

# **Saffron Walden Museum Society Limited**

## **Report for Museum Management Working Group 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2010**

The Board met on 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 and 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2010: the Management Committee met following the Board meeting on both occasions.

### **Offer by Sainsbury's and Meeting of Members**

The Museum Society wrote twice to Members following press comment, some of which had been misleading. A meeting was held on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 to seek members' views on the Society's proposed course of action; some thirty members attended. The meeting unanimously supported the position taken by the Board and Management Committee.

### **Meeting with Heritage Business Consultant**

The Directors had an initial meeting with Tim Heathcote, appointed by UDC to carry out a review of the costs of running the museum service.

### **Ceramics Gallery**

The Society has agreed to fund an upgrade to the lighting in the Ceramics Gallery to improve the display of items and to give support to the carbon reduction programme, as the museum is not included in the Council's programme in the near future.

### **Rates**

The Museum Society has agreed to pay rates on the museum to obtain charity exemption.

### **Blue Plaques Scheme**

The Society will give its support to this proposed scheme which is being developed by the Saffron Walden Partnership Board.

### **Purchases**

The Board has agreed to finance the purchase of some substantial treasure items to be linked to its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary in May.

### **Private Viewing for Members**

The Society will again hold a private Preview evening with refreshments at 6.00 pm on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> March for Members, Councillors and other guests; the 'Silks of Life' exhibition opens to the public on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Annual General Meeting**

This will be held at 8.00 pm on Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2010 at the Museum.