

Report to: Museums Committee

Date of Meeting: 12 September 2016

Report Title: Curator's Report

Report By: Cathy Walling
Museum Curator

Purpose of Report

To provide an update on issues arising from previous meetings and confirmation of curator's actions

Recommendation(s)

- 1. That the Committee accepts the report and are satisfied with the comments in the report**

Reasons for Recommendations

Introduction

1. The Museum was successful in the application to the Arts Council England Museum Resilience Fund and has been awarded £85,000 for a project to be delivered in the period 1 October 2016 to 31 March 2018.

Finding our Place 2: Delivering the Vision will work on four areas for improvement identified in the Part 1 review:

- Improving visibility of the Museum through marketing and promotion
- Audience Development and engagement
- Collections review to ensure effective working practices
- Business and project development expertise

2. One of the key recommendations of the ACE-funded Resilience report in April 2016 was to reinstate a specific education role. By removing education from the remit of the Keeper of World Art, Catherine Harvey, we can now combine two Keeper roles, one of which has been vacant since the departure of the post-holder last year, and incorporate the management and development of the temporary exhibition programme.

Therefore the Museum is currently recruiting for a Learning Officer, to fill the vacant post, and Catherine Harvey will become Keeper of Art and World Cultures.

We have also started the recruitment process to replace the Archivist, Hannah Miles, who has taken up a full-time post with Sussex Past.

3. There will be major repairs to the stonework at John's Place this autumn. The window and door surrounds have eroded on the south and west facing elevations and in several places there is a danger of glass being lost. DCB have been appointed as contractors to carry out the work which has been timed to minimise disruption. Scaffolding will be erected at the end of September and it is anticipated that the work will take six weeks although this will be weather dependent. The Museum has no weddings booked in this period.

Wards Affected

None

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)	No
Risk Management	No
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	No
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	No

Local People's Views
Anti-Poverty

No
No

Additional Information

Officer to Contact

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