

We Are Bristol History Commission – Meeting Summary

Time and Place: 15:00-16:30, Tuesday 28 September 2021, Zoom meeting

Attending: Tim Cole, Estella Tincknell, Nigel Costley, Joanna Burch-Brown.

Officers: Jon Finch and other Officers.

Guests: Officers, Cleo Lake (Black Artists On The Move), Jendayi Serwah (Afrikan Connexions Consortium), Ruth Pitter (One Bristol)

Apologies: Madge Dresser, Helen Godwin, Edson Burton, Shawn Sobers

1. Welcome and apologies

- TC welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies.

2. Previous minutes and action log

- Members reviewed previous meeting actions, all were completed or addressed in the meeting.

3. Jen Reid Status Appeal Update from Officers

- The inspector's decision letter was circulated to members; headline is that the appeal has been dismissed and there has been no challenge to that decision.
- The plinth and statue remain listed, after being separated.
- The next step and legal requirement is to determine what happens to the plinth and statue.
- The approach the History Commission are taking to engage with communities across the city was viewed as a pragmatic and sensible approach by the inspector.
- The data from the public survey will enable us to move forwards.
- TC to share the draft report with members in December.

ACTION 1: Officers to share listing updates over the next two months.

ACTION 2: Officers to invite Historic England to a future History Commission meeting to share the survey results.

ACTION 3: Officers to brief the Legacy Steering Group at their next meeting.

ACTION 4: TC to share the draft report with members in December.

4. Legacy Steering Group Presentation

- Project lead Cleo Lake gave a presentation on Project Truth. Looking at memorialisation; how the city works with and understands the legacy of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, Telling, Restoring, Understanding, our Tapestry and History.
- The final Project Truth report will be a living document that can be referenced and actioned.
- All agreed that this is an important piece of work. There has never been an in-depth consultation with AHC (African Heritage Communities), so it is something new and to be embraced.
- The Project Truth report will be published in December 2021.

ACTION 5: History Commission members to feedback ideas for disseminating and progressing actions from the Project Truth report.

5. Survey Update from Officers

- Officers shared that there have been 10,539 responses to date.
- Officers are happy with the overall response rate but will be looking to boost responses in some areas.
- The survey will close on 3rd October and on 15th October the final paper copies will be entered.
- TC and Officers are to agree the date to publish the results working with the mayor's office to coordinate.

ACTION 5: TC and Officers to arrange the release date of report with the Mayor.

6. Question 2: Migration Stories

- This item will be discussed in the next meeting.

7. Bridging Histories Update

- This item will be discussed in the next meeting.

6. AOB

- There were no items raised.

