

## Note of Previous Meeting

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**Title:** Culture, Tourism and Sport Board  
**Date and time:** 09 July 2013, 12.30pm  
**Venue:** Elstree Studios, Shenley Road, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, WD6 1JG

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### Attendance

<b>Position</b>	<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Council</b>
Chair:	Flick Rea MBE	Camden LB
Vice chair:	Simon Henig	Durham CC
Deputy chairman:	Andrew Lewer	Derbyshire CC
Deputy chairman:	Geoff Knight	Lancaster
Members:	Roger Begy OBE	Rutland CC
	Sir William Lawrence	Stratford-on-Avon DC
	Ian Gillies	City of York
	Doreen Stephenson	East Lindsey DC
	Peter Golds	Tower Hamlets LB
	James Hockney	South Cambridgeshire DC
	Veronica Ward	Southwark LB
	Simon Blackburn	Blackpool Council
	Sonja Crisp	City of York
	Stewart Golton	Leeds City
	Paul Crossley	Bath & NE Somerset Council
Guests:	Morris Bright	Hertsmere BC
	Iain Varah	CLOA
Apologies:	Chris Knowles-Fitton	Craven DC
	Caitlin Bisknell	High Peak BC
	David Phillips	City & County of Swansea
LGA Officers:	Laura Caton, Siraz Natha, Jonathan Yeates	

**Item Decisions and actions**

**Action by**

Councillor Flick Rea, Chair, welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

Iain Varah was welcomed to his first meeting of the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board in his new role as Chair of CLOA. Cllr Flick Rea thanked the immediate past chair Richard Hunt for his work.

**1 Note of last meeting and matters arising**

The note from the last meeting on 7 March 2013 were approved with the following actions for follow up as requested by members

**Decision**

- Officers to circulate the draft LGA response to Terry Farrell's independent review of architecture and the built environment.

**Laura  
Caton**

**2 Elstree Studios: Driving growth through investment in the arts**

Cllr Morris Bright, Leader of Hertsmere Borough Council, hosted the Board to discuss how the council's investment in Elstree Studios has significantly contributed towards local growth in the area.

Cllr Bright highlighted how in 1996, Hertsmere Borough Council acquired the derelict Elstree Film Studios in Borehamwood. This iconic film site housed production of the original Star Wars and Indiana Jones trilogies, but closed in the early 1990s. The council took an entrepreneurial approach and saw the unique selling point and local growth potential of this cultural investment.

Hertsmere invested £5.5 million to build two new state-of-the-art sound stages which were opened in 1999. This led to resurgence in the use of Elstree Studios, which has become home to big live TV entertainment shows such as Big Brother and films such as the Oscar-winning The King's Speech.

In the past 12 years, the studios have generated £11 million in rental profit. Last year the council received more than £1.2 million in rental income. A one per cent council tax rise in the borough would equate to £60,000, meaning that in effect 20 per cent of every home's council tax is subsidised by this asset.

Cllr Bright said that the council is investing a further £2.5 million and a £2 million secured loan from the local enterprise partnership to transform the currently unused land into commercial studio space. The council is also trying to encourage more location filming in Hertsmere by removing barriers. The Studios helped instigate and fund the Hertfordshire County Council (Filming on Highways) Bill, currently before Parliament, which will enable easier closure of roads to facilitate filming and the licensing of temporary placing of film production apparatus on the highway across our county.

Cllr Rea thanked Cllr Bright for his extremely informative presentation.

### **3 Spending Review and implications for culture**

Laura Dyer, Executive Director, Arts Council England (ACE) attended the Board to brief Members on the implications of the Spending Review for ACE's funding of, and support for, the arts, museums and public libraries.

The main discussion points were:

- Noted that the LGA's arts and growth campaign, which Sir Peter Bazalgette endorsed, helped to shape the narrative on the economic impact of the arts in the run-up to the Spending Review and limit the reduction in arts funding to five per cent . This compared to an average seven per cent cut across DCMS and was a good result for councils because as so many arts organisations are co-funded, less pressure on the arts side means less pressure on council budgets.
- The joint leadership events that LGA and ACE run in partnership for councillors provide important practical support for portfolio holders. Members were very encouraged by the two Cultural Leadership Academies that we are organising this year.
- Smaller arts organisations are less likely to have the capacity and expertise to respond to significant budget cuts. Members also noted that the arts sector is an important provider of entry-level jobs for young people.
- Important to encourage philanthropy across the whole country and noted that ACE's Catalyst programme is helping councils to develop fund raising capacity and capability amongst local arts organisations.
- Members were encouraged by ACE and VisiEngland's partnership on cultural destinations, which fits well with our work on the visitor economy and growth. Members also highlighted councils' leadership role.

Cllr Rea thanked Laura Dyer for her presentation and Members agreed that it would be useful for Laura to update the Board later on in the year.

#### **Actions**

- Cllr Stephenson to share additional information about how catalyst funding helped to stimulate philanthropy in East Lindsey.

### **4 Review of 2012/13 and priorities for 2013/14**

Members received a report outlining the Board's achievements over the last year and which sets out proposals for the Board's priorities and key areas of work for the coming year.

Members **agreed** the paper with the addition of making clearer the links between

CTS and health. Cllr Rea said this would be achieved by cross-Board working.

- Members emphasised the positive feedback from our leadership academies.
- Opportunities for Members to network and learn from each other will become even more important and as more and more Members go through the programme we also need to re-engage Members who participated in the first events which might be three years ago now.
- Cllr Begy highlighted the importance of joining-up with the regional LGA councillor networks.

**Action**

- Continue to focus on maintaining wider networks of councillors within available resources (with the regional LGAs).

**Siraz  
Natha**

**5 2014 Culture, Tourism and Sport Conference, Portsmouth**

Members were updated on the early preparations for next year's Culture, Tourism and Sport Conference to be held in Portsmouth.

Members **agreed** the 2014 conference theme in the paper and said it worked well starting at lunchtime to allow people time to travel.

Cllr Rea said she had recently met some volunteers from the D-Day museum and was keen to involve the museum in the conference.

**Actions**

- Officers to follow-up with Portsmouth City Council the possibility of a study tour involving the D-Day museum

**Laura  
Caton**

**6 First World War Centenary Commemorations**

Members were updated on the Government's plans to commemorate the centenary of the First World War and how the LGA is supporting councils to coordinate local commemorations. During the discussion Members also noted that councils will have an important role to play coordinating local events and activities to mark the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Magna Carta in 2015.

**Actions**

- Diane Lees, Director-General of the Imperial War Museum, is to be invited to a future Board.
- Members to consider an update on plans to mark the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Magna Carta in September.

**Jonathan  
Yeates /  
Siraz  
Natha**

**7 Outside Bodies feedback from Members**

Members provided feedback from recent meetings. Members noted Sir William Lawrence's update on Tourism for All.

**Action**

- Officers will review the outside body appointments ahead of the next board cycle.

**8 Update on current issues**

- Members requested an update paper on broadband.

**Siraz  
Natha**

**9 AOB**

Members discussed the recent announcement about the future of the National Heritage Collection. Members **agreed** to discuss this further at the September Board and to respond to English Heritage's consultation in due course.

**Laura  
Caton**

**Date of the next meeting:** 1.00pm, Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2013, Smith Square Rooms 1 & 2, Local Government House