

Norfolk Joint Museums Committee

Date: **Friday 27 October 2023**

Time: **2.00pm**

Venue: **Council Chamber, County Hall, Norwich**

Supplementary Agenda

1. **Great Yarmouth Area Museums Working Group minutes from 1 August 2023** (Page A2)
2. **King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee minutes from 9 October 2023** (Page A24)

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GREAT YARMOUTH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Great Yarmouth Area Museums Working Group

Minutes

Tuesday, 01 August 2023 at 14:30

Councillor Freeman (in the Chair), Councillors Jeal, McMullen, Galer, Lawn and Bird

Also in attendance at the above meeting were:

Andrew Smith Operations Manager - East & West), Colin Stott (Learning Manager), Dr Robin Hanley (Head of Service Delivery) Hannah Taylor (Cultural Support Officer), Andrea Krout (Democratic Services Officer)

01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mogford and Councillor Robinson-Payne.

02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Hannah Taylor, in her position as Cultural Support Officer, declared that she had a zero hours contract with Norfolk Museums Service.

03 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22 March 2023 were confirmed.

04 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the above minutes.

05 GREAT YARMOUTH AREA MUSEUMS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Working Group received and considered the report which was jointly presented by Andrew Smith, Robin Hanley and Colin Stott, the contents of the report are reproduced as follows: Great Yarmouth Museums briefing for period: March 2023 to July 2023.

1. COVID-19 Service update

1.1 Infection control procedures

A number of the COVID-secure systems and procedures implemented across Norfolk Museums Service (NMS) sites during the pandemic remain in place, with a focus on keeping staff and visitors safe through minimising any risk of transmission. Sites continue to provide hand sanitiser stations and directional signage. Site capacity limits have largely reverted to pre-pandemic levels.

In terms of the COVID-19 procedures and systems that remain in place across NMS sites, the priorities remain:

- Ventilation – maintaining existing ventilation arrangements to maximise fresh air flow including supplementary air purifiers at relevant sites
- Cleaning regimes – maintaining enhanced cleaning arrangements
- Hand sanitisation – maintaining existing sanitiser stations and encourage regular hand sanitisation/hand washing. Additional hand sanitiser stations are being introduced where required (e.g. near reactivated interactives)

To facilitate increased levels of use of museum spaces by visitors, staff and volunteers, CO2 monitors provided through Norfolk County Council continue to operate across NMS in spaces where there is more limited natural/mechanical ventilation. At Time and Tide these spaces are the 1920's Row, Temporary Exhibition Gallery (an air purifier also in use due to no natural or mechanical ventilation available), Education Room, Education Office, Duty Managers Office, Blackfriars Meeting Room, Collections Archive, Exhibitions Office and War Years Gallery. These CO2 detectors can be monitored locally by staff using these spaces and they also link into the LoRaWAN network, facilitating the use of monitoring dashboards to track live data and trends. The use of CO2 monitors in spaces such as the Education Office at Time and Tide Museum has enabled a number of spaces to be brought back into use by staff and volunteers and increased capacity for schools and other visitors. Volunteering has recommenced across all NMS sites. All volunteer teams are now operational at Time and Tide Museum.

2. Exhibitions at Time and Tide

2.1 Current Exhibition - Bare Bones (27 May to 1 October 2023)

The team from the Blue Tokay group arrived during some of the hottest weather of the year so far to install Bare Bones into our temporary exhibition spaces. Blue Tokay have designed this touring exhibition in a simple, yet dynamic way with interactives for all ages.

Bare Bones explores the often-unseen anatomy of animals through stunning displays of real, articulated animal bones, supplemented by some fascinating specimens of the Natural History collections held by Norfolk Museums Service. The specimens are displayed in a dynamic fashion, allowing visitors to gain an insight into what makes

animals function anatomically, with simple display cases allowing younger visitors full access to the objects.

The exhibition is proving to be particularly popular with self-led school groups, allowing small groups of children to physically gather around the skeletons and discuss them together.

2.2 Forthcoming Exhibitions

Turner and Bridges, Old and New (28 October 2023 to 25 February 2024)

Celebrating the opening of the new Herring Bridge in Great Yarmouth and tying in with the arrival of Turner's painting *Walton Bridges at Time and Tide* in the autumn, our winter exhibition will showcase a celebration of bridges locally and nationally. Our curatorial team are working with national art institutions to secure some significant loans that will be displayed alongside some exceptional works from the NMS collections.

Walton Bridges was saved for the nation by Norfolk Museums Service in 2019 and is the only oil painting by Turner in public ownership in the East of England. The painting was acquired with the generous support of the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Art Fund and a private funder.

BAM Farrans, the Herring Bridge construction contractor have donated branded contemporary items to be displayed alongside some child friendly interactives encouraging engagement in the STEM subjects.

Dinosaurium (March to September 2024)

Next summer, the dinosaurs are coming to town.

Dinosaurium looks at the long history of our relationship with dinosaurs, from ancient legends of mythical winged beasts in the deserts of central Asia to the creatures brought to life in the *Jurassic Park* franchise.

The family friendly exhibition is based around the collections of the Hampshire Cultural Trust and supplemented by our own extensive collections of fossils and animal bones. Along with some significant loans from Sedgewick Museum of Earth Sciences at the University of Cambridge it promises to be a mixture of real and imaginary creatures and will prove to be a popular summer exhibition.

2.3 Community Displays and Exhibitions

The Red Herring Gallery continues to focus on the ongoing public consultation work surrounding the proposed Time & Tide Museum development project.

The gallery features a scale model of the museum, giving visitors an idea of what the space could look like with a roof structure over the courtyard and a video made by East Coast College Sixth Form media students. Interpretation boards discussing the plans and a space for people to add their comments on a bespoke chalk board sit nicely within the space. The addition of a suggestion box with paper questionnaires has enabled visitors to pick their favourite gallery space and add their ideas for the covered courtyard.

During the Summer months we will be displaying works completed by the Saturday Art Club groups, when their items are returned from display at Somerset House. Our Youth Engagement Team will also be working with various groups in response to the Bare Bones exhibitions. Young people will be encouraged to hang and light their works in a contemporary manner in the original smoke houses and other spaces within the museum.

The Retro Games exhibition remained within our temporary exhibition galleries for an extended run until 8 May 2023 to cover the Coronation Bank Holiday weekend. This exhibition was a creative collaboration between young people involved within the NMS Kick the Dust youth engagement programme and local gaming collectors and historians. Funded by The National Lottery

Heritage Fund, local collaborators included East Norfolk Sixth Form level 4 games design students, East Coast College media studies students and the youth engagement groups held at the museum including the Young Consultants and Make Yarmouth.

The exhibition has been well received by visitors of all ages; supported by positive feedback on all digital channels. This has resulted in the decision to add elements of the exhibition to our permanent displays.

We have installed a mini Retro Games area into our Reminiscence galleries, making a more comfortable space to spend time and enjoy the displays. The addition of some original postcard art from our collections and the teak display cabinet are proving extremely popular with our older visitors. We will be adding to these displays over the winter months.

3. Events

3.1 Easter Holiday 2023 Events

In the event *Sailor Skills! Able Seaman Sam*, a regency era member of Nelson's Navy, taught visitors important sailor skills. From knot tying to appropriate uniform to musket firing demonstrations, he showed an exciting insight into life on the high seas.

"We had an absolutely fantastic time today at your museum. It was really interactive and packed full of information and the staff were welcoming and helpful. The musket demonstration by 'Sam' was brilliantly informative and fun. Thanks for letting us try our all those knots and for telling us where the expression 'toe rag' comes from! Something for everyone, awesome day, we will be back!"

The very popular Retro Champions returned, delivered by Norwich Retro Gamers and many more families enjoyed playing retro video games together with 161 visitors for the day.

Time and Tide also joined in with Art Fund's *The Wild Escape* project. Every day of the holiday visitors could follow a new trail to discover some of the UK wildlife in our displays and creatively imagine their escape back into their natural habitat. Lots of great responses were added to the online national artwork:

https://takepart.thewildescape.org.uk/explore?_gl=1*1laaa0z*_ga*MjAzMjkyNjAyNy4xNjcyNzQ3MDU2*_ga_ST1XKY0300*MTY4ODAzMjg4MC44LjAuMTY4ODAzMjg4MC4wLjAuMA

Elizabethan House and the Tolhouse Gaol hosted joint event days, with discounted entry tickets available to enjoy both sites.

A Tudor Merchant's Wife at Elizabethan House, gave visitors the chance to learn about the life of a lady married to a Tudor merchant, have a go at the new 'inkle loom' and hear her tall tale of an employee being sent to the stocks. The Stocks at the Tolhouse Gaol introduced people to this ancient punishment and explored why the stocks remained a popular punishment for so long, even into recent times. Visitors also had fun practicing rotten vegetable throwing with soft vegetables kindly made by the Time and Tide Stitchers group.

3.2 Coronation Crafts

Marking the coronation bank holiday weekend, we hosted coronation craft activities at each site across the whole weekend. At Elizabethan House visitors could make King Charles II Curls – paper headbands linking to the previous King Charles. At the Tolhouse Gaol they made golden coronation carriages and compared them to the trollcart on display in the Heigning Chamber. Time

and Tide featured coronation orbs, exploring the symbolism of the original orb and redesigning orbs for the modern world.

3.3 May Half Term 2023

Mermaid Folklore was the theme for May Half Term at Time and Tide and extra activities were offered for everyday of the holidays; creative myth making, dressing up, crafts and trails. As featured in the *History at Home* BBC Radio Norfolk episode at the start of the holiday week, this was linked to the tradition of folklore tales in coastal communities and the mermaid engraved side of the scrimshaw in the museum collection, which was rotated to be on display especially for the holiday period. Mermaid storytelling gave audiences of all ages an atmospheric telling of mermaid folktales from around the world as well as a game of extreme storytelling where the storyteller and the audience make a new story together as they tell it.

The best part was *'the rows and the storyteller'*... *'We really enjoyed our visit and will return'*

Patterns of the House at Elizabethan House explored the William Morris wallpaper in the entryway and invited visitors to find other patterns in the rooms before creating their own pattern with a local print artist.

From the Skies was the offer at the Tolhouse Gaol. After the discovery of a WW2 bomb nearby earlier in the year, this event explored the bombing raids on Great Yarmouth and their impact including on the Tolhouse Gaol which was bombed twice during the war. Visitors met a costumed royal navy bomb disposal officer to discover more.

3.4 National Lottery Open Week

For the period from the 18-26 March, Time and Tide took part in the National Lottery's Open Week. Lottery players who presented a National Lottery ticket or scratchcard, either physical or digital, were given free admission to the museum for themselves and up to five others. Over this nine day period, the offer proved popular and we welcomed 1,226 visitors.

4. Other Museum Projects and Developments

4.1 Time & Tide Museum - *Changing Tides* redevelopment project

The Changing Tides - Shaping Our Great Yarmouth project is moving forwards and the Time and Tide team are aiming to submit the next stage in the application process - a full National Lottery Heritage Fund Grants for Heritage Round One bid in November 2023. The project aims to create spaces for engaging audiences and building a sustainable future for our museum. Time and Tide Museum was built upon the foundation of community engagement and the redevelopment will uphold those values by continuing to embed co-production into the collections, displays, engagement programmes and exhibitions. We will also be developing our partnership with the National Maritime Museum (Royal Museums Greenwich). We will develop new approaches to using digital interpretation in the museum, reflecting the advances in digital technology and social media since the museum opened in 2004. Many of the galleries, especially those on the first floor, will be redisplayed in new and engaging ways giving us the opportunity to showcase different collections and maritime themes.

We are working with a firm of architects on initial feasibility studies and a cost plan for adapting and glazing the courtyard space to accommodate increasing demand from visitors, schools, events and other community groups. Initial concept visuals showing a potential glazed canopy design and how this new

indoor space might be used to support a greater range of activities are shown below.

Much of the key planning for the project is happening behind the scenes; with architects visits and planning sessions going somewhat unnoticed by visitors to the museum. However, as part of the application process, we have been conducting consultation sessions with various audiences throughout the museum and the wider community. We have been engaging with visitors to discuss the plans through a variety of free bookable tours, digitally accessible questionnaires and via the consultation space in the Red Herring Gallery on site. The consultation space features a scale model of the proposed roofing solution, with a video presentation of the project made in conjunction with media students at East Norfolk Sixth Form College, as well as with a large space on the wall for visitors to add their ideas and feedback.

The digital feedback questionnaire can be found here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/q5WrhDrvNQ>

4.2 Collections Management

During the past few months, a major store move and audit process has started at the museum looking specifically at stored collections which have not had any access requests in recent times, to check whether the collections are still relevant. Many of the boxes being looked at were previously held at the Tolhouse Gaol Museum and Great Yarmouth Library prior to the 2004 move to Time and Tide. Many items have not been on display since they were collected in the 1950s and 1960s and are either duplicates of items we already hold or are of little relevance to Great Yarmouth life, which is our primary collecting focus.

Decisions are now being taken at a curatorial level at the start of a full collections review and audit process. This work forms the backbone of preparatory work for the proposed redevelopment project and also the re-Accreditation of the museums, both of which are anticipated to occur early next year. The Museums Association have published new guidelines in the form of updated guidance on "Transfer, Reuse and Disposal" which is being studied and worked into the collections review methodology with the support of NMS Collections Management colleagues. The ultimate aim is to ensure our collections remain relevant and sustainable, with storage space freed up to collect items which people will find useful for research in the decades to come. An example of contemporary collecting which we need to find space to store and work on is the negative collection from Brian Ollington, the Gorleston based photographer who had a studio in the town from the mid-1960s to 2008. Brian and his colleague Robert have just returned to the museum, volunteering here for the first time since the pandemic. They are currently working to digitise the negative collection which represents some 50 years of life in Great Yarmouth and Gorleston.

The process is not a straightforward one, requiring specialist negative scanning equipment and also digital colour correction of the images. Brian and Robert have been diligently cataloguing the collection and it is positive to have them back in the museum again.

There have been many interesting enquiries received from the public recently, ranging from people searching for memories of childhood holidays, advice on the East Coast herring fisheries for a Channel 5 costume drama, which required historically accurate images of Victorian fishing life, and an e-mail all

the way from Texas asking for advice on the Short Blue fishing fleet, based off Blackwall Reach in Gorleston, as their relative had been involved in the running of the operation. We were able to search the museum collections database and provide an early photograph of the fishing vessel Ada, which transferred from the port of London to Great Yarmouth when the fleet relocated here and was sailed upon by the Great Grandfather of the enquirer. Looking ahead, work continues on preparing for the National Lottery Heritage Fund grant application to redevelop the museum, looking at how the collections will be impacted and re-displayed by this. Work is being undertaken to support new volunteers in how to access the collections. We have had a higher than normal number of work experience students from local schools spending time with us helping to catalogue the archive and update images of the collection for the publicly accessible collections database. The main curatorial research projects revolve around the forthcoming Bridges exhibition, celebrating the history of bridges in the town and the works of JMW Turner, with research being undertaken on the many Haven Bridges to have spanned the river, and how these are reflected in the collections. Other research work has included the museum team supporting the writing of the catalogue raisonné of the local artist Anthony Amies. Time and Tide Museum holds over 120 of his artworks. This has now been published and is available to purchase, with a proof copy being donated to the curatorial library at the museum. The Time and Tide curator has provided a short forward about the life and collection of this important artist to the local area.

5. Learning

5.1 Early Years

Our regular Little Kippers sessions for children under five's and their carers, have grown increasingly popular this year. We run hour long sessions once a month and this now involves running two in a day to accommodate everyone. We are seeing regular attendance from at least 20 families each month.

The sessions centre around a different theme each time so that the children are able to explore different parts of the Time & Tide museum. Most recently they really enjoyed investigating the Bare Bones exhibition. We were able to handle the real skulls of some different creatures including a deer with giant antlers. In the exhibition, we hunted the skeletons of the creatures we had pictures of in our packs. We made our own skeletons from cotton buds and listened to the Funnybones story at the end of the session.

Little Kippers usually runs in term time only but last August we ran a summer special where the children were able to invite their older siblings to come along and join us. This was well received and we saw attendance of 22 children and 10 adults. Parents have requested we do the same again this year.

The following piece of feedback was received from a family who attended their last session as their youngest child is just going off to school:

"I cannot tell you how much we have all enjoyed coming over the years (I'm pretty sure that it is around 8 years in total, on and off?!). The hard work, creativity and energy that you and your team put into every class really does show and the children, as well as the parents, love you for it. The online sessions that you did over lockdown meant so much to us as it was another link to the pre-Covid world that our little ones had had turned upside down".

5.2 Schools

This school year has been a busy one for the learning team, with bookings

reflecting our pre COVID numbers. School events have been evenly balanced across the year, many teachers returning and also some visiting for the first time following recommendations from colleagues.

Now in the summer term we are fully booked with our traditional end of term visits, with lots of locally themed events for younger pupils such as *Pirates* and *Seaside Rocks*. Many pupils are experiencing their first ever school visit to one of our Great Yarmouth Museum sites.

The feedback from our school events remains positive, confirming that our school offer is well respected and solid in terms of covering teacher needs for the school curriculum. Teachers love the immersive element of our events as evidenced by one recent teacher comment following our Romans event; *"Pupils all really enjoyed it. In particular they loved meeting the different characters"*. Pupil comment *"This was brilliant. I loved being a soldier"*. Another teacher following an WW2 Evacuees day said *"The visit was incredible the kids loved it, they found the information fascinating & the actors were brilliant with them"*.

We continue to work in close partnership with Royal Museums Greenwich on the DFE & ACE funded Stories from the Sea project. Now in its 11th year, this project has provided opportunities for us to significantly develop our schools offer and associated digital learning resources. We have recently been asked to be a case study for the national Arts Council England Museums & Schools Programme, signifying *"the interesting & innovative practise"* we demonstrate. This will involve an onsite visit from the Arts Council England evaluators in July to observe a school event as well as conversations and feedback forms with our team, school staff and teachers. As a result of our collaboration on this project we are now working in partnership with colleagues at Royal Museums Greenwich to develop plans for the major redevelopment of the Time and Tide Museum which will provide enhanced facilities for schools' events and a new RMG partnership gallery focussed on Great Yarmouth's history as a naval port. We recently ran a CPD day with local teachers and Kate Argyle from Historic England which enabled us to consult with local teachers on our plans. We have continued to support the Winter Gardens renovation project being led by the borough council, taking a lead on the development of plans for schools and youth engagement activities on site. Working closely with the project team, we have consulted with staff and students from local schools and colleges whose feedback and ideas will be incorporated into the Round 2 National Lottery Heritage Fund bid.

Jasmine Dack- NMS Teaching Museum Trainee

The Great Yarmouth learning team is once again hosting an NMS Teaching Museum paid Trainee, as part of the NMS Teaching Museum programme funded as part of the NMS Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) Business Plan 2023-26. Jasmine reports as follows:

The first three months of my traineeship have been full of exciting opportunities and a lot of learning. Meeting and working with the education team at Time and Tide has been the highlight of my traineeship. I admire their unique teaching style and the effort they go to provide an immersive learning experience for children. I have been able to contribute to students experience by being a time traveling Victorian lady and a bossy roman aristocrat, Lady Livia. I have also been working in youth engagement with a variety of groups including Make Yarmouth, Great Yarmouth Heritage Collective, and Saturday

Art Club. Make Yarmouth has had many exciting activities going on such as working with clay, making quilt pieces, and even planning a gig and practicing song writing. The YMCA Great Yarmouth Heritage Collective has been working on a Heritage Action Zone digital mapping project, which has allowed me to explore the museums photo collection and do research into the Britannia Pier. I have also had two exciting opportunities to work with the Saturday Art Club with their field trip to the broads for inspiration for their railway posters project. I also worked on the Let's Enjoy concert event with Phoebe Wingate at the Drill House, which was an amazing day for the families and teachers involved.

On top of education and Youth engagement activities, I have also had exciting opportunities working with the museum collections and exhibits. From April to July, I have made 64 contributions on the MODES records, including moving and updating locations for boxes as part of the ongoing store move. I was also given the opportunity to work on the exhibition change over from Retro Games to Bare Bones, which allowed me to learn how to use a drill and how to disassemble a bunk bed. The collections work has been fascinating for me as I have had the opportunity to see many curious items, such as medieval wedding rings, a late 19th century Norfolk regiment uniform, and women's underwear from the Second World War. I am excited to continue working in the collection spaces over the summer, and to further my research on certain artefacts.

Cliff Park Ormiston Academy visit

22 Year 10 GSCE Art students from Cliff Park Ormiston Academy visited Time and Tide Museum to carry out primary research on for their GSCE projects. Working with the theme of 'Lock'. We explored the theme using a wide range of museum handling collections and the students' developed their own creative responses using photography, drawings, paintings and collage.

5.3 Youth Engagement - Kick the Dust activities

Make Yarmouth

Make Yarmouth works with The Shaw Trust to engage vulnerable teenagers aged 13-16 in positive activities. We use a variety of creative arts approaches and the museum collections to investigate heritage. These session runs every Tuesday evening in term time.

During April and May, Make Yarmouth designed and created a Coronation quilt for King Charles III's coronation. We drew inspiration from quilts and pamphlets made for Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II's coronations by residents and pupils in Great Yarmouth. The participants decided that the quilt should act as a time capsule and should reflect the mood of the nation as well as the Great Yarmouth locality, so it features designs reflecting concerns about climate change and the cost-of-living crisis but also designs featuring music that is currently popular, monarch motifs such as crowns and the famous coronation quiche.

This summer, Make Yarmouth will be working with artist and Youth Engagement Officer, Alex Day, the Sainsbury Centre learning team and the Museum of Anthropology in Vancouver on a project called *Coastal Communities*. Our young people will be working alongside the MOA's Native Youth Program to create artworks, that document and share their experiences of being part of a coastal community. These ideas will then be turned into a collaborative artwork to display in the Sainsbury Centre gallery, using

materials such as ghost fishing gear, in September.

We have also been working with Gary Standley from the Freshly Greated *Play, Produce, Promote* project to put on a gig at the Time and Tide Museum in December. *Play, Produce, Promote* aims to create a team of young people aged 14-18 who will help to develop the youth music scene in Great Yarmouth. They equip young people with musical skills, as well as skills in lighting, promotion, photography, and stage management, whilst giving them a safe space to perform. Gary and Gaby, our events officer, have begun to support sessions with our young people to curate a line up and create promotional material.

Great Yarmouth Heritage Collective (YMCA)

The Great Yarmouth Heritage Collective is a group of young people aged 19-25 living at the Great Yarmouth YMCA. We have continued to create an engaging programme of positive activities for young adults who struggle with their mental health and wellbeing which are held every Wednesday throughout the year. The Great Yarmouth Heritage Collective are currently working in collaboration with Humap and the Norfolk Library Service to create an archive map of Great Yarmouth as part of the activities for the Heritage Action Zone. The GYHC participants will learn archive and museum research skills through copyright and MODES training, as well as improving their knowledge of the history of their locality. We will also be visiting the Great Yarmouth Library's newspaper archive to conduct our research around several themes over the next year and use their exhibition spaces to display our research and our creative responses surrounding these themes.

Paston College

Paston College students are in the final stages of their documentary film project -*Crabbers, Mussels, Whelks and Smacks*. The students have researched maritime and trading heritage and explored how this knowledge can inform steps to tackle climate change. There is a particular focus on the Hanseatic league of the medieval period and how East Anglia sat at the centre of a trading network of ports that spanned the Baltic and North Sea. With this in mind, the students have researched how we could develop ways to distribute goods under sail.

Paston College students have been working alongside a professional film crew to shooting in several locations across Norfolk, including, Great Yarmouth, Kings Lynn and Well-next-the-Sea, Norwich Cathedral, North Norfolk Broads and Coast, RSPB Strumpshaw, Lowestoft, and Den Helder in the Netherlands. This has given them an opportunity to gain industry experience by working as part of a film crew, developing skills in interviewing and editing visual and audio footage.

National Saturday Art Club

Club Members who attend the club at Time and Tide Museum produced a creative documentary film about the 1953 Great Flood and their views on contemporary flood risk. The film was prompted by the 75th anniversary of the Great Flood which affected Great Yarmouth and communities along the east coast, including the relatives of some club members. The film, titled *The Calm Before the Storm*, was created with support from East Coast College's media department. It will be shared on Norfolk Museum Service's digital channels later in the year.

Club members have most recently completed an environmental youth social

action project, *Wherry Lines*, in partnership with Greater Anglia, Broads Authority and The Green Influencers scheme. This included two field trips and a boat trip at How Hill, sketching and photographing the Broads environment. With support from a local illustrator, animator and a graphic design agency, club members are producing a set of railway posters advertising the Broads, inspired by historic posters in museum collections. These will be displayed in train stations along the Wherry Line this summer.

We also took part in the annual Masterclass, an opportunity to enjoy a workshop with a creative practitioner. Danie Hadley from Yawn Marketing (Norwich) delivered an 'anti-business card' activity celebrating the unique creative talents of club members. NSC continues to support 16 club members, all local to the area and many of whom experience additional learning needs, with free youth-led creative programmes with 18 full-day workshops annually.

New Navigators

An enthusiastic cohort of young people aged 16-25 continue to attend our monthly consultation group at Time and Tide Museum. So far, participants have made significant contributions to the Retro Games Exhibition and fed into consultations for the Time & Tide and Winter Gardens development projects. New Navigators strives to embed the youth voice into museum operations, planning and delivery, and offer transferable skills and work experience to the young people in the group.

East Coast College Students Activity for Big Norfolk Holiday Activity Fund

Part-time students completing a Level 2 in Creative Enterprise with University of Suffolk are working alongside the museums team to develop an ambitious and exciting day of activities for local families. The event will be delivered in August, and celebrate the Bare Bones exhibition by inviting families to create paper mâché bones which will be hung in the Smoke Stacks. The event, titled *All Our Bones Are Different*, is free to join and will also provide lunch to children eligible for free school meals.

Heritage Action Zone Film

In April, Historic England released a new documentary exploring the ghost signage and high street history of Great Yarmouth, supported by NMS Youth Engagement Officer Alex Day. A trailer for the film has attracted 200k views on Instagram and a positive reception. The documentary is part of the cultural programme for the HAZ project, which supported local creative projects investigating the history of our high street. NSC Club members, for example, created an exhibition of 3D shop signs and letterpress prints inspired by Arnold's Department Store and the Slipper Baths. You can read more about Time and Tide Museum's HSHAZ projects on our WordPress blog.

Smokehouse Gallery

The Creative Collisions youth arts network, based at Time and Tide Museum, has received an Art Fund grant of £40,880 to create a new digital art gallery at the museum. The funding will also support two residencies by leading digital artists who will create artworks inspired by our world cultures collections. The artists will work with students at East Coast College (GY) and East Norfolk Sixth Form who will create their own digital artworks to show at the museum. A recent open to call to artists resulted in 31 submissions from digital artists with a wide variety of approaches. Museum staff created a shortlist of nine artists who most closely met the brief. 24 Students at both colleges then

selected their preferred artists, giving them the final decision-making responsibility. The artists selected are Tracy Satchwill and Grace Lee. Over the summer they will be carrying out collections research in preparation for workshops with young people starting in September. The final artworks will be exhibited in the new gallery in June 2024.

Stitchers

The Great Yarmouth 'Stitchers' costume making volunteers have made many wonderful creations since March. They have created 17th century costumes for school events for Norwich Castle's HMS Gloucester shipwreck exhibition, rotting fruit and vegetables for the Tolhouse stocks, mermaid tails for all the family to try on at the museum, sensory bones and a crochet crown fit for a king for our coronation event. The Stitchers also showcased their work at the recent 'Cultural Connections' volunteering project launch event at the Time and Tide Museum. This was a lovely chance to reflect on what they have made over the years and to talk to visitors about their work.

5.4 Kick the Dust: Norfolk – countywide project update

The Kick the Dust: Norfolk project, initially funded through the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) and delivered in partnership with a range of organisations including YMCA Norfolk, continues to engage with young people aged 11-25. The project provides a structured progression pathway for young people: Player-Shaper-Leader <https://www.museums.norfolk.gov.uk/join-and-support/kick-the-dust>

This is the final report for the NLHF-funded phase of the Kick the Dust project and highlights the work of the Kick the Dust team in terms of how it adapted its approach to accommodate activity since the start of the project in October 2018 through to the completion of the NLHF-funded project at the end of March 2023. The team has developed a blended offer with over three quarters of sessions being delivered face-to-face and online engagement for those groups where this was the most appropriate approach to remove access barriers. This is the case for our online work experience programme which removed access barriers for those wishing to engage in this acclaimed programme but where travel would be a barrier.

This report compares our data with that of the other 12 national Kick the Dust projects through the Renaisi data produced for the National Lottery Heritage Fund from Oct 2020 to September 2021.

Current number of interventions with young people:

From the start of lockdown to 31 March 2023 there were a total of 7,834 interventions, involving 2,805 individual young people taking part in 3,907 hours of quality digital activity. Following post-COVID reopening and access to groups on site and in outdoor settings, the team delivered 903 face to face sessions (78% of all delivery) with young people across the county, out of a total of 1,158 sessions delivered between March 2020 and 31 March 2023. This equates to 78% of all activity being delivered face to face. This blended approach offers a more diverse range of opportunities for young people to engage in heritage and has informed the approach taken forward in the new Kick the Dust projects which started in April 2023.

Total participation numbers from October 2018 are 13,905 interventions, involving 4,527 individual young people taking part in 7,039 hours of quality activity, taking us beyond the initial NLHF target of 8,000 interventions.

More young people have taken the lead in projects, shifting the percentage of

activity at each of the 4 levels. In the last year there has been no need to deliver activity at Pre-Player level showing that the YMCA young people had gained in confidence and were taking part in longer term projects on our sites:

- 25% of all activity was at Player level
- 40% at Shaper level • 35% at Leader level.
- 86% of all activity in March involved young people in leading and designing projects, taking on the role of Young Ambassador and playing a leading part in the Youth Board.

Breakdown of activity taking place in each area since October 2018:

- 47% (1,449 opportunities) in the West (covering Kings Lynn, Thetford and Gressenhall),
- 27% (825 opportunities) in the East (covering Great Yarmouth, Cromer and Sheringham)
- 26% (771 opportunities) in Norwich
- 331 volunteering opportunities have been provided to 180 individual young people.

We continue to develop and deliver an online training offer for all staff and volunteers who support youth engagement in NMS. In total 420 staff have taken part in training since October 2018, with 151 having taken up opportunities in lockdown. In addition, 45 young volunteers have taken part in training. Kick the Dust has supported seven young people on its bursary traineeship programme, the last cohort finishing in May 2022, all of whom have secured permanent employment within the heritage sector. A further six young people completed the pre-traineeship programme. One Kick the Dust participant progressed onto the NMS Teaching Museum traineeship programme with three others applying for the role and being shortlisted. Two Young Ambassadors have progressed onto teacher training programmes. Our seven Young Ambassadors have supported Institutional Change within NMS on the strategic Youth Board and Project Board. Staff from our Front of House (FOH) and Visitor Services teams have engaged in training such as mentoring and coaching, mental health first aid and creating autism friendly spaces which played a key role in supporting the new pre-traineeship pilot programme for YMCA clients and other vulnerable groups. Two of the staff at Norwich who mentored the young YMCA trainees have since secured promotion in their roles.

Our offer to support staff and volunteers around the important theme of mental health and wellbeing is on-going and the Youth Board have worked with NCC Public Health and the Audience Agency to incorporate the framework to measure mental wellbeing into a new evaluation tool which was rolled out from April 2023. Data from the young people's feedback forms shows that 26% of young people up to 31 March 2023 identified as having a mental health issue. As more FOH staff have taken part in training to gain confidence in working with young people facing more complex barriers to engagement, these teams have offered opportunities to young people to gain further experience. The team at the Museum of Norwich and Time and Tide Museum supported three YMCA clients onto the pre-traineeship programme and Stories of Lynn took on a young person with complex learning needs to support the Learning and Engagement Officer who has since progressed into a role with the Corn Exchange in Kings Lynn to gain further experience.

Feedback from the three trainees has been extremely positive with comments

such as:

'This traineeship has given structure to other areas of my life. I now have a routine which will help me achieve other things in my life. Having structure has had a massive positive impact on my mental health' (Trainee Norwich YMCA)
'Being in a working environment and watching staff work has made it easier for me to interact with people and school children. Having to manage my bursary payments has also helped me with finances and I am finding that easier now'. (Trainee Great Yarmouth YMCA)

'This programme has given me confidence. Confidence within myself, confidence to communicate better and confidence to know I am capable of putting myself out there and learning new things and being able to share that information I have learnt with others The KTD programme allowed me to apply for the pre-traineeship. This opportunity has well and truly been amazing so far. My confidence has skyrocketed. And I have been surrounded by intelligent and passionate people. I am wanting to apply for the full traineeship due to loving my experience so far. This has made me consider what routes I can take in my future. I know I want to work with young people, and it would be amazing to potentially work in a museum in the future teaching and sharing my interest with young people!' (Trainee YMCA Norwich)

NMS and NCC continue to work together through the 'Making Creative Futures' group where members from across Children's Services identify ways to engage the hardest to reach and most vulnerable children and young people through a joint effort. The group continues to play a key part in the delivery of activity as part of the DfE funded Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) project through the Big Norfolk Fun programme (Big Norfolk Holiday Fun - Active Norfolk) and through our own contributions to this through our Kick the Dust offer. The focus is on mental health and wellbeing and now has representation from the NCC Public Health team.

Breakdown of participants

We have worked with a higher number of older young people aged 17-25 years through our partnerships with YMCA Norfolk and the University of East Anglia and Norwich University of the Arts (54%). Whilst the number of young people aged 11-16 (42%) years is lower than the older age groups, this has enabled these young people to progress through the programme. The comparison with the Renaisi data below is in brackets and highlights the changes since the last Renaisi report in 2021. Across all 12 Kick the Dust projects, the largest proportion of participants were from the 17-19 category (24%), while the largest proportion in Years 2 and 3 of the project came from the 14-16 category (32%). Approximately half of participants (49%) were aged 11-16 in Years 2 and 3, compared to 32% in this final year. The reasons cited by Renaisi for this change is that young people are engaging in deeper levels of engagement than in previous years which in turn could explain why participants are from the older age groups. Whilst this is the case for Kick the Dust Norfolk, we are providing a range of Shaper and Leader opportunities for young people across all age groups participating although the older age groups tend to be engaged at Leader level.

- 7% aged 11-13 years (15%)
- 12% aged 14-16 years (17%)
- 29% aged 17-19 years (24%)
- 29% aged 20-22 years (22%)

- 22% aged 23-25 years (23%)

Data is collected around ethnicity through the Young People's Feedback form (should they choose to answer this question) and is based on the descriptions used by the NLHF: (Renaisi data is shown in brackets).

Breakdown of ethnicity:

- Asian – 3% (5%)
- Black - 1.5% (7%)
- Arab – 0.2% (1%)
- Irish traveller – 0.5% (1%)
- Mixed ethnic – 4% (5%)
- White – 91% (70%)

Those who chose to respond to the question on whether they had a physical or mental disability which can be a barrier to engagement is as follows:

- Disabled – 22% (9% in Renaisi data)
- Non-disabled – 28%
- Preferred not to answer – 48%

A large number chose not to answer this question but a further 7% of young people added that additional barriers to their engagement included transport and finances.

How young people found out about Kick the Dust has changed since the beginning of the project with 16% coming to us through social media posts and the new Kick the Dust web pages, 10% through flyers and posters, 19% through friends or a family member and 12% from having taken part in a previous Kick the Dust activity. Strong partnerships with Children's Services and other cultural and youth organisations accounts for 43% of young people being signposted to Kick the Dust, showing the importance of maintaining these partnerships going forward.

Target audiences: (some young people fall into more than one category) as of 31/3/2023

- FE/HE – 33%
- YMCA clients – 34%
- Secondary schools – 22%

Young people with mental health issues – 26%

- SEND – 13% • Outside of mainstream education – 10%
- NEET – 10%
- Looked after children and adopted living those at home - 4%
- Care Leavers – 4% • Young Offenders and those at risk of offending – 3%
- Young Carers – 3%
- New arrivals and refugees – 3%
- Pregnant young mums and teenage parents – 2%

As part of the feedback, young people are asked how aware they are of the range of job roles available within NMS and the heritage sector and how they perceive museums in terms of being spaces for young people. (Updated 31/3/23)

• Before taking part in a KTD programme, 61% of young people stated they had little or no knowledge of job roles in NMS or the heritage sector. After their engagement 55% of these young people stated they now had a good understanding of the different job roles available in the sector and a further 40% felt more knowledgeable. 94% stated that the skills they had learnt would be useful to them in the future (Renaisi 92%). This shows that Kick the Dust as

a programme enables young people to gain a greater understanding of the opportunities within the heritage sector and develop transferable work skills.

- Following their engagement, 85% felt that museums were a space they would use in the future with 85% stating their engagement had been 'as expected or better than they expected'.

When we compare all our data to the Renaisi findings, (which uses data from October 2020 to September 2021 across all 12 national Kick the Dust projects), it shows we are in line with other Kick the Dust projects, scoring higher in 10 of the 13 areas. (The Renaisi responses can be found in the brackets and will be updated at the end of the project once the data is released).

Following their engagement: updated 31/3/23

- 80% of young people felt that there were jobs for young people like themselves to work in heritage with 13% not sure and needing to find out more. (Renaisi 67%).

- 87% of young people said they had learnt new and interesting things about heritage (Renaisi 85%); 83% of young people felt that heritage represented young people like them (Renaisi 73%);

- 73% of young people said they were more likely to become a volunteer because of their involvement in KTD (Renaisi 78%) and 77% stated they would be looking to take part in other local heritage events as a result of their engagement (Renaisi 73%).

- 98% of young people stated they felt welcomed and respected by staff (Renaisi 95%) and 94% felt a sense of achievement (Renaisi 82%).

- 97% felt heritage delivered in this way would engage other young people (Renaisi 92%) with 98% of young people stating they now had a better understanding of heritage having taken part in the programme (Renaisi 85%)

- 84% of young people felt they had the opportunity to influence decisions. (Renaisi 64%)

- 91% stated there was something for everyone irrespective of background (Renaisi 91%) although this needs to be put into context of other demographic data for Norfolk.

- 91% of young people felt that the programme was easy and affordable to get involved in but had concerns that they may not be able to do this in the future if there was a significant cost to them with 50% of this number stating financial concerns as a barrier. (Renaisi 93%).

- 88% of young people said they had found heritage more relevant than they had before embarking on their Kick the Dust journey with 12% neither agreeing nor disagreeing (Renaisi 81%).

Summary

The NLHF-funded phase of the NMS Kick the Dust project ended in March 2023 with evidence clearly demonstrating the impact on young people and staff engaging in activity. As we deliver activity through our blended offer of face-to-face activity and online engagement, this impact is increased further as more staff engage in the co-delivery of activity and see the benefits to their own development. This has been seen in the delivery of current exhibitions, curation, the pre -traineeship programme and through collections.

Kick the Dust was set up as a three-stage journey, with young people developing transferable work-related skills and gaining experiences that they would struggle to find elsewhere, to support them in securing employment.

Whilst young people cite being involved in curation and creating exhibitions as the main areas they have enjoyed, it is through these activities that they hone their skills and understanding of the workplace, which will help them secure employment longer term. The introduction of the 10 hour per week pre-traineeship programme allowed the young people who have been developing their skills through the Kick the Dust programme, but who lack the confidence to put themselves forward for job roles, to go through a supportive recruitment process and receive mentoring support to help them progress after the programme finishes. Feedback from those taking part in the pilot shows that this adds real value to the overall offer and that the process has helped them have the confidence to put themselves forward. The 10 hours a week posts meets the needs of the young person and the participating team and will be used to demonstrate to smaller museums that they can support a young person from a more challenging background in a meaningful way as well as provide opportunities for professional development for their own staff.

Our aim as we move forward is to support more working age young people to progress into employment, training or further learning and long-term volunteering. The new pilot for the bursary pre-traineeship programme has enabled us to gauge the need and success of this entry level pathway into the sector. We have seen young people move through the programme, gaining the confidence to take on volunteering roles within NMS, others securing their first job through the Government's Kick Start 6-month placement programme; three young people who have taken up positions within NMS Front of House teams, eight young people progressing onto the Teaching Museum and Kick the Dust bursary traineeship programme, four of the last cohort of trainees securing permanent employment in the sector, one with NMS; two young people progressing onto Teacher Training, and nine young people taking on the Young Ambassador roles, one of whom has recently secured a position with Norfolk and Norwich Festival and another on a Teacher training programme. Others have stated that their involvement has helped them make choices around subjects and options at school and college.

The building of the strong partnerships we have developed through Kick the Dust has been pivotal to the success of the project. As these organisations have become more familiar with the approach of Kick the Dust, take up has continued to increase. The Kick the Dust web pages on the NMS site has brought traffic and enquiries from young people who would not ordinarily come to us through our existing partnerships which will support future growth and solidify the way NMS approaches youth engagement going forward.

Feedback

'Make Yarmouth & Saturday Art Club have influenced me to do more creativity and thanks to Kick the Dust for helping and supporting us. I was really shy when I started and didn't speak much. I feel quite confident and have improved a lot more by being here and learning and artists and the history of Time and Tide'(Young Carer in the East).

'I chose film production after a National Saturday Club taster session at East Norfolk Sixth Form. She is now applying for a volunteering role as a result.'(Project Worker East)

'I still thought it was worth emailing to say thank you for the photos of the museum club enjoying the trail, it's so lovely to know they gave it such positive feedback as well! It was a lovely project to be involved in and I feel I have

learned a lot about creating heritage projects in more practical terms, so thank you for that. I also hope that when I have the time there are more Kick the Dust projects I can get involved in! (Young Person on the Faith and Ritual YAF project)

'It was a wonderful opportunity to be able to be a part of the SHARE organising group, so thank you for having young people, like myself, involved at an organising capacity at this event. It was very insightful and I learnt a lot. Thank you also for being so patient and helpful with my questions!' (Lily F Young Ambassador KTD). Following the event Lily secured a job with Norfolk & Norwich Festival in Kings Lynn – *'I have been successful in a job application (which I'm so happy about!!), to work at Kings Lynn Festival as their 'events and communications intern'*

'Kick the Dust has helped me to gain real-life experience within the museum and heritage sector. I was able to curate, organise and develop my own creative project which has since been on display in numerous venues in Norfolk. As a result of this, I have been able to kick start my career as a project coordinator within the arts and culture sector. Without the hands-on experience that Kick the Dust gave me, and the help and knowledge of the scheme's organisers, I wouldn't have had the experience or confidence to start applying for the jobs I once dreamed of.' (Young person on the online work experience programme.) *Lily who completed the 6 month Kick Start programme apologised for not being able to apply for the new Project Worker role saying: 'I was starting my application when I received a job offer regarding a role at the GroundWork Gallery in King's Lynn. I have accepted this so will no longer be applying for the Project Worker position. Which is bittersweet as the role breakdown excited me. Thank you so much for sending it over, I really appreciated it as I hadn't seen it.'* Lily – Young Ambassador

One of our complex needs young people who had previously applied for a traineeship has been successful on his work experience with Norfolk Library service. The project worker stated: *'I am sitting S who was one of the Time Turners and former College of West Anglia students. He has just completed his job placement with the library and has done brilliantly. He is applying for a permanent part-time post with the library service and has successfully been accepted onto their Casual staff list and hoping for a job in the library permanently'*. R Williams Project Worker and mentor Working on the Baedeker project Aug to Nov 22 one young person stated: *'I feel that working on this project has been a new experience which has really helped me to develop some new skills and gain some new knowledge' "Throughout my time with KTD, I couldn't be more amazed and grateful for all of the opportunities that have been presented to me. I have learnt so much about many different topics, in a variety of different ways; whether this being through activities at the YMCA, trips out to museums, being able to lead/tour other groups of YMCA residents (Leicester trip), volunteering with Museum lab to help me gain experience for my dream job of working with young people (this is fab as it combines my love for art and new found deep interest in history and helps me take steps to be closer to my dream). Along with this, I have truly been able to express myself in a new way. This programme has given me confidence. Confidence within myself, confidence to communicate better and confidence to know I am capable of putting myself out there and learning new things and being able to share that information I have learnt with others. Kick the Dust*

has also allowed me to see the government does have an interest in young people's voices. We had a trip to Yarmouth and visited winter gardens and it was so cool to throw around ideas and to be a part of this buildings journey! The KTD programme allowed me to apply for the pre-traineeship. This opportunity has well and truly been amazing so far. My confidence has skyrocketed. And I have been surrounded by intelligent and passionate people. And I am wanting to apply for the full traineeship due to loving my experience so far. And this has made me consider what routes I can take in my future. I know I want to work with young people and it would be amazing to potentially work in a museum in the future teaching and sharing my interest with young people! I have also been involved with the climate change mural project being ran through KTD. These workshops have helped me to be creative, be collaborative, learn about our planet, thinking of being more conscious when making daily decisions and how they'll impact the planet. The artwork is amazing, the message behind it is inspiring and it's so cool the artist worked with scientists. All messages I want to bring with me to inspire other young people. I have no idea where I would be today without KTD. The programme has been the greatest impact on my life in a very positive way."

(Trainee Norwich YMCA)

Future funding

Whilst the NLHF-funded Kick the Dust project ended in March 2023, NMS will be maintaining the Kick the Dust: Norfolk brand as the vehicle for our ongoing youth engagement programmes. NMS has secured 3 years of funding from 2023-26 to support Kick the Dust activity through Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation uplift funding. This will see the Kick the Dust team further developing the existing partnerships with libraries to support the development of young people's cultural and digital skills and provide pathways to employment in the cultural sector. Additional funding has also been secured in 2023-24 from NCC Public Health to support Kick the Dust activity focussed on young people's mental health and wellbeing.

New funding bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund

A successful National Lottery Heritage Fund Grants for Heritage Round 1 application was submitted to the NLHF for the Your Heritage Your Future project. The application was submitted by YMCA Leicester, with NMS as Lead Partner. This complex application was put together by a joint project team of staff from YMCA Leicester and NMS, who will now work on the Development Phase of this application, ahead of a Round 2 bid submission in early 2024. If the Round 2 bid is successful, project delivery would commence in later 2024.

Update on Kick the Dust activity since April 2023

Following the successful conclusion of the NLHF-funded Kick the Dust project, NMS has secured additional funding through an Arts Council England NPO Uplift award for the period 2023-26. This will enable NMS to continue to support young people in the three Levelling up for Culture places of Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn and Thetford. This additional funding will enable young people to participate in high quality cultural and heritage activities that develop their creative and digital skills and potential, as well as prepare them for the workplace.

During 2023-24 NMS is also receiving funding from Norfolk County Council (NCC) Public Health to support Kick the Dust activities that focus on the mental health and wellbeing of Norfolk young people.

NMS is partnering with Norfolk Library & Information Service (NLIS) to deliver this exciting programme of activity enabling us to strengthen partnership working between museum and library staff and increase levels of cultural engagement by young people in a sustained way, employing the successful Kick the Dust approach to youth engagement that uses the three-stage progression model Player-Shaper-Leader. The programme will be aimed at those in the three priority places aged 16-25 years, with opportunities for 13-16 year olds to engage as part of the progression framework.

The key aims of the new Kick the Dust project are to:

- develop transferable work-related skills with the aim of supporting more working age young people into employment, training or further learning;
- develop digital skills linked to creative industries to address the digital skills gap in heritage and cultural sectors;
- increase young people's creative skills and for young people to gain a range of new cultural experiences;
- encourage an appreciation of the history and culture of their local communities.

Young people will work alongside professionals to develop their transferable work-related and creative skills, through the co-production of activity and events, volunteering and work experience operating at a level that meets their needs.

The following data is based on the start of the project covering the period 1 May to 31 June 2023.

Number of interventions with young people:

Between 1/5/23 and 31/6/23 there have been 123 interventions involving 95 individual young people taking part in 110 hours of quality activity. 82% of the activities were face to face, the other sessions being offered online with young people in the principal target areas.

This blended approach offers a wider range of opportunities for young people to engage in heritage:

- 25% of activity was at Player level (to introduce new young people to the project)
- 28% at Shaper level (longer term project with young people determining the content)
- 47% at Leader level (long term engagement – young people leading projects, acting at governance level, mentoring staff)
- 75% of all activity involved young people in leading and designing projects.

Breakdown of activity taking place in each area:

- 10% (3 opportunities) in the West (covering Kings Lynn, Thetford),
- 37% (11 opportunities) in the East (covering Great Yarmouth, Cromer)
- 40% (12 opportunities) in Norwich
- A further 2 opportunities (11%) were offered to young people at alternative venues outside of Norfolk including attendance at the 'Young People and Skills' conference in London at the Houses of Parliament and City Hall.
- 11 volunteering opportunities have been provided to 7 individual young people.

We continue to deliver a blended training offer for all staff and volunteers who support youth engagement in NMS. Staff input to the training programme will be formulated as the project progresses and needs are identified. Training around safeguarding was delivered in-house in June, two of the new Project Workers took part of a Mentoring in Museums course, the team are attending

the Library Living Networks event on video making in July and further opportunities are being planned for the Autumn term to include SEND and Mental Health First Aid training.

Quotes from our Young Ambassadors regarding their engagement in Kick the Dust and their involvement in the *Done and Dusted* project celebration event held on 28 March, show the impact that the programme has had on them. *'Kick the dust gave me hands on experience of the industry I want to work for while becoming more proficient in the skills I need to get me there.'* Chloe, Young Ambassador *'The most important thing that Kick the Dust did for me was increase my confidence through representing the voices of other young people, inspiring me to pursue a career in the museum sector by showing me that it's a place where I'm able to make positive institutional change.'* Emily, Young Ambassador

'A fantastic opportunity to develop my confidence, experience and skills for future employability, and learning more about different opportunities in the heritage sector, as well as the next steps I want to take and my future aims' (Emily following her engagement in Kick the Dust)

'Kick the Dust has played such a key part in my life and helped me secure employment when most doors were closed to me, giving me the skills and confidence to move forward. It is like being part of a family.' Jazz, Young Ambassador

'My experience has been highly positive. It has allowed me to connect with other young people with a similar interest in the industry. It has also provided me with varied work experience that will contribute significantly to my search for employment in the sector. I have learnt so much more about the heritage sector and the abundance of roles at play, which has led me to new interests and career goals. Engaging with people currently working in the sector has been invaluable and deepens my understanding of the importance of the work the museum services do in the local community.' (Marr, Young Ambassador)

6.

Visitor numbers

A summary of participation numbers including via social media will be circulated with the minutes.

The Chair thanked the Museums team for their comprehensive report.

Councillor Jeal commented that when the museum was initially conceived one of the conditions was that it had to keep the original footprint and that it would be a shame to get rid of the cobbles as there were very few places in Great Yarmouth where they remained. Andrew Smith responded that the designs had not yet been submitted to the Planning department. The cobbles were not the original cobbles and only the central path would be relaid to make it easier for wheelchair users and prams. The museum has spoken to the Preservation Trust who are happy for the work to proceed and the museum will be working closely with the conservation officer. The project is still in its early days and is likely to be completed by 2027.

Councillor Freeman asked about the projected cost of the project.

Andrew Smith advised that the total cost of the project is likely to be £5-6m.

Councillor Freeman asked whether the improvements to the museum would be net zero.

Andrew Smith explained that it was not feasible to install an air source heat pump due to the lack of space on the museum's footprint but improvements

would be made to the building's structure and lighting to lessen the environmental effects. Advice from experts regarding the most efficient systems would be sought and taken but it would be necessary to preserve the existing framework of the buildings, although it might be possible to hide some systems behind the infill which would be used to support the weight of the canopy.

Councillor Bird commented that it was a wonderful project that looked very appealing and asked if it was possible to put any events on in the evenings to raise money, as had been done in the past.

Andrew Smith advised that evening events had been held at the museum and this was something that could be looked into, using it as a community space.

Councillor McMullen asked how the Saturday Art Club was advertised as she had not seen much on social media.

Colin Stott advised that it was advertised through schools and social media and there would be a media campaign with posters locally.

There were no further questions.

RESOLVED:-

That the Area Museums Committee noted the report.

06 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman reported that there was no other business being of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration at the meeting.

The meeting ended at: 16:30

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK

KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK AREA MUSEUMS COMMITTEE

Minutes from the Meeting of the King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee held on Monday, 9th October, 2023 at 2.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn PE30 5DQ

PRESENT:

Borough Councillors

Councillors P Bland, A Bubb, M de Whalley
Mr B Davison

County Councillors

Councillors L Bambridge, M Chenery, A Kemp

Norfolk Museums Service

R Hanley and R Williams

1 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2023/2024**

RESOLVED: Councillor A Bubb be appointed Chair for the Municipal Year 2023/2024.

2 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2023/2024**

RESOLVED: Councillor A Kemp be appointed Chair for the Municipal Year 2023/2024.

3 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor C Dawson, Oliver Bone, Curator at Lynn Museum and Lindsay Bavin, Manager of True's Yard Museum.

4 **MINUTES**

[Click here to view a recording of this item on You Tube](#)

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 March 2023 were agreed as a correct record subject to the following amendments highlighted in bold.

Page 7: Councillor de Whalley Amend to read to promote the **loss of** biodiversity species.

Page 8: Councillor de Whalley asked whether they were looking to **expand** their relationship with other museums.

Page 8: Councillor Kemp raised comments and questions regarding **Savages**.

5 **MATTERS ARISING**

[Click here to view a recording of this item on You Tube](#)

Councillor Bubb referred to page 7 referred to the purchase of items from the museum and informed those present he had purchased a number of stoneware Seahenge mugs, but there was no mention of the Museum or where you could see the Seahenge exhibition and suggested that the volume 2 of the mugs might include details of Lynn Museum. In response, the Assistant Head of Museums undertook to pass the comments to the Retail Manager.

6 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

[Click here to view a recording of this item on You Tube](#)

Councillor P Bland declared an interest as a Trustee of True's Yard Museum.

7 **REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT HEAD OF MUSEUMS**

[Click here to view a recording of this item on You Tube](#)

The Assistant Head of Museums presented the report on the King's Lynn Museum activities for the period March to August 2023.

The Committee's attention was drawn to the following areas of the report:

- Covid-19 and Infection Control service update.
- Exhibitions and events at Lynn Museum.
- Forthcoming exhibitions: The Tiger who came to Tea, The Moon: Meet our Nearest Neighbour, Woof – a Celebration of Dogs.
- Family events.
- Family trails.
- Mini Museum
- #Thanks to You Tours.
- Coffee Mornings.
- Heritage Open Days.
- Newman Legacy.
- Other Museum Developments.

- Partnerships.
- Learning and Outreach.
- Kick the Dust Norfolk – Project Update. A verbal update was given following publication of the Agenda.

The visitor figures for the period March to August 2023 were noted, a copy is attached to the minutes. The Committee was advised that visitor numbers were looking good and to date Lynn Museum was currently on track to reach the levels recorded prior to Covid of between 18,000 and 20,000 visits per year.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Head of Museums for the report and invited questions and comments from the Committee, a summary of which is set out below.

Councillor de Whalley commented that it was great to hear that Seahenge was of national and international importance and added there were other historical interests that were both national and international importance and gave an example of the Custom House and asked if there was any update which was part of the Riverfront project of the Town Deal Fund . Councillor de Whalley went on to say that it was good to see involvement with the interpretation of the Guildhall but it did suggest that all of the above three things were creating interest across the country and world and it suggested that consideration should be given to using all 3 together and anything else of interest to drive up visitor numbers to King's Lynn and to the museum.

In response, the Assistant Head of Museums explained that the NMS worked closely with the Borough Council colleagues and were involved in all of the projects mentioned. Seahenge had been a significant part of the redevelopment of the Lynn Museum and had attracted and continued to attract significant interest locally, regionally, nationally and internationally and in terms of marketing activity for the Lynn Museum although there were other sites of interest, the NMS led on the Lynn Museum and had been effective in bringing visitors into the town. The Committee was informed that NMS worked with the Borough Council on marketing campaigns, including Discover King's Lynn which had been successful over the years. NMS was embedded within the project team for the Guildhall and sought to identify opportunities to see the mutual benefits between the sites and look to develop a broader offer for visitors. Members were advised that it was explained that the NMS worked with other collections and partners to share best practice and look at advantages of a wider King's Lynn offer. It was noted that NMS had also being involved with the previous development of the Custom House and the proposed next steps.

The Assistant Head of Museums added that NMS had a good working relationship with the Borough Council to promote the heritage offer in King's Lynn and also worked closely with colleagues in True's Yard and supported other partners when in shared territory and gave an

example of the way the Learning Officers within King's Lynn regularly came together to share experience, best practice and support.

Councillor de Whalley referred to potential risk from rain damage to Town Hall exhibits in the future when heavy rainfalls occurred and asked what plans/works were in place to ensure that excessively heavy rainfall was not going to be an issue for buildings that housed exhibits. In response, the Assistant Head of Museums explained that there was a Borough Council maintenance team for any works required for the Town Hall. For NMS sites NMS had a good property maintenance team which looked after the 10 museums and other NMS buildings within Norfolk. The Committee reviewed an overview of the challenges faced and business continuity arrangements in place to ensure all buildings were maintained. It was further explained that within the NMS there were mitigation measures in place to mitigate the impact on heritage buildings.

Following further questions from Councillor de Whalley on the Kick the Dust statistics set out on page 25 of the agenda and the reported high numbers of young people with mental health issues was indicative of being a general problem within the Borough's youth and should it be something the Norfolk County Council/Borough Council should be looking at and added that equally that there was 0% from care leavers and looked after children and asked if this was something that the Norfolk County Council could assist in raising the profile thereof. In response, the Assistant Head of Museums explained that the statistics in this report for participants including looked after children was from the start of the new Arts Council England-funded Kick the Dust project from end May/beginning June 2023 and advised that under the previous project that had been in operation since 2018, there had been high levels of young people engaging in work in the looked after children category. It was further explained that it was anticipated the figures would change once the new projects became more active but they were currently in the early stages of development. The Committee received an overview of the working relationships with other partners to deliver projects.

The Assistant Head of Museums highlighted the importance of the mental health and well-being work being undertaken by the Borough and County Councils and advised that the NMS team had participated in specialist training and worked in partnership with the YMCA in Norfolk and Leicestershire and other partners including Public Health and also provided an overview of the evaluation process.

Mr Davison commented that Kick the Dust (KTD) was an important project and asked what steps were in place to secure funding in the future. The Assistant Head of Museums explained that NMS recognised that when developing the draft NMS 5 year strategy, it was important to note that KTD started as a project but was now a way of working within NMS and obtaining funding was therefore critical and advised that the initial programme was funded by the Heritage Lottery

Fund (now National Lottery Heritage Fund) which concluded at the end of March 2023. The Committee was informed that funding had been secured for the next three years from Arts Council England as part of an uplift to the NMS national portfolio organisation funding programme which created a direct connection to the core work undertaken by NMS. The Assistant Head of Museums explained that NMS had also been developing a relationship with Norfolk Public Health. The next steps regarding funding would be to seek National Lottery Heritage Fund funding, with a Round 2 application in partnership with YMCA Leicestershire due to be submitted in May 2023 and outcome announced in summer 2023 which would then be a four year programme potentially commencing in autumn 2024. NMS would then be looking for other continuation funding opportunities.

Following further comments from Mr Davison, the Assistant Head of Museums explained that the KTD project was on the national radar.

County Councillor Bambridge referred to future exhibitions and maritime life and mentioned Lord Nelson who did not have a significant maritime life in King's Lynn and added that Captain Vancouver did and was honoured in King's Lynn.

Councillor Bambridge mentioned Samuel Gurney Cresswell who was born at the Bank House, King's Lynn and died at a young age locally in North Runcton and explained that there was local historian who was going to write a book about him.

County Councillor Bambridge also asked if the Hanse League was to be included in the maritime life exhibition.

In response to the above questions, the Assistant Head of Museums explained that in terms of maritime the NMS worked closely with the Stories of Lynn and Creswell did feature in the Stories of Lynn displays and the exhibition in Stories of Lynn focussed on King's Lynn maritime heritage and the story of the Hanse and explorers/traders that came out of King's Lynn and the exhibition complimented what was on display at the Lynn Museum. The Committee was informed that exhibition space in the Stories of Lynn was the best place for a Hanse display.

County Councillor Bambridge commented that she had sent an email to the Director of the Norfolk Museums Service regarding the Manby brothers from Hilgay. One was a sailor and the other invented an incredible piece of equipment.

County Councillor Bambridge added that West Norfolk Astronomy Society wished to become involved in the Moon exhibition and took photographs of the moon. Councillor Bambridge undertook to forward the contact details to the Assistant Head of Museums.

The Assistant Head of Museums responded to questions from Councillor Kybird relating to the Google Arts and Cultural process/engagement with the NMS.

Following questions from County Councillor Chenery, the Assistant Head of Museums provided an overview of the partnership and specialist training available for well-being and mental health. The Assistant Head of Museums undertook to circulate a list of providers.

The Assistant Head of Museums responded to questions from County Councillor Kemp in relation to home schooled children. County Councillor Bambridge advised that there was a Facebook page for home schooled children.

The Chair, Councillor Bubb referred to the list of recent talks held at the Lynn Museum, times held, attendance rates and maximum capacity the Assistant Head of Museums explained that the maximum capacity was around 30 but undertook to pass the comment onto the Curators to check capacity.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

8 **REPORT FROM THE LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT OFFICER - STORIES OF LYNN AND PROJECT WORKING FOR KICK THE DUST**

[Click here to view a recording of this item on You Tube](#)

The Learning and Engagement Officer presented the report for the period 1 March to 23 September 2023 and highlighted the following sections of the report:

- Schools.
- Kick the Dust in King's Lynn – Wednesday's Churchill Park Complex Needs School students, work experience, supporting other activities.
- Family Learning Activities – At Stories of Lynn, Activities at St George's Guildhall Events, Thursdays – Youth Working Session: Play in a Day.
- Ukraine Independence Day.
- Events for October half term are in place and young people in three different groups are helping to devise and deliver the day's activities.
- Change Minds evaluation.

The Chair thanked the Learning and Engagement Officer for the report and invited questions and comments from the Committee.

Councillor de Whalley proposed a vote of thanks to the Learning and Engagement Officer for her valuable work undertaken during her time at the Stories of Lynn and wished her well for the future. Councillor

Kemp seconded the vote of thanks and the Committee gave a round of applause to Rachael.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

9 **TRUE'S YARD REPORT**

In the absence of the Manager, True's Yard, the Chair, Councillor Bubb invited the Committee to email any questions direct to the Manager.

RESOLVED: The Committee noted the report.

10 **REPORT OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK**

In the absence of the Senior Tourism Support Officer, the Chair, Councillor Bubb invited the Committee to email any questions direct to the Senior Tourism Support Officer.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

11 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on 8 January 2024 at 2 pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall.

The Chair, Councillor Bubb asked if the Democratic Services Officer could contact the Manager of True's Yard Museum to see if a visit could be undertaken by the Committee prior to its next meeting.

The meeting closed at 4.01 pm