



Whitchurch Town Council

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EXTRAORDINARY HERITAGE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12th FEBRUARY 2015

PRESENT

Councillors: B. Duffy (Chairman), T. O'Neill (Vice Chairman), R. Hewson, T. Neville and L. Stones

IN ATTENDANCE

Z. Dean (Town Centre Manager/Assistant Town Clerk), Dr J Hoyle, I. Garner

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr J. Ebbs – Holiday

2. Declarations of Interest

None received.

3. Public Participation

None.

4. Accreditation application of the Museum status

Dr J. Hoyle answered the queries raised at the last meeting regarding the Collections Development Policy as detailed below:

Themes and priorities for future collecting

For every accredited museum the Collection Policy has to define the geographical area that the museum collection has associated items with, or to define the specific items that the museum collects.

Due to limited display and storage Whitchurch Museum collects items that can demonstrate a strong connection with the town and the surrounding villages. The policy refers to villages that are located within seven miles of the town and/or used Whitchurch as its local market town.

The museum will not acquire any biological or geological material.

This is the current policy and if the Museum was to receive an offer of this type of material (whole organisms) the policy would then be reviewed. This is the Museum's collecting policy and does not affect items loaned from other accredited museums or items placed in the two community display cases. A special hermetically sealed cabinet would need to be purchased in order for the museum to house the issue of the birds that the committee raised, for which separate funding would need to be raised.

Loans

When first applying for accreditation, Whitchurch Heritage Centre took advice from the head of Shropshire Museum Service and was advised not to enter into loan agreements other than with accredited museums. Anything else is viewed as a minefield regarding insurance, or disputes over ownership by family members.

As a response to this, items that were known to be on long term loan were returned to their owners between 2008 and 2010.

The policy can be updated at a later date after meeting consultation, as and when required.

After a proposal from Cllr Duffy and seconded by Cllr Hewson:

HC/13/1415 RESOLVED: to accept the Collections Development Policy.

The meeting closed at 11:15am.

Chairman..... *BA* Date..... *26.3.15*