



Museum Management Working Group

Meeting 27th November 2013

Museum Society Chairman's Report

The Tender process for the construction of the New Store resulted in discussion between the Directors and Council officers agreeing the purchase of a Head Lease of the New Store at Shirehill. A Heads of Agreement has been considered by the Board who authorised its signature and completion. Drafts of the Head Lease and sub-lease to the Council are awaited. The Board have obtained the necessary advice from an authorised Surveyor to comply with the Charities Acts. We await a detailed timetable for construction so that planning for the move from Newport can be undertaken.

The Chairman stood in for the Curator on Anglia News and Essex radio following the launch of an Appeal for funds to purchase the Anglo-Saxon Ring and other finds now valued as Treasure Trove. The Society has undertaken to raise £7,500 towards the cost and just over a third of this has been raised so far.

Museum Society Directors and other members and volunteers took part in the Museum hosting of the Saffron Walden Initiative on the 1st October. This meeting explained how the Museum is run jointly by the Council and the Society. This was followed by small groups being given 'behind the scenes' tours of the Museum, seeing for themselves the difficulties and over-crowding which make the new store an imperative; the whole evening received a positive response from Initiative members who expressed appreciation of their visit.

The Museum Support Committee is undertaking a skills audit of members to promote volunteering.

The Museum Society's talk on Monday, 11th November, will be given by Dr Gemma Tully and international Egyptian artist, Khaled Hafez, and will support and complement the exhibition 'Re-imagining Egypt'. The Society is hosting a Private Preview on Friday, 15th November, with a range of refreshments for members and their guests, to which a number of personalities including the Egyptian Ambassador have been invited. The Museum Society is also supporting the visit of Khaled Hafez financially.

Tony Watson
8th November 2013.

Visit our web site at: www.swmuseumsoc.org.uk



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