

29 June 2012

**MERTON PRIORY TRUST**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING WEDNESDAY 14 JUNE 2012**

**1. PRESENT**

Chair: Marcus Beale (MB),  
Cllr Maurice Groves (MG),  
Cllr Geraldine Stanford (GS),  
Cllr Nick Draper (ND),  
Vicki Carroll (VC),  
David Saxby (DS),  
Nicholas Hart (NH),  
Cyril Maidment (CM),  
Dave Roberts (DR),  
John Hawks (JH)

**ACTION**

**2. APOLOGIES**

Richard Lancaster (RL), Angela Gorman (AG), Cllr Richard Chellew, Jane Sidell

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Approved.

**4. MATTERS ARISING**

- The meeting welcomed and adopted AG's final report.
- DR will investigate procedure for Gift Aiding donations and forward the form for donors to sign.
- Do we have an exact figure for the S106 monies? These are accounted for and Lone Levay used to give us regular updates. MB will suggest this to RL.

**DR**

**MB**

**5. STRATEGY/FUNDING**

MB reported on progress as follows:

- MB presented the current designs for plan and section of "Phase 1", as agreed at the Trust's previous meeting. Meeting discussed these in detail and approved with thanks to MB, who had prepared them pro bono. MB to develop the design and prepare for public consultation on the plans. **MB**
- Stephen Tandy of Pierce Hill has prepared a cost estimate (previously emailed) with a construction cost of approximately £625,000. Meeting asked for their grateful thanks to be passed to him for a considerable piece of work, also pro bono. **MB**
- The costing does not include VAT or professional fees. It may be that LBMerton can be the Employer under the contract and thus VAT will not be an issue. DR, RL to investigate. But the total cost will be more than the construction cost. **DR/RL**
- Note also that the educational/community/web resource aspect of the project is not included in the costings, which are for the construction and fitting out only.
- Stephen Crabtree, Project Manager for the Living Wandle HLF bid, is including Merton Priory in the bid and is hopeful that between £100,000 and £200,000 could be allocated to the Priory project. This, together with the Section 106 fund, meant that the majority of Phase I funding is in sight.
- MB and DS attended HLF's presentation at Morden Hall Stables, which had been encouraging. HLF London chair Wesley Kerr explicitly referred to the Merton Priory project in his speech. DS informed the meeting that HLF confirmed to him that they can fund new buildings. HLF can also fund a heritage/education officer/curator for an initial period.
- MPT's bid is strengthened by the available match funding, including costed voluntary time from the start of the Living Wandle project (i.e. July 2011).
- MB/JH will prepare a 15 minute contribution to the Partnership's presentation to the HLF on 24 July 2012. Full, costed proposals will then be needed in September 2012. Important to be emphasise the educational and community aspects of the project. **MB/JH**
- Enabling works pre Phase I will continue as agreed, e.g. sand clearance (not included in the costing). MB and JH will review the scope of this in the light of the new plan - it will need some of the Section 106 funds, but some might be funded by separate small grants. **MB/JH**

- DS will survey of the floor levels, and advise MB on the archaeological levels. **DS**
- MB outlined his vision for a Phase II addressing the northern boundary of the enclosure. The construction of the road bridge would allow for the northern part of the platform above to be removed, allowing a new structure to emerge above the road level. This is a longer term plan and will need to be coordinated with Sainsbury's/M&S etc.

#### **7. REGULAR PROGRESS MEETINGS**

MB reported on recent meeting with MB/RL/NH.

#### **8. MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

No progress to report. RL is chasing and we will monitor progress.

**RL**

#### **9. EVENTS**

June 2/3 (Wandle Weekend) was slow owing to the Jubilee and poor weather, but quality of visitors made up for lack of quantity. Some school visits etc. are planned, next public opening dates are July 14 (Pilgrimage), July 28/29 (Festival of British Archaeology), August 27 Kidsfest (?), September 22/23 (London Open House), September 29/30 (Merton Arts Trail)

**DS/JH/NH/MH**

#### **10. SHORT TERM PRIORITIES**

The sand has been successfully removed for £600. Skips will be hired for removing bags and other debris. All in hand.

**JH/RL**

#### **11. SHORT-TERM PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

MB has written to RL, who will discuss with James McGinlay

**RL**

#### **12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

#### **13 . DATE OF NEXT TRUST MEETING**

Thursday 20 September at 5pm in the Chapter House.

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