

## DAVENTRY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Museum Committee held at Daventry Town Council, 3 New Street, Daventry, NN11 4BT on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 18:30hrs

**PRESENT:** Dawn Branigan – Chair

**Councillors:**

Mike Arnold  
Lynn Jones  
Lynne Taylor

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Sophie Good - Development & Liaison Officer (DLO)  
Sarah Fox – Responsible Finance Officer (RFO)  
Rod Viveash – Volunteer Museum Curator (VMC)

0 Members of the public

0 Members of the Press

### OPEN FORUM

None.

### M67.1. APOLOGIES

<b>RESOLVED:</b>	That apologies for Cllrs Carter and Nicholl be approved.
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### M67.2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

### M67.3. MINUTES

<b>RESOLVED:</b>	That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 <sup>th</sup> October 2021 (Appendix 1) having been circulated, be approved and signed as a correct record.
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### M67.4. COMMITTEE BUDGET

- (i) Members reviewed the income and expenditure up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 (Appendix 2). The RFO spoke to the report and advised members that the report showed the year end figures and that there are a couple of areas of overspend however, the overall spend was within budget. Members noted the report.
- (ii) Members reviewed Museum's Annual Donation report (Appendix 3). The RFO advised there was no change to the figures within the report. Members noted the report.

### M67.5. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HERITAGE FORUM (NHF) AWARDS – DAVENTRY MUSEUM SHORTLISTED FOR PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

The DLO advised members that the museum had been shortlisted for the People's Choice Award at the Northamptonshire Heritage Forum Awards 2022, to be held at Northampton Museum and Art Gallery in July 2022. The DLO advised members that the VMC and DLO will be interviewed by John Griff of BBC Radio Northampton in May, during which time online and paper voting will commence, for which promotion is scheduled. The DLO confirmed to members that the museum will enter the British Science Week event held in March 2022 into the *Best Event* category at the NHF Awards, as well as entering the Victorian Leisure exhibition held in 2022 into the *Best Exhibition* category.

#### **M67.6. BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK EVENT – OUR SOLAR SYSTEM TALKS**

The DLO advised members that in celebration of British Science Week, on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March the museum partnered with UK Astronomy and hosted free, family-friendly, talks about the solar system. The DLO advised members that the museum received positive feedback regarding the talks and that the partnership between the museum and UK Astronomy will continue at next year's event. The DLO advised members that after each talk, which was pre-booked via Eventbrite, visitors were then invited to explore the museum to take part in fun, hands-on activities including creating moon craters with sand. Over 40 children completed the museum's activity packs to be in for a chance of winning a prize, and all children taking part took home a goody bag to remember their space adventure.

#### **M67.7. EARTH MUSEUM PROJECT**

The DLO spoke to her report and advised members that museum's partnership with the Earth Museum continues and that the next set of museum items will be added to the museum's interactive map, which pinpoints 50 items from the museum's collection. The DLO spoke to her report and highlighted to members the new bookmarks featuring the QR code to the interactive map and the museum's Roman mosaic fragment and Reginald Foort's piano. The DLO further advised that QR codes to the map, what's on page, self-guided walks, and virtual tours are included in the new museum leaflet.

#### **M67.8. TIME CAPSULE PROJECT WITH ORBIT HOMES**

Members reviewed the Time Capsule Project report (Appendix 5) outlining the school aged children engagement project, in partnership with Orbit Homes at their new Micklewell Park housing development. The DLO presented the time capsule competition sheet to members, which asks children to draw, or write a poem or newspaper report about what life in Daventry might look like in 2100. Members noted the report.

#### **M67.9. ACQUISITIONS**

(i) Simcock Clock

The DLO advised members that the museum successfully applied for the Museums Association Beecroft Bequest grant and purchased the Simcock clock on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022, having been awarded the grant in December 2021. The Simcock clock is on permanent display within the museum. Members noted the acquisition.

(ii) Acquisitions of artefacts from local residents

The DLO advised members that the museum has acquired several small collections of Daventry memorabilia from local residents including ephemera and documents relating to the town, maps of the town and school photos, veterinary memorabilia and scouting memorabilia. Members noted the acquisitions

#### **M67.10. MUSEUM ACTIVITIES**

The DLO spoke to her report (Appendix 6) and highlighted the recent Covid Response Award from the Northamptonshire Heritage Forum, and that the virtual 360° tours were still being developed as an alternative, online offer to visiting the museum. The DLO spoke to her report and highlighted to members the current and upcoming exhibitions, as well as pointing out the positive feedback from repeat visitors and new visitors. The DLO further commented on the visitor figures in the report, advising members visitor figures were steadily increasing and that popular times were during the school holidays. The DLO spoke to her report and advised members that the volunteers are an integral part of the museum and that new volunteers had joined. Cllr Taylor commended the

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community engagement and outreach that the museum service provides, and commented that this was an area being built on year on year which was evidenced by the steady increase in visitor numbers.

**M67.11. CORRESPONDENCE**

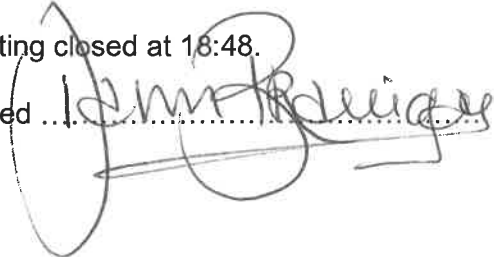
None.

**M67.12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

- (i) Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 – on the conclusion of the Annual Town Meeting, to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair of the committee for the council year 2022/23.
- (ii) Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Meeting closed at 18:48.

Signed .....



Date .....

17.10.2022