

We Are Bristol History Commission – Meeting Summary

Time and Place: 13:00-14:30, Friday 22 October 2021, Zoom meeting

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

Officers: Jon Finch and Ray Barnett.

Guests: John Smith.

Apologies: Madge Dresser, Estella Tincknell, Shawn Sobers, Edson Burton, Helen Godwin.

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. Members Feedback on Western Harbour Engagement

- Members discussed the Western Harbour engagement questions and any feedback they could provide to officers.
- Members' feedback:
 - The concept of entrance and exits to the world for goods and people is important: the connection of Bristol to the world. An Officer confirmed that the Bristol Archives has collections and records for when people leave or enter the city.
 - Interpretation of the warehouses, explaining they were for tobacco storage.
 - Officers noted that there may be uncomfortable truths, but this is an opportunity to get into that discussion.

4. Question 2 Migration Stories

- This item will be discussed in a future meeting.

5. Open Process for recruitment

- Professor Steve Poole of University of the West of England and Director of UWE's Regional History Centre has been invited to join as a permanent member of this Commission.
- Open discussion about putting out a call for two Commissioners to join from January to June on the Migration Stories.
- Officers noted the recent recruitment for the Commission on Race Equality generated a lot of interest and they received a broad range of applications.

ACTION 1: TC to confirm recruitment resources.

ACTION 2: TC to draft a job description for this role and circulate for everyone to review at a future meeting.

6. 2023 Bristol Anniversary Update

- Update on conversations with Bristol Ideas – ensuring that the Anniversary is a diverse community-based and community led celebration, in collaboration with partners including the History Commission that is scheduled to end in 2023.
- A full Business Case will be developed in the next few months for discussion.

7. Bridging Histories Update

- Following collaboration from JBB and her team the office of the Mayor of London has launched their own Bridging Histories Project. They are funding six projects in total, including a recipe project with a school specialised in working with young people with visual impairments and autism.
- Bristol Beacon is doing a Bridging Histories event with children at the Bristol Arts Festival on the 30th and 31st October. JBB has also done a workshop with Bristol Older People's Forum.
- Potential workshops call out to be disseminated through the community groups with a small budget for materials and refreshments.
- JBB and colleagues at UoB have put together guidance for Challenging Public Bodies regarding how to make a consultation transparent and inclusive for discussion at a future meeting.

ACTION 3: JBB to circulate draft workshop call out to members for feedback.

ACTION 4: Challenging Public Bodies guidance to be shared with the Mayor.

ACTION 5: Challenging Public Bodies guidance to be included in a future meeting agenda.

8. Colston Statue Paper Survey Report Update

- The quantitative and qualitative data will be published with a series of recommendations.
- Officers advised that there will be interest nationally as well as internationally.

ACTION 6: Historic England to be invited to an upcoming meeting.

ACTION 7: Legal department to be requested for an update of the timing of the criminal proceedings.

ACTION 8: TC to draft a report to be discussed and signed off by all members of the HC.

9. AOB

- It was agreed to look into discussing the draft report in person, unless there were any changes in Covid regulations or HC members who could not attend in person in which case it would be via zoom.

ACTION 9: Officers to check whether room availability for possible in person meeting.