

At a meeting of the Museum Committee held in the Pitman Committee Room at The Civic Centre, St Stephen's Place, on Tuesday 24th September 2019 at 18:00hrs

Present: Councillors: Bates, Blackmore, Blakemore, Brice, Bridges (in the Chair), Fuller, David Halik, Deb Halik and Hill
Co-opted members: Mr K Hartley, Mr P Lucas, Mrs H Montague-Smith & M/s H Randall-Morris
Officers: C Lyall, H Lyddy & T Carpenter (Minutes)
Press: 0 Public: 0

The Chair welcomed Cllrs Bates and Hill.

1460 ATTENDANCE

RESOLVED to accept apologies received with reasons from Cllr Cavill.

1461 MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28th May 2019 (previously circulated). There were no questions.

1462 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest excepting those already included on the register.

1463 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair conveyed sincere condolences to Cllr Peter Fuller on his recent bereavement and congratulated Hannah Lyddy on the occasion of her marriage the previous weekend. Hannah's surname will remain the same.

1464 OPEN FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

1465 CURATOR'S REPORT

The Committee considered the Curator's report which had previously been distributed with the Agenda and the following points were noted:

2.2 Final Museum Design - Thursday 10th October – Open event for new Museum. Invites will go out, all invited. 11.30am for councillors. Committee members can view site, can accommodate max.11 members – (tomorrow at 5pm, let Clare know. Come to Civic tomorrow just before 5pm).

4. WEFT Exhibition – please attend the exhibition. Open now at Bridge House. Arts Council keen to look at Museum, impressed with collaborative work.

8.1 Trowbridge Heritage Festival – working with Leisure & Information Services and will be contacting local traders to work together on themed events. In the planning stages. Contact has been made with the Lord Lieutenant. All royal connections will be drafted and will then circulate to the right people. The Museum hopes to borrow items from the V & A, and it may be possible to borrow from the Costume Museum of Bath.

It was good to note funding from four parishes.

1466 CO-OPTION - TREVOR PORTER – (Report Item 3.1.1)

Trevor Porter, freelance photographer, has kindly secured items for the Museum from the closure of the Wiltshire Times office in Trowbridge. Procedures permit us to co-op another member and following Trevor's long standing interest in Trowbridge, it was

RESOLVED That an invitation is sent to Trevor Porter to become a co-opted member of the Museum Committee.

1467 QUARTERLY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS (Report item 12.1)

RESOLVED to note the 1st Qtr Accounts, copies of which were previously circulated with the Agenda.

Members questioned the £11,000 Contribution from Earmarked Reserves.

Initials.....dated.....

(The Town Clerk explains as follows: At the end of 2018/19 the contributions from the loan, project underspend and Friends donation were set aside in earmarked reserves for expenditure during 2019/20. As we progress through the year these will be drawn down to offset against expenditure on the project.)

1468 FRIENDS OF TROWBRIDGE MUSEUM

Mrs Helen Montague-Smith(Chair) gave the following report:

The Friends and volunteers have continued to support the museum over the last four months. The Curator's report which was circulated, mentions many of the activities which the Friends were able to help with.

The outing to Cold Harbour Mill at Uffculme in June was notable because we were hoping to see 'our' Beam Engine being steamed. Sadly, this was not possible the day we were there – they rely on volunteers being available. However, it was good to see the complete engine in situ. I had only ever seen it in pieces when we had it in store. A tour of the mill was fascinating and our guide was most impressed to learn that Trowbridge Museum had a spinning jenny on display.

Under item 5 of the previous minutes, the report noted that Bratton Parish Council would meet in early September. I had made a grant application to them, emphasising the importance of the Whitaker Collection which is being cared for in the Museum. They have just got back to me offering a grant of £600.

I continue to attend the progress meetings of the Onwards and Upwards expansion project and understand that all is going well.

The Friends have been asked by the staff if they are able to fund the cost of a new back door to the Museum. This was not included in the original plans. It would be sited next to the new lift, in an area near to the original main entrance to Home Mill. This access would be extremely useful generally for meetings, not only for the Friends but also for the Museum in general.

We have also been asked to consider funding the conservation of the Spinning Jenny. Again, this is a very important item on display in the Museum and has never been touched since it was installed in 1990. Originally from a Trowbridge mill, the jenny is in the ownership of the Science Museum and they would be very happy for the work to go ahead using an approved conservator. The latter would be able to give a talk about the work, possibly at our AGM. This will be discussed at the Friends meeting tomorrow evening.

The latest Friends newsletter, The Muse, was published in June – many thanks again to Rob and Jill Hillman for a very professional and interesting newsletter.

Visited Ken Rogers today and his eyesight has improved.

The Chair thanked Helen for her report.

1469 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

a) NOTED the date of the next meeting to be held on Tuesday 17th December 2019 at the Civic Centre and

b) RESOLVED to revert back to a 6.30pm start time for all future Museum Committee meetings.

Cllr Brice's apologies were noted for the next meeting.

1470 MEDIA RELEASE

RESOLVED to make the following press or social media releases:

- **Trevor Porter's co-option to the Museum Committee.**

The meeting closed at 18.30hrs.

To all Councillors for information.

Signature..... Dated.....

MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING 24th SEPTEMBER 2019**ACTION LIST**

ACTION	BY WHOM	DATE COMPLETED
<i>RESOLVED That an invitation is sent to Trevor Porter to become a co-opted member of the Museum Committee</i>	CL	
<i>RESOLVED to revert back to a 6.30pm start time for all future Museum Committee meetings.</i>	TC	DONE
<i>RESOLVED to make the following press/social media releases:-</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Trevor Porter's co-option to the Museum Committee.</i>		