

FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL/HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Fareham Museum Joint Management Committee

*Minutes of a meeting held on 22 June 2009
at Westbury Manor, Fareham*

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs C L A Hockley (Fareham)
(Chairman)

Councillor J V Bryant (Hampshire)
(Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: D C S Swanbrow (Fareham)

Other representatives: Mrs B Clapperton (Friends of Fareham Museum)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R H Price, JP (Hampshire) and Councillor M F Godrich (Friends of Fareham Museum).

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that, the minutes of the meeting of the Fareham Museum Joint Management Committee held on 25 March 2009, be confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to an amendment to note an apology for absence received from Councillor J V Bryant (Hampshire) ([fm-090325-m](#)).

3. WESTBURY MANOR MUSEUM - PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT AND EDUCATION UPDATE

The Joint Management Committee considered a report by Thomas de Wit, Community Curator providing an update on the general progress and performance of the Museum and an additional report by Emma Hart, Education Officer which provided a summary of Schools Education to date (copy of report [fm-090622-progress report](#) and [fm-090622-education update](#) appended to signed minutes).

(a) Events Programme

It was reported that since the last meeting of the Committee the Museum had held numerous events, as listed below:-

- The Lost Archives - Treasure Map, Archaeology and mystery maze making day
- Fareham Photograph History Day
- Treasure Hunter's Hieroglyphics Mystery Trail and explorer's activities
- Fabric Fashions Craft Workshop
- Textiles and Visual Arts Roadshow

All had proved to be a great success throughout March to June, particularly the Textiles and Visual Arts Roadshow, recently held to tie in with the Town Centre festivities. A series of events took place that had attracted a large number of visitors, these included:-

- Mouth and Foot Painting Artists Association;
- Explore Ghana through drumming, art and textiles; and
- T.E.A.B.A.G (The Education and Book Appeal: Ghana)

Forthcoming events at Westbury Manor Museum over the coming months included:-

- Dragon Quest and Mythical Makes
- Knights and Princesses
- Stories of Myths and Legends
 - Create your own Myths and Legends: Storytelling Workshop and Drama Workshop
- Family History Day
- Children's Woodcarving Workshop
- Vintage Provincial Bus Trip along Portsdown Hill and Admiralty Surface Weapons Establishment (ASWE) - It was noted that no bookings would be taken for this particular event until August
- Arrrgh! Halloween!
- Christmas Crackers

(b) Exhibitions Programme

It was reported that since the last meeting of the Committee, numerous exhibitions at taken place at the Museum, as listed below:-

- Raiders of the Lost Archives - The Lost Photographs of Fareham
It was reported that the exhibit was well utilised by members of the public but that being able to use the facilities on offer due to popularity and demand was difficult. Officers reported that they would look into time allocation at future exhibitions to allow fair access for all.

- Fabric of a Nation - Textiles and Identity in Modern Ghana

Forthcoming exhibitions at Westbury Manor Museum over the coming months included:-

- Myths and Legends;
- Lord Lee, Chequers and the Fareham Brooches;
- Discover ASWE, Discover your Family;
- Fareham Woodcarvers; and
- Ladybird Make and Do.

(c) Pride of Place

It was noted that the Pride of Place was in the process of hosting a model engines display marking 40 years of Fareham Model Engineers including moving and archive film footage of steam engines as well as displays of models such as Ford vans etc.

Previous displays had included the Fareham Tourist Information Centre's 25th anniversary display which had proved a big success and a collection of old trade vans showing many different company liveries.

(d) Recent Developments and Future Plans

The following recent development and future plans for the Museum were noted:-

- It was noted that following the success of the Raiders of the Lost Archives exhibition, work was being carried out to make archives live on the website to enable local residents to access the resource and to draw visitors to the website. Copyright issues were currently being investigated in order to make this achievable.
- It was reported that high speed record-breaking aviator Peter Twiss had been successfully recorded and filmed at his home in Titchfield in April and that this footage would be used as important local archive for the future.
- Advice had been taken from the Hampshire County Council Retail Consultant regarding the generation of income from the Museum Shop and it was noted that new stock was being purchased and different ways of presenting goods was being investigated.
- Hampshire County Council had changed their department name from Recreation and Heritage (R&H) to Culture, Communities and Rural Affairs (CCRA)

(e) Visitor Figures

A table of visitor numbers is shown below:-

Visitor Figures Table Below:

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	2192	2183	1729	CLOSED	2858	2374	2964
February	3291	2848	2936	1990	2557	3499	3182
	5483	5031	4666	1990	5415	5873	
March	2182	2164	2342	1850	2511	1943	3368
TOTAL	Figs for Year Apr.- Mar	32,201	32,825	20,840	32,621	31,217	34,743 (+11%)
April	2551	2268	2423	2396	2173	3222	3118
May	2833	2926	2153	2690	2546	2782	2138
June	4015	3523	2448	2470	2887	2671	
July	2992	2926	3126	2576	2574	2654	
August	2612	3534	3090	3632	3171	3437	
Sept.	2351	3549	1601	3174	2553	2813	
October	3132	3537	949	3219	3019	2921	
November	2765	2851	CLOSED	2459	2546	2491	
December	2144	2017	CLOSED	2079	2134	2162	

Following discussion of the visitor figures members of the Committee were advised of the matrix that was currently being considered at Community Action Team (CAT) meetings regarding the division of Council Tax received by Fareham and spent on local services of which the Museum service receives a proportion.

Members of the public, as well as Fareham Borough Council (FBC) employees had been asked to prioritise the services that FBC provides from the proportion of Council Tax it receives. Officers felt that further promotion of the Museum Service was vital in achieving a higher priority status among the community and showing what the service had to offer.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) the reports be received and noted; and
- (b) the Community Curator and the Education Officer be thanked for their work undertaken;
- (c) the Community Curator liaise with officers regarding links to one another's websites; and
- (d) the officers consider the possibility of a training event prior to the Community Policy Development and Review Panel regarding the Museum Service and liaise with the Community Curator accordingly.

4. PRESENTATION ON THE MUSEUM SERVICE EXHIBITION TEAM

The Committee received a presentation by Nick Suffolk, Museums Officer for Hampshire regarding the work undertaken by the Museum Service Exhibitions Team who deliver the following services:-

- Local access to national treasures;
- Targeted and focussed programming to deliver exhibitions to fulfil specific and identified community needs;
- Ability to share costs of expensive exhibitions across the county; and
- Ability to compliment locally focussed and locally produced exhibitions in order to provide local community with rich & varied cultural experience.

RESOLVED that the Museum Service posters be displayed in all 42 of Fareham Borough Council's community notice-boards across the Borough to contribute in informing the community of what is on offer at the Museum.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED that the date of the next meeting of the Fareham Museum Joint Management Committee will be held on Monday, 14 September 2009 at 10am in Westbury Manor Museum.

*(The meeting started at 10.00am
and ended at 11.20am)*