

THE WALLACE COLLECTION
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING

Thursday 20 October 2022, 13:30 at Hertford House

PRESENT

Jessica Pulay (JP or the Chair)
Eric Ellul (EE)
Kate de Rothschild Agius (KdRA)
James Barnard (JB)
Marilyn Berk (MB)
Sophie Birshan (SB)
Ashok Roy (AR)
Timothy Schroder (TS)
Alison Taylor (AT)
Lord Hertford (LH)

IN ATTENDANCE

Xavier Bray, Director (XB)
Melanie Newlands, Director of Finance and Commerce (MN)
Sarah Harmer, Director of Development (SH)
Lauren Turner, Head Development and Communications (LT, for item 7)
Francesca Vella Bonnici, Assistant to the Directorate (minutes)

APOLOGIES

Pierre Arizzoli-Clémentel
Jane Lewis

1. CHAIR'S MATTERS

The Chair welcomed and thanked the Board. No apologies had been received. The Chair reported that EE has accepted to act as Deputy Chair to the Board. EE will also serve as acting Chair for the Investment Committee.

No disclosures of interest were made. The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT (XB)

The Chair asked XB to present his Director's report.

XB noted how instrumental *Inspiring Walt Disney: The Animation of French Decorative Arts* was in keeping momentum at TWC. He discussed the new Richard III display, which has been mounted in the former Cloakroom and stated that the display had been well received by both the press and the public. He noted that visitor numbers to the display had been encouraging and that the Disney show had reached more than 40,000 visitors. The Chair congratulated XB and the team on the success of Disney.

3. LOANS (XB)

XB summarised the loans which the Committee did not recommend. He then presented a loan request the Wallace Collection had received which the Trustees went on to approve.

4. AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT (AT)

The most recent Audit Committee meeting was held on 5 October, and AT gave a summary of the minutes from that meeting.

5. FINANCE REPORT (MN)

MN highlighted the key points from the Management Accounts to the end of August 2022.

6. DEVELOPMENT REPORT (KdRA, SH)

KdRA spoke about the new Wallace Collection Development Board designed to assist with the Wallace Collection's forthcoming Masterplan. SH highlighted significant donations including the funding of a Collection Registrar position. She also noted donations made for the refurbishment of the Cloakroom and of the Wallace Fountain. SH provided updates on the Fundraising targets.

7. VISITOR REPORT (LT, SH)

LT joined the meeting

SH drew the Trustees' attention to some of the key findings of the Visitor Report which covered the period April 2021 – March 2022. During this time there were still issues relating to COVID-19. SH and LT reported that TWC had seen a 544% increase in visitor numbers since the previous year. They noted the Collection's high number of first-time visitors, and visitors aged 16-24.

LT left the meeting

8. AOB

TS presented on the Board Apprentice Pilot Programme.

The Chair finished by thanking SMT once more for their work. The Chair ended the meeting.

Trustees' in camera session.