

JOINT COMMITTEE FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND
OPEN-AIR MUSEUM

At a Meeting of the Joint Committee for the North of England Open-Air Museum held at Beamish Museum, Beamish on Friday 24 June 2011 at 11.00 a.m.

PRESENT:

Councillor D Marshall in the Chair

Members of the Joint Committee

Councillors Bailey, Blakey, Carr, Naylor, Stoker, Todd and Wright (Durham County Council), Councillor Goldsworthy (Gateshead MBC), Councillors Kerr and Maxwell (South Tyneside MBC), Councillors Bell and Kelly (Sunderland City Council)

Co-opted Members (Non-Voting)

Friends – Mr A Ashburner

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Gittins, Iveson, C Marshall, May, Thomson and Wilkinson (Durham County Council), Councillor Green (Gateshead MBC), Councillor Errington, Foster, Richardson and Walker (Sunderland City Council), Mrs E Hunter and Mrs S Stewart (Beamish Development Trust) and Mr Dix (Friends)

1 Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 May 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 May 2011 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2 Revenue and Capital Outturn 2010/2011

The Joint Committee considered a joint report of the Treasurer and Museum Director regarding the Revenue and Capital Outturn 2010/2011 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

- (i) That the Revenue Outturn and variations for 2010/2011 be noted.
- (ii) That the Capital Outturn and variations for 2010/2011 be noted,

3 Annual Governance Statement 2010/2011

The Joint Committee noted a joint report of the Museum Director and Treasurer regarding the Annual Review of the Risk Management and Annual Governance Arrangements (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

That the Risk Management Annual Report 2010/11 and the Annual Governance Review 2010/2011 be approved.

4 Annual Return and Accounts 2010/2011 (Subject to Audit)

The Joint Committee considered a report of the Treasurer regarding the Annual Return and Accounts for 2010/2011 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Members thanked the Treasurer for the way the accounts were presented which made them easier to understand.

Resolved:

That the Annual Return (Subject to Audit) and the Accounts for financial year ended 31 March 2011 be approved.

5 Any Other Business

The Museum Director gave an update on Museum Business. Visitor figures from the beginning of the financial year in February until the end of April were all record months with high visitor numbers. May and June had not been as good due to the weather but overall figures were still up on last year. The budget for the year would be based on 366,000 visitors. The Events are progressing well and employment at the Museum continues to grow with 258 F.T.E. employees. A turnover of £6m was forecast.

Capital Projects update - the official opening for the Fish & Chip shop would be 14 July 2011 but the public reaction so far was really positive. The tea rooms are nearing completion with sections from the former Rossis Ice Cream Parlour from Consett being installed in the Cookson Room to form additional seating. The entrance building refurbishment was almost finished and the introductory exhibition with an audio visual presentation was complete. The foundations had been laid and the building of Eston Church had commenced.

The Chairman suggested that regular updates are e-mailed to members, including pictures, showing the progress.