

**Report of the Meeting of the Armstrong Hall Charitable Trust**  
Held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016  
In the Council Chamber at the Town Hall

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**Present:** Guy Rawlinson  
Lesley Tuck  
Shirley Holloway  
Benj Emmerson  
Clare Fardell  
Pam Shipp  
Maggie Tyrrell  
Martin Trueman  
Gail Whitehead  
Alan Carman  
Clive Parkinson  
Bob Griffin  
Matthew Stringer  
Angela Symonds  
Vincent Costello

Judith Payne (Clerk to the Trust)  
Sandra Richardson (Deputy Clerk to the Trust)

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**1. Apologies for Absence:**

The following apologies had been received:-

Helen Harrison (Out of Thornbury)

**2. Consider and Approve the Minutes of the Trust Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

7/16. The minutes of the Armstrong Hall Charitable Trust meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016 were proposed as a correct record by Shirley Holloway, seconded by Bob Griffin and signed by the Chairman.

**3. Matters Arising**

8/16. Shirley Holloway informed members that the Christmas Lights Association have kindly agreed that the Armstrong Hall Redevelopment Project will be the beneficiary charity once again this year. Members were asked to think of a celebrity that could be approached to perform the 'Switch-On' in November.

**4. Report of the Hall Management Committee Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

9/16. The report of the Armstrong Hall Management Committee meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016 was received and noted.

## **5. Redevelopment Project Phase 1**

### **(i) Fundraising Update**

10/16. The Clerk informed members that the fundraising total is now £59,398 (not including the £5,000 earmarked by TMTG). The next event is Jazz with Jessica on 27<sup>th</sup> February and tickets have almost sold out already.

11/16. Shirley Holloway reported that the last event, which was the Young Musicians Concert was an excellent event and raised £255.

### **(ii) Joint Armstrong Hall Project Group – Update**

12/16. Shirley Holloway gave a verbal report of the Project Group meetings held on 28<sup>th</sup> January and 5<sup>th</sup> February.

13/16. Prior to the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> January, the group had received a communication from the Fundraising Consultant to say in her view, it would be extremely difficult to fundraise the £750,000 required for the original plans. The consultant thought it would not be a problem to obtain smaller grants but £500,000 would be needed initially to kick start the project. It is unlikely that the project would be supported by the Arts Council and therefore a new route of featuring the Museum more prominently in the plans and applying for a grant from Heritage Lottery Fund is now being explored.

14/16. The Group had met with the new architect on 28<sup>th</sup> January and he had given a variety of options, depicted as shapes on a plan. Shirley Holloway said the dressing rooms have always been the first priority and they would start with a first floor plan incorporating four new dressing rooms, before knocking down the Bakery Annexe building and providing facilities for a new Museum and function rooms.

15/16. Maggie Tyrrell commented that it is very frustrating that it has now become evident that raising the sum of money required for the original two storey design seems very unlikely. However, given the financial situation this is probably the best way forward and hopefully there will be different opportunities in the future for funding of the various stages.

16/16. Clive Parkinson also commented that it is dispiriting that our consultant does not feel we will raise the sum of money needed for the original plans and it appears that the only way to get started on the project is to make it less expensive in the first instance.

17/16. It was agreed to have further discussions on the redevelopment with the Hall Management Committee at the meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> February.