maintaining its financial health. The Chelsea History Festival would become an annual event led by NAM in partnership with Royal Hospital Chelsea and Chelsea Physic Garden. The Indian Army Memorial Room (IAMR) at Sandhurst had been rejuvenated and the re-opening event in September was a success.

The NAM published 'British Forces Germany: A Lived Experience' which would support the exhibition next year. It was written by NAM's Head of Collections Research & Academic Access and was long-listed for the Wolfson Prize.

2.4 Sponsor Update

The Head of Arms & Services, Home Command, reported that Lt Gen Christopher Tickell would become the Chair of the Army Heritage Committee.

Item 3. Finance

The Deputy Director reported that NAM's finances were healthy at the half year point.

Item 4. Annual Accounts 2018/19

The Deputy Director reported the Annual Accounts had been given a clean bill of health by the National Audit Office.

Item 5. Health & Safety Report

Council noted the report.

Item 6. Reports from Committees

6.1 Building for the Future

The Deputy Director was pleased to report the project had been fully completed.

6.2 Performance, Audit & Risk Assurance

The Committee Chair reported on a deep dive on human resources at the last meeting.

6.2.1 Reserves for Investment Policy

The updated Reserves for Investment Policy was approved by Council.

6.3 NAMTL

The Director presented slides which summarised NAMTL performance.

6.4 Development Committee

The Chair of the Committee briefed Council on corporate sponsors, corporate packages and a positive meeting with the NAM Development Trust and NAM Foundation.

6.5 Collections & Research

The Chair of the Committee circulated a research activity report.

The main business at the last meeting was the revised Collection Policy which had been refreshed after three years.

Item 7. Any Other Business

Members discussed the frequency of Council meetings and agreed to continue with quarterly meetings.

The Director proposed having the 2020 Council Away Day at the IAMR Sandhurst and everyone agreed.

The Chair thanked the NAM executive for their good work and closed the meeting.