

## **Board of Trustees**

### **Minutes**

Date: 02 July 2015 (224th meeting)

Time: 13.15-15.45

Venue: Conference Room 2, Design Dundee Ltd, Enterprise House, 3 Greenmarket, Dundee

Present: Sir Paul Ruddock (Chair) Dame Theresa Sackler

João BaptistaMark SebbaNicholas ColeridgeCaroline SilverProfessor Margot FinnSir John SorrellAndrew HochhauserRobert Stefanowski

Steve McGuckin

In attendance: Martin Roth, Director, V&A

Emmajane Avery, Director of Learning and Visitor Experience, V&A

Heather Francis, Director of Finance & Resources, V&A

Steve Hyde, Acting Director of Design, Exhibitions & FuturePlan, V&A

Jane Lawson, Director of Development, V&A

Beth McKillop, Deputy Director, V&A

Tim Reeve, Deputy Director & Chief Operating Officer, V&A

Jennifer Schussler, Acting Secretary to the Board of Trustees, V&A (minutes)

Alex Stitt, Director of Commercial & Digital Development, V&A

Phil Long, Director of the V&A Museum of Design Dundee (for item 4) Kieran Long, Keeper of Design, Architecture & Digital, V&A (for item 6)

Julia Downer, PA to the Deputy Director and COO & Governance Officer, V&A (observation)

Apologies: Mark Damazer Michelle Ogundehin

Dr. Paul Thompson Edmund de Waal

Professor Evelyn Welch

The Chairman noted that it was the last Board meeting for Bob Stefanowski and Michelle Ogundehin, who sent her apologies. The Chairman invited both trustees to the September Board meeting, which shortly follows the end of their terms, to allow an appropriate send-off.

### 1 Declaration of Interests

1.1 There were no declarations of interest.

### 2 Minutes of the previous meeting

2.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were approved by the Board.

## 3 Matters arising

3.1 There were no matters arising.

## 4 Presentation on V&A Museum of Design Dundee

- The Chairman thanked Phil Long PL) and the Design Dundee Ltd team for hosting the meeting, and for the tour of the construction site which preceded the meeting.
- PL presented an update on the progress of the project. Construction is at an early stage, but there are good reports on the physical delivery, and the compelling project vision and business planning is building confidence in the project. PL updated the Trustees on the developing plans for temporary exhibitions, pre-opening programme and learning engagement.
- 4.3 The Trustees' discussion focused on the fit out of the building, anticipated visitor figures and infrastructure in Dundee, staffing and overall visitor experience.

## 5 Performance Report

Tim Reeve presented the Performance Report, including visitor figures, which are performing well due to the popularity of temporary exhibitions and displays in South Kensington and the Museum of Childhood. The report also covered progress on the Shekou Design Museum, Exhibition Road and Europe galleries projects, Year of Mexico programming and Wi-Fi installation.

# 6 Olympicopolis Update

- 6.1 Kieran Long presented an update on the current stage of the design process for the V&A in the Education and Cultural Quarter at the Olympic Park. KL provided context for the competition-winning masterplan scheme, and talked through the architects plans as they currently stand
- The Trustees' discussion focused on the identity and synergies of the V&A and partners in Olympicopolis.

## 7 Annual Report for sign off

- 7.1 Heather Francis presented the draft 2014-15 Annual Report to the Board for their approval. The Report had been reviewed by the Trustee Audit and Finance Committees, and approved by them both with minor amendments. The auditors had also approved the Report. The V&A has approval from the Minister of Culture to lay the Report before Parliament on 14 July.
- 7.2 The Board gave their approval for the Director and Chairman to sign the report.

## 8 Director's Report

- 8.1 The Report had been circulated prior to the meeting.
- 8.2 The Director updated trustees on the following matters:
  - Alexander McQueen: Savage Beauty has received an increase in VIP visitors and the process of welcoming will be reviewed for future exhibitions.
  - The Network of Applied Art and Design Museums was successfully launched at the Vienna Biennale with 42 colleagues attending.
- 8.3 The Board noted the outstanding contribution and efforts of curator Claire Wilcox on the *Alexander McQueen: Savage Beauty* exhibition.

## 9 Chairman's Report

- 9.1 The Chairman reported on discussions with the new Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, The Rt Hon John Whittingdale.
- 9.2 The Chairman reported on discussions with Hannah Rothschild, Chair of the National Gallery, which included ideas for increasing and reinvigorating the support that the national museums offer to local museums and galleries around the UK.

## 10 Reports from Committees

#### 10.1 Collections Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 June had been circulated previously.

Beth McKillop presented the proposal to deaccession the Sizergh Castle Room panelling and bedframe and transfer ownership to the National Trust, which currently holds them on long term loan. Trustees discussed the grounds for deaccession and the benefits of transferring the maintenance of the objects. The Board gave their approval to deaccession the objects.

#### 10.2 Audit Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 June had been circulated previously.

### 10.3 Research Advisory Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 June had been circulated previously.

## 10.4 Technology Strategy Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 June had been circulated previously.

## 10.5 VAE Board

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 June had been circulated previously.

### 10.6 Finance Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 June had been circulated previously.

#### 10.7 Investment Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 June had been circulated previously.

## 10.8 **Development Report**

The report had been circulated previously.

### 11 AOB

The Chairman thanked Steve Hyde for standing in as the Director of Design, Exhibitions and FuturePlan while a replacement was found. David Bickle will begin in the role in August 2015.

| Jennifer Schussler, 6 July 2015 | Jenni | fer Sci | hussler | . 6 Jul | V 201 |
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| Signed                    |     |
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| (Sir Paul Ruddock, Chairm | an) |