



Board of Trustees

Minutes

Date: 23 January 2014 (215th meeting)

Time: 14.00

Venue: V&A Board Room

Present:	Samir Shah (Deputy Chair)	Theresa Sackler
	Nicholas Coleridge	Sir John Sorrell
	Mark Damazer	Robert Stefanowski
	Professor Margot Finn	Paul Thompson
	Michelle Ogundehin	Professor Evelyn Welch

In attendance: Kate Bellamy, Head of National and International and Secretary to the Board of Trustees, V&A (minutes)

Moir Gemmill, Director of Projects, Design & Estate, V&A

Fraser Jopp, Director of Finance, V&A

Beth McKillop, Deputy Directory, V&A

Richard Wilkinson, Director of On-Line, Logistics and Fulfilment, V&A

Tim Reeve, Chief Operating Officer, V&A

Damien Whitmore, Director of Public Affairs & Programming, V&A

Apologies: João Baptista

Edwin Davies

Andrew Hochhauser

Sir Paul Ruddock (Chairman)

Steve McGuckin

Edmund de Waal

Martin Roth, Director, V&A

Jane Lawson, Director of Development, V&A

Vernon Rapley, Head of Security and Visitor Services, V&A

1 Declaration of Interests

1.1 There were no declarations of interest.

2 Minutes of the previous meeting (21 November 2013)

2.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with minor amendments.

3 Matters arising

3.1 Moira Gemmill, Director of Projects, Design & Estate, informed Trustees that the Exhibition

Road building contract had been let to Wates.

4 Learning Strategy Update Presentation

Emmajane Avery

- 4.1 Emmajane Avery, Head of Learning, presented to the Trustees on the V&A's Learning Strategy. The presentation covered: schools programmes, community programmes, creative industries and higher education programmes, cross museum working and key principles 2012-2015. The presentation was well received and Trustees welcomed the work of the Learning Department.
- 4.2 EJA was asked about the impact of the Exhibition Road development on the work of the Learning Department. EJA explained her team will be delivering the programme during the Exhibition Road development using alternative spaces in the Museum.
- 4.3 Topics of discussion included the Learning Department's relationship with the Museum of Childhood, the use of digital tools such as iPads in learning sessions, collaborations between Learning and the Research Department, and Learning Department targets. The Board asked about constraints on ever higher participation rates in the learning programme. EJA explained that the lunchroom capacity presented a barrier.
- 4.4 A discussion was held on the Learning Department's provision for students in Higher Education. EJA explained that there is a dedicated member of staff based between V&A South Kensington and Blythe House who supports and engages universities in use of the Clothworkers' Centre. Future events and programmes in relation to Higher Education were discussed.

5 Trustee Relationships with Museum Departments

Kate Bellamy

- 5.1 A paper had been circulated to Trustees in advance. Trustees spoke favourably of the initiative.
ACTION: Trustees were asked to submit their suggestions for departmental relationships going forward.

6 Director's Report

- 6.1 The Report had been circulated prior to the meeting.
- 6.2 Martin Roth, Director of the V&A was at the World Economic Forum in Davos. In MER's absence, Beth McKillop and Tim Reeve updated the Board on the following points:
 - The V&A's visitor figures were higher for the last calendar year than any other year.
 - The V&A has recently digitised and made available online the list of 'Degenerate Art' given to the Museum by the widow of Heinrich Robert (Harry) Fischer.
 - Professor Bill Sherman has started as Head of Research.
 - The Masterpieces of Chinese Painting 700-1900 exhibition received fantastic media coverage with good commercial results.
 - The Board offered their congratulations to Martin Barnes, Senior Curator for Photographs who received the Royal Photographic Society J Dudley Johnston Award for 2013.
 - On 31 January 2014, there will be an announcement regarding Heritage Lottery

Fund funding for V&A Dundee.

- The Museum is recruiting for a new Commercial Director.

10 Chairman's Report

11 Reports from Committees and VAE Board

11.1 Collections Committee

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 2 December had been circulated previously.

11.2 Finance Committee

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 3 December had been circulated previously.

11.3 Investment Committee

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 3 December had been circulated previously.

11.4 Technology Strategy Committee

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 5 December had been circulated previously.

- A Visitor Experience Committee will be formed at the V&A
- Kati Price, Head of Digital Media, is putting together a new dashboard for performance of the Museum in the digital sphere. Progress on this will be reported to Trustees.

11.5 Museum of Childhood Committee

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 10 December had been circulated previously.

- The Afro Super Hero exhibition had strong attendance.
- The display of "confiscated objects" received good press coverage.
- A senior working group will be set up to look at Museum of Childhood and FuturePlan.

11.6 Development

The Development report had been circulated previously.

- The Development Department are seeking additional members for the Development Advisory Board.

12 Any Other Business

- 12.1** Tim Reeve provided an update on the proposed Shekou Museum partnership with CMPD, which is in the advanced stages of contract negotiation, with some issues still to be resolved.

Kate Bellamy
31 January 2014

Signed _____
(Samir Shah, Deputy Chairman)