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## MUSEUMS COMMITTEE

10 SEPTEMBER 2018

Present: Councillors Forward (Chair), P Barnett (as the duly appointed substitute for Cllr Levane), K Beaney, Bishop, O'Callaghan, Patmore, Sinden and Webb

Museum Association Representatives: Mrs Barrett, Mrs Purdey, Mr Peak, Mr Palfrey-Martin and Mr Geoffrey Dudman.

### 135. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Levane.

### 136. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Councillors declared an interest in the minutes:

Councillors	Minute Number	Interest
Webb	5 – The Curators Report	Personal – Member of East Sussex County Council
O'Callaghan	5 – The Curators Report	Personal - Member of Member of Hastings and St Leonards Association. (Recently appointed, has not yet attended any meetings)

A minutes silence was paid to Ion Castro, a former member of the Museum Association who had recently passed away. The Chair paid tribute to him, for his contribution to the museum.

The Chair welcomed Damian Etherington, the new Museum and Cultural Development Manager.

### 137. NOTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL URGENT ITEMS

None.

### 138. CURATORS REPORT

Catherine Harvey, Curator of Art and World Cultures, presented a report to update members on issues arising from previous meetings and confirmation of curator's actions, with visitor figures and information on exhibitions and events.

Since the publication of the agenda, Members were advised that the Museum and Schools Officer had been appointed following the interviews held on 28<sup>th</sup> August. The Museum and Schools Officer will develop new relationships with schools to increase uptake. Funded by DFE, the project will run for two years until March 2020.

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It was noted that the family events held this quarter had been very well attended and that the Museum is able to deliver on high profile events, generating large numbers of new visitors.

Members raised concern regarding issues concerning mould on the artefacts and risks involved in moving them. They questioned whether it would be possible to investigate storage space in the Town Hall. The Curator of Art and World Cultures said the store had a full deep clean and there had been no further evidence of deterioration. Offsite investigations suggest there may be empty rooms in Town Hall for permanent safe storage which she said she would investigate.

The Museum and Cultural Development Manager advised that he will be working four days a week at Museum and one day at Muriel Matters House on the second floor.

Mrs Purdey proposed a motion to recommend the resolution as set out below. This was seconded by Mr Palfrey-Martin.

**RESOLVED (unanimously) that the committee accepts and is satisfied with the comments in the report.**

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at. 3.28 pm)