

MINUTES

At a meeting of the Museum Committee held at The Civic, on Tuesday 11th October at 18:30hrs

IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors: Bridges (Chair), Cavill, Cooper, Lincoln & Piazza, Palmen,

Co-opted members: 0

Additional attendees: 0

Officers: H Lyddy, Nikki Ritson, N Patterson

Press: 0

Public: 1

1581 APOLOGIES

The council received apologies from Cllr. Hill, Cllr Blackmore

RESOLVED to accept apologies received from Cllr. Hill & Blackmore with reasons for absence.

1582 MINUTES

RESOLVED: Approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 14th June 2022

There were no questions arising from those minutes.

1583 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

1584 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no chairs announcements.

1585 OPEN FORUM

Mr B Mitchell: When I have visited the museum recently, I was disappointed compared to our old museum. We seem to have more floor space and less exhibits. I felt disappointed with your drawer system. Why are we pushing away our famous people like Pitman and Crabbe? We should be celebrating our history not just in the woollen trade, but other important things of the town like engineering, and Spitfire factory. Where are all these things? If you want to know what our town is about read Ken's books. Why have we gone to the expense of extending our museum but we are displaying less?

Hannah Lyddy: In the past history is often viewed through the lens of white middle class male we are keen to move away from this perspective and tell all the history of the town. Pitman and Crabbe are important figures in the town's history. In the case of Pitman, he is mentioned in five locations of the museum. Crabbe is also mentioned in several locations in the museum.

If Councillors feel we have missed something in the story of Pitman and Crabbe then please let us know. We cannot please everyone's opinions on how we display things and some display are still a work in progress.

Initial EB.....

1586 **MANAGERS REPORT**

The committee considered the managers' report and the recommendation that the museum closes on a Monday.

RESOLVED that the museum close on a Monday until, such time, as staff levels are sufficient to enable it.

Points to note from the report:

Cllr Cooper: It would be interesting if we could tie in the makers craft meeting with the warm rooms.

Nicky Ritson: We are registered on The Global warm room initiative register; we are the only one in Wiltshire registered

Cllr. Piazza: It is all good and positive, do we advertise that we are succeeding with our apprenticeships, not just with the museum but also as a council. Do we put on social media saying we are making a success and that we do have apprenticeships?

Cllr. Cavill: I am in favour of the suggestion and in favour of apprenticeships. My suggestion is we ask what we do as a council to be brought up in P&R as an HR thing.

Cllr Cooper: Could we have a nod to history further back, the History of Wessex etc. rather than just the textile industry?

Nicky Riston: As part of the expansion with the heritage lottery, we did have to consult the public the result was, that people wanted the textile story to be the dominating story, with other stories added to it.

Hannah Lyddy: It is important that this committee govern us, the museum, as whole and not just individual councillor's opinions. You all have valid opinions, but we cannot run a museum bending to the will of individuals. However if this committee as a whole, have stories that they vote on and the recommendation is put forward and it is decided that that is the direction the committee wants to move in, then that is a different matter.

1587 **PLACING OF MUSEUM EXIBITS**

To consider the placing of the spinning wheel

RESOLVED: The committee agreed to place this onto the agenda for the next committee meeting

1588 **QUARTERLY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS**

The committee considered the Q1 accounts

RESOLVED to approve the Q1 accounts

1589 **FRIENDS OF TROWBRIDGE MUSEUM**

There was no report from the Friends of Trowbridge Museum.

1590 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

20th December 2022

28th March 2022

Initial 

1591 MEDIA RELEASE

The council considered if the council should make a press/social media post regarding any issues considered by this meeting.

RESOLVED: A media release promoting the opening of the Reseach Library in November.

Action H Lyddy to organise.

The meeting closed at 19:10

Signature.....*Chwbridges*..... Dated.....*20.12.22*.....

Initial.....*GB*.....

