



Minutes of the 72nd Annual General Meeting

Thursday 8th September 2022 at 11am (Museum of Making, Derby & Online)

Rachel Tranter invited everyone attending conference in person and online to attend the GEM AGM.

1. WELCOME FROM GEM CHAIR, CAROLINE MARCUS (CM)

CM began by thanking the GEM Board for all their support over the last year. Particular thanks were given to Essex Havard who has now resigned from GEM Board after many years of providing support to GEM, with a focus on Wales. With Essex's help and guidance GEM has been working closely with GEM Cymru and the Welsh Government to support museums with the introduction of the new Curriculum for Wales.

CM outlined GEM's achievements in 2021 which included GEM's support for the sector throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, and its many initiatives supporting museum learning practitioners to connect and learn together. CM spoke about GEM's five strategic aims, developed as part of a robust business planning process as well as GEM's recent membership developments, introducing four new tiers of Institutional membership to better support smaller museums and heritage sites, and creating inclusive initiatives for students and freelance practitioners.

CM thanked the Linbury Trust, Nimrod Capital and the Culture Recovery Fund whose support has been invaluable to GEM. CM praised the GEM Team for its developments in terms of digital delivery and the creation of online learning programmes, culminating in the first online GEM Conference in September 2021. CM thanked several organisations that have worked in partnership with GEM in 2021, including Engage, the Museums Association, Clore Duffield Foundation, Kids in Museums, Culture, Health & Wellbeing Alliance and the Art Fund. CM outlined how GEM's International reach increased in 2021 with new initiatives developing to expand the GEM community beyond the UK. Within the UK GEM has worked very closely with all four nations, working with the Welsh Government, Museums & Galleries Scotland, and Northern Ireland Museums Council.

CM talked about the contribution of the One-to-One mentoring programme which has helped to empower the GEM Community and the new partnership with NEMO (Network of European Museum Organisations) which has enabled professionals from throughout Europe to take part. GEM was delighted to be shortlisted for a Culture, Health & Wellbeing Alliance wellbeing award in 2021 in recognition of this programme.

CM thanked the GEM team including freelancers & volunteers, Trustees, Area and Nation Representatives for all their hard work and dedication to GEM throughout 2021 and also thanked the organisations that have partnered with GEM.

CM concluded by thanking everyone who has been involved in the 2022 conference including Derby Museums, the Museum of Making, the conference team including Rachel Tranter, Jenny Pistella, Alice le Page and Katya Provornaya, GEM's conference supporters The Art Fund and Wessex Archaeology and everyone who has contributed to conference through keynotes, presentations, and workshops.

2. RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Essex Havard.

3. RECEIVE MINUTES OF THE 71st AGM

The minutes of the 71st AGM were received. RT reminded those attending that while everyone is very welcome to attend, only individual members and Institutional members are entitled to vote in the AGM.

4. RECEIVE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Richard Bruce, Treasurer provided an outline of GEM's 2021 accounts demonstrating the progress that GEM has made since the pandemic and its financial resilience. Members were given an opportunity to ask questions. The Accounts for the period ended 31 December 2021 were received.

5. APPOINTMENT OF ACCOUNTANTS

It was agreed that the Trustees Warner Wilde Limited should be appointed as GEM's Independent accountants

6. RECEIVE TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Rachel Tranter provided an overview of the Trustees report for the period ending 31 December 2021. RT updated those present regarding GEM membership numbers for 2021 which were in line with the 2020 figures with 759 members in total which included 277 Institutional Members and 482 Individual Members. RT pointed out that the slight drop from 2020 (28 members) was due to the high uptake for the freelance membership free offer that GEM undertook during Covid, some of whom subsequently haven't renewed. With regards to training & events, GEM's performance remained very strong in 2021 with 2375 attendees to training & events and 331 attendees to the online conference held September 2021. RT thanks the GEM Team and GEM Area/Nation representatives for all their hard work and commitment to GEM in 2021 and thanked the GEM Trustees for all their support.

The Trustees Report for the period ended 31 December 2021 was received and RT reminded those attending that a copy of the full report is available on the GEM website.

7. RESIGNATION & ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

RT informed those attending that Trustee Essex Havard has resigned from the GEM Board

Unanimous agreement was given to Hannah Sweetapple being elected as a Trustee

Unanimous agreement was given for the re-election of Ben Pearce & Kathy Moore, Deputy Chair

Unanimous agreement was given for Jenny Blay to be elected as a Trustee following her previous Co-option.

RT informed everyone that there would be opportunities in the future for members to put themselves forward for the remaining Trustee roles as GEM Board had increased its maximum number of Trustees to 12 in total and the current board has 10 trustees.

8. AMENDMENT TO THE GEM MEMS & ARTS

The proposed change to the GEM Mems & Arts including a reference to online as well as postal voting was agreed unanimously.

CLOSING REMARKS

NOTES

Please find the minutes of the 71st AGM, full Annual Accounts and Trustees Report and updated GEM Articles of Association can be found on the GEM website.

88 members voted on site and 14 online at the GEM AGM