



# Board of Trustees

26 April 2012  
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, London

## MINUTES

Paula Ridley (Chair)  
Paul Clarke  
Freddie Gick  
Helen Marcus  
Martin Meredith  
Neil Sinden  
David Tittle  
John Walker

### 1. Apologies and welcomes

There were apologies from David Lovie and Paul Clarke and Helen Marcus were welcomed to the meeting following their election through the trustee ballot.

### 2. Minutes of meeting of 8 September 2011

The September Minutes were signed and there were no matters arising.

### 3/4 Staff issues

In confidence

### 5. Projects

Paul Clarke suggested that when the new Director is announced that they should appear by video clip on the website. This was agreed.

The Board discussed the start of the English Heritage project, the need to find alternative premises for London meetings (Neil Sinden offered the use of CPRE's meeting room) and the issue of whether we would need the desk space currently rented from CPRE for the new Director. The Chair agreed to speak to the incoming Director about this.

6. It was agreed we should look at the Big Lottery for funding, and start a corporate funding strategy and approach with the new Director.

7. FG said that raising the profile of **Civic Day** would be more difficult given the Diamond Jubilee. It had been decided to focus on *Civic month*, and societies could brand whatever they do on whatever date as Civic Day. Civic Societies' activity would be on the website. The budget was £7000.

### 8. Planning Panel

Michael Hammerson (London), Peter Lee (Peterborough), David Tittle (Board) and Andrew Pannel (Chester) would be joining the Panel. The Chair was meeting Dave Chetwyn shortly.

## 9. Communications

DT said that communications needed to be clearer. The Board discussed the communications change that IH had recently introduced with a communication to members virtually every week, and it was thought this was maybe too much and that there was not enough differentiation between bulletins.

The Board also discussed:

- The legacy for civic leadership. DT agreed to be in touch with IH on this. He favoured a focus on 'what does a 5\* civic society look like?'
- The book on the history of Civic Societies, FG to oversee
- The future of Common Voice
- The future of the Civic Panel and the Civic Forum proposed by IH
- The results of the Civic Survey and when to publish them
- The success measures look fine but will need to be reviewed under the new Director
- Representation on the HODs Futures Group which PR had been invited to join and of which DL was also a member.

## 10. Finance

The Treasurer had prepared the accounts and it is clear that while we are fine for the next year to 18 months, fundraising during this financial year will be crucial. Membership renewals were holding up well, but the full picture would not be available until the end of May.

## 11. AGM.

IH had said that members thought the business part of the meeting went on too long so it was agreed to shorten it, and to offer members workshop alternatives to tours. Two members of the Board had to stand down for the elections. Two of FG, JW, DL and DT should stand down (though could stand again). They agreed that they would prefer this to be done by drawing lots and the Chair agreed to facilitate this with IH. The Chair and Treasurer would need to be re-elected in 2013.

## 14. Any other business

A briefing could be arranged for the President for his imminent appearance on the Politics show if required.