

**Agenda Item No:** 7

**Report to:** Museums Committee

**Date of Meeting:** 18 June 2012

**Report Title:** Requests for Loans from the Museum Collections

**Report By:** Cathy Walling  
Museum Curator

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**Purpose of Report**

to report on the request for the loan of material from the Museum collection

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**Recommendation(s)**

- 1. that the loans are recommended for approval**

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**Reasons for Recommendations**

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## Introduction

1. The Museum has received a request for the loan of material relating to Charles Dawson and the Piltdown Hoax.
2. The request is from Brighton and Hove Museums for a display in December 2012: the dates are still to be confirmed.
3. The discoveries at Piltdown were reported to the Geological Society and to the international press in December 1912. Hastings Museum holds a collection of material, some of doubtful origin, given by Charles Dawson, chief suspect in the hoax.
4. It is recommended that the material, which includes a Roman statuette, bone hammer, prick spur, and letters, be loaned to Brighton Museum subject to satisfactory insurance and environmental controls.
5. The Museum has received a request for the loan of 3 pieces of Sussex Pottery for a display at Winchelsea Museum. This is to be part of their permanent gallery, and is for an indefinite period.
6. The pottery - a Rye jug from the early 14th century, a 17th century watering pot and a 19th century flask - are all currently in the Museum store.
7. It is recommended that the Curator visit Winchelsea Museum to confirm security and environmental conditions before agreeing the loan. The loan should then be for an initial period of 3 years.

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## Wards Affected

None

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## Area(s) Affected

None

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## Policy Implications

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

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

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**Background Information**

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**Officer to Contact**

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