

**Agenda Item No:** 5

**Report to:** Museums Committee

**Date of Meeting:** 28 June 2010

**Report Title:** Curator's Report

**Report By:** Cathy Walling  
Museum Curator

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**Purpose of Report**

to provide an update on issues from previous meetings and confirmation of Curator's actions

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**Recommendation(s)**

1. the report is for noting

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**Reasons for Recommendations**

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## Introduction

This report updates members on matters carried over from previous meetings and other items not included on the agenda.

### 1. Report on Curator's meeting with Cllr Webb

The Curator met with Cllr Webb at the Museum on 11 June 2010 to discuss priorities for the Museum service.

Following the departure of the previous Curator and subsequent changes in curatorial staffing levels, there will have to be a re-focusing of some of the Museum's activities. It was suggested that a site visit for members to look specifically at the core museum functions of collections management balanced with the priority of attracting visitors might be of interest. This visit could take place before or at the next Museums Committee meeting in September.

Other issues were raised during the discussion including storage of archaeological material, disposals to other museums and outstanding access issues in the Dinosaur Gallery.

The draft Museum Forward Plan 2010 - 2013 will be presented at the next Museums Committee meeting in September for comment.

### 2. Reproduction of Museum Exhibits

Permission has been given for the following reproduction of illustrations in the Museum Collection.

20 photographs of the Pier for use by the PIER Trust for graphic information panels.

Photograph of the Pier for chapter by Angela Davis in a still untitled book edited by Kay Green of Early Works Press.

3 prints of America Ground for use in Hastings Trust publicity.

Selection of prints, maps and photographs for a History Panel in new Station Plaza Health Centre.

34 photographs of firebacks and copy of water-colour of wooden fireback pattern for use in 'British cast-Iron Firebacks' by Jeremy Hodgkinson.

### 3. Permission for film screening

Permission has been given to Electric Palace Cinema to screen films onto the window of the Old Town Hall Museum during Old Town Week on 5 August.

This is part of the Hidden Connections project, supported by Screen South which Beatrice Rapley, the Stade Education Officer, has been working on. The project is to bring archive film footage to public attention and part of the funding agreement is to hold public screening events, three of which have already taken place at the Bathing Pool site, the East Hill Lift opening and the WRVS Old Town Day.

### 4. Statues and Memorials

Following the report to the last Committee, the issue of working with the Conservation Team and Environmental Services, to identify possible future funding opportunities, will be added to the Museum Forward Plan.

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#### Wards Affected

Ashdown, Baird, Braybrooke, Castle, Central St. Leonards, Conquest, Gensing, Hollington, Maze Hill, Old Hastings, Ore, Silverhill, St. Helens, Tressell, West St. Leonards, Wishing Tree

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#### Area(s) Affected

Central Hastings, East Hastings, North St. Leonards, South St. Leonards

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#### Policy Implications

Please identify if this report contains any implications for the following:

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness	Yes
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)	No
Risk Management	No
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	Yes
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	Yes

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#### Background Information

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**Officer to Contact**

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