

Borough Council of  
**King's Lynn &  
West Norfolk**



# **King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee**

## **Agenda**

**Monday, 16th September, 2024  
at 2.00 pm**

in the

**Council Chamber  
Town Hall  
Saturday Market Place  
King's Lynn**

Available for the public to view on  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/WestNorfolkBC>





**Kings Court, Chapel Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 1EX  
Telephone: 01553 616200**

6 September 2024

Dear Member

**King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee**

You are invited to attend a meeting of the above-mentioned Committee which will be held on **Monday, 16th September, 2024 at 2.00 pm** in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn PE30 5DQ** to discuss the business shown below.

Yours sincerely

Chief Executive

**AGENDA**

1. **Appointment of Chair for the Remainder of the Municipal Year 2024 to 2025**
2. **Appointment of Vice Chair for the Remainder of the Municipal Year 2024 to 2025**
3. **Apologies for Absence**  
To receive any apologies for absence.
4. **Minutes** (Pages 6 - 13)  
The Committee is invited to confirm as a correct record the notes of the previous meeting.
5. **Matters Arising**  
To consider any matters arising.

**6. Declarations of Interest (Page 14)**

Please indicate if there are any interests which should be declared. A declaration of interest should indicate the nature of the interest (if not already declared on the Register of Interests) and the agenda item to which it relates. If a disclosable pecuniary interest is declared, the Member should withdraw from the room whilst the matter is discussed.

These declarations apply to all Members present, whether the Member is part of the meeting, attending to speak as a local Member on an item or simply observing the meeting from the public seating area.

**7. Report of the Assistant Head of Museums (Pages 15 - 31)**

**8. True's Yard Report (Pages 32 - 36)**

**9. Stories of Lynn and Tourist Information Centre Visitor Figures (Page 37)**

**10. Date of Next Meeting**

To note the date of the next meeting is 13 January 2025 at 2.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, King's Lynn.

To:

**King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee:**

Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Councillors P Bland, T Bubb, M de Whalley, A Kemp and Non Councillor B Davison

Norfolk County Council

Councillors L Bambridge and M Chenery (3 vacancies)

Ex Officio

Councillor J Ward (Chair, Norfolk Joint Museums Committee)

Councillor R Kybird (Vice Chair, Norfolk Joint Museums Committee)

Co-opted Non-Voting Members

Ms L Bavin, True's Yard Heritage Museum Manager

Officers

Oliver Bone, Curator, Lynn Museum

Mr P Eke, Senior Tourism Support Officer, Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Dr R Hanley, Assistant Head of Museums

Mr S Miller, Head of Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service

Ms L Tisdall, Committee Officer, Norfolk County Council

**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, 17th June, 2024 at 2.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn PE30 5DQ**

**PRESENT:**

Borough Councillors

Councillors M de Whalley and A Kemp (Vice Chair in the Chair)

County Councillors

Councillors L Bambridge and M Chenery of Horsburgh

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members

Councillor J Ward, Norfolk Joint Museums Committee  
Councillor R Kybird, Norfolk Joint Museums Committee

Officers

Oliver Bone, Lynn Museum  
Robin Hanley, Norfolk Museum Service

The Vice Chair took the Chair in the Chair's absence and Councillor M de Whalley was appointed Vice Chair for the meeting.

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Borough Councillors P Bland, T Bubb, Mr B Davison, Phillip Eke, Tourism Support Officer and Lindsey Bavin, Manager of True's Yard Museum.

County Councillor L Bambridge explained to the Committee that Lindsey Bavin had accepted a part time role of Museum Enterprise Manager at the Cambridge Museum of Technology which meant Lindsey would be working part time for True's Yard going forward. County Councillor L Bambridge confirmed she would be happy to represent True's Yard in her absence as she was a Trustee, for this meeting and any future meetings.

**2 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2024 were agreed as a correct record.

### 3 **MATTERS ARISING**

Councillor M de Whalley provided the Committee with an update on the Beuy's Acorns Project and explained that officers were still working on the proposal and Councillor M de Whalley added he had reminded officers that Norfolk Museum Service had expressed an interest and confirmed they would be notified in due course as the Project proposals progress.

### 4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### 5 **REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT HEAD OF MUSEUMS**

[Click here to view the recording of this item on YouTube](#)

The Curator of the Lynn Museum introduced the report on the King's Lynn Museum activities in the period from March to May 2024. A copy of the report is attached to the minutes.

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

- Exhibitions and events at Lynn Museum
  - Current Exhibition: The Moon: Meet our Nearest Neighbour
  - Forthcoming Exhibition: Woof! A Celebration of Dogs
  - Family events
  - Family Trails
  - Mini Museum
  - Coffee Mornings
  - Talks Programme

The Chair asked the Committee if they had any questions or comments in relation to those areas of the report.

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp raised a question in relation to the current exhibition, The Moon: Meet our Nearest Neighbour and asked whether any schools had visited the exhibition. In response, the Curator of the Lynn Museum confirmed the exhibition had been very popular with families and children. He added they had received interest from schools. The Committee was informed that they had record breaking attendance for some of the family events which they had relating to The Moon themes.

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp raised a further question in relation to the forthcoming exhibition, Woof! A Celebration of Dogs and asked whether they planned to have any pictures by the 18<sup>th</sup> century artist George Stubbs as he was very good at depicting animals. In response,

the Curator of the Lynn Museum explained they did not have George Stubbs in the object list but did have work by Sir Edwin Landseer who was the Victorian artist noted for historic paintings of dogs.

In response to a further question raised by the Chair, Councillor A Kemp, the Curator of the Lynn Museum confirmed they did not have the artist Anthony van Dyck on the list but referred to the report and explained they had work by David Hockney which they were borrowing from the Tate Gallery.

County Councillor L Bambridge referred to the current exhibition, The Moon: Meet our Nearest Neighbour and mentioned that she had received good feedback on this exhibition. She also referred to the forthcoming exhibition, Woof! A Celebration of Dogs and was very impressed with the loan of artwork by David Hockney.

Councillor R Kybird asked whether dogs were welcome at the forthcoming exhibition, Woof! A Celebration of Dogs. The Curator of the Lynn Museum confirmed assistance dogs for visually impaired people would be welcome but explained they did not have a programme in place to encourage other dogs into the Lynn Museum. The Assistant Head of Museums added and explained the reason for this was because they did not want to encourage pests and want to minimise the risk to the collections within the Lynn Museum.

County Councillor L Bambridge referred to the coffee mornings and asked why the one on the 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024 only had 10 participants. The Curator of the Lynn Museum explained the coffee mornings did vary in numbers from time to time but was unsure of the reason why that coffee morning was lower with participants. He added they did review the events programme and the themes on a regular basis to check on the progress and try different ideas but confirmed he would feed that back to the team at the Lynn Museum.

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp asked how much effort they were making to encourage people from care homes to attend the coffee mornings. The Curator of the Lynn Museum highlighted they wanted to offer the Museum Service to all sectors of the community. He explained they did have contacts at care homes and added they did make contact with them to let them know but highlighted there was always more they could do with publicity and would continue to work on that.

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

- Newman Legacy project
- Other Museum developments
  - Publicity and promotion
  - NMS Teaching Museum Trainees
  - Building Work at Lynn Museum
  - Retail offer at Lynn Museum



- Support for National Lottery Open Week

The Chair invited questions and comments in relation to those areas of the report.

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp referred to the retail offer at the Lynn Museum and raised questions around how they were promoting it, how they were expanding the offer there and whether there were ways to improve it. The Curator of the Lynn Museum confirmed it was going really well at the Lynn Museum. He explained they had at the Lynn Museum and Gressenhall Museum material relating to the Taylor's Seed Shop which was in the town and added they were working with the NMS Retail Manager on developing new cards and new lines relating to Taylor's of Lynn. The Assistant Head of Museums added this was an area which they had been focusing on within the Norfolk Museums Service (NMS). The Committee were informed the NMS Retail Manager, Harriet Johnson had been working really well with the site teams across the service to make sure the retail offering matched any collections or forthcoming exhibitions and events. The Assistant Head of Museums explained they were looking at ways to develop the product line and highlighted the NMS Retail Manager was working hard to move away from cheaper imported material and work more with UK based suppliers, particularly Norfolk suppliers to offer more bespoke material. The Assistant Head of Museums referred to a question raised by Councillor A Bubb at a previous meeting in relation to the Seahenge mugs and explained they were about to launch the new range of Seahenge mugs and highlighted at the bottom of the mugs it clearly said which Museum it related to.

Following on from the question raised by the Chair, County Councillor L Bambridge commented that she had seen the retail offer promoted on Twitter, especially around Christmas time as she went to get some Christmas cards as a result. In response, the Assistant Head of Museums explained social media had been a really good way at promoting what was offered through the shops and agreed with the Chair, Councillor A Kemp that they should continue to be alert to that and use social media and other channels to raise awareness of what they had got.

County Councillor J Ward added he received messages every week on Facebook in relation to the museums and suggested it would be a good idea to pick a few things out of the shop and promote it via that social media channel as well.

The Assistant Head of Museums drew the Committee's attention further to the following areas of the report:

- Borough Council partnership working

The Assistant Head of Museums highlighted to the Committee within that section of the report that they had now recruited the successor for

Rachael Williams and explained Elizabeth Joice, who came from a teaching background, had joined the post at the end of April and added her initial priorities were around re-building the work with schools at the Stories of Lynn. The Assistant Head of Museums explained to the Committee that going forward they would ask Elizabeth Joice to provide a report for the Committee in the same way that Rachael Williams used to do if the Committee agreed to this and added the report would also include information around the visitor numbers for the Stories of Lynn. The Assistant Head of Museums confirmed they would ask Elizabeth Joice to provide a report for the next meeting. The Committee were informed that Elizabeth Joice would be going off on maternity leave towards the end of the year but explained they would be recruiting someone to cover the role.

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

- Learning & Outreach
- Kick the Dust Norfolk – project update. A verbal update was given following publication of the agenda.

In response to a question raised by the Chair, Councillor A Kemp, the Assistant Head of Museums confirmed they continued to work really closely with Children's Services colleagues and explained the Kick the Dust coordinator met on a regular basis with those colleagues and the Committee were informed they were always alert of opportunities to both involve them and to make them aware of what they were doing.

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp suggested that as Members they could write testimonials for the funding if that was to be helpful and commented that the Kick the Dust project demonstrated the power and relevance of the Museums Service in helping young people with the greatest challenges in building confidence and work related skills and added it was a fantastic project. In response, the Assistant Head of Museums explained they were always looking for further opportunities to develop Kick the Dust but highlighted that at the moment, the core activity was funded until 2027 by Arts Council England.

County Councillor L Bambridge commented and mentioned that she had seen the evidence of Kick the Dust and expressed how valuable it was and to get as much funding for it as possible.

In response to a question raised by County Councillor M Chenery of Horsburgh, the Assistant Head of Museums explained that through public health, they had been linking into a number of potential partner organisations and the Kick the Dust coordinator had been working really hard to develop new partnerships such as the Mental Health Trust. County Councillor M Chenery of Horsburgh commented that the Deputy Chief Executive for Norfolk and Suffolk was very keen. The Assistant Head of Museums confirmed he would contact them.

The visitor figures for the period February to the end of March 2024 were circulated to the Committee at the meeting and noted. The Curator of the Lynn Museum highlighted to the Committee that the Lynn Museum reached a total of 23,881 visitors in 2023-24 and was very pleased with the figures. He added that they received more visitors in the winter months than the summer months and that the busiest month was February due to the February half term events. A copy of the visitor figures is attached to the minutes.

Councillor M de Whalley shared with the Committee the Stories of Lynn visitor figures which he had received from Councillor Simon Ring, Cabinet Member for Tourism, Events and Marketing via Alive West Norfolk following their last meeting. Councillor M de Whalley highlighted the figures were not complete but were an indication. The Committee were informed that in April 2024, the Stories of Lynn received 793 visitors and in May 2024, they received 734 visitors. Councillor M de Whalley explained the figures did not include school visitors as Alive West Norfolk were awaiting information for May from Norfolk County Council as they recorded this data and would then share it with staff at Alive West Norfolk. Councillor M de Whalley had also received visitor figures in relation to the Tourist Information Centre and the Committee were informed that in April 2024, they had received 1,101 visitors and in May 2024, they received 1,000 visitors.

County Councillor J Ward asked whether they had got the Stories of Lynn visitor figures for the previous year. In response, Councillor M de Whalley confirmed they had historic information dating back to when the Stories of Lynn first opened and also some very historic Tourist Information Centre data was available and added if they wished to look at any historic information, they could request it through the staff at Alive West Norfolk. Councillor M de Whalley confirmed he would request it and informed the Committee there was the offer of this information being provided going forward.

In response to a question raised by the Chair, Councillor A Kemp in relation to whether there were any plans to refresh the Stories of Lynn, the Assistant Head of Museums explained this sat with the Borough Council and highlighted whilst they would be happy to support the Borough Council to redevelop heritage assets, it would need to be instigated by Borough Council colleagues.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Head of Museums and the Curator of the Lynn Museum for the report.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

6

## **TRUE'S YARD REPORT**

[Click here to view the recording of this item on YouTube](#)

County Councillor L Bambridge presented the report of the Museum Curator at True's Yard in her absence. A copy of the report is attached to the minutes.

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

- Visitor Numbers

The Committee were informed that True's Yard had done very well with an increase in visitor figures and County Councillor L Bambridge highlighted that the report also indicated that the largest demographic of visitors continued to be of an older audience.

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

- Temporary exhibitions and events at True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum
  - Exhibition Programme
  - True's Talks
  - Pat Midgley Memorial Lecture
- Partnerships
  - The Festival of Archaeology
- Learning and Outreach
  - Half term Activities

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp asked whether the school trips were included within the True's Yard visitor figures. County Councillor L Bambridge confirmed they did but highlighted there were very few school trips at the moment.

The Chair raised a further question in relation to The Festival of Archaeology and asked whether there was anymore information around that item. County Councillor L Bambridge wasn't able to provide anymore information but confirmed she would get more information on this in the future.

Councillor M de Whalley referred to the Pat Midgley Memorial Lecture and asked whether they could give an idea of what Dr Jago Cooper would be speaking about at the Lecture. County Councillor L Bambridge was unable to provide this information but confirmed she would find out more from Lindsey Bavin and if received a response would email the further information to Councillor M de Whalley.

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp asked how easy it was for people to research their ancestry and on which days it was open and whether there was a charge. County Councillor L Bambridge confirmed it was free of charge and took place on Saturday mornings. She explained if anyone was interested, they should ring up to make sure there was going to be someone there.

The Chair then referred to the history project in relation to the Northenders and asked whether there was an update on this. County Councillor L Bambridge confirmed this was ongoing.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

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

[Click here to view the recording of this item on YouTube](#)

In the absence of the Senior Tourism Support Officer, the Chair, Councillor A Kemp asked the Committee to put forward any questions to Phillip Eke, Senior Tourism Support Officer if they had any in relation to the report.

Councillor A Kemp commented that Phillip Eke, Senior Tourism Support Officer had been doing some work around the West Lynn Pavilion which she explained was a tiny museum which had pictures up within it of West Lynn.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

8 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillor M de Whalley thanked the Assistant Head of Museums and the Curator of the Lynn Museum for the tour of The Moon: Meet our Nearest Neighbour Exhibition which they had prior to their meeting that afternoon.

Councillor M de Whalley asked whether a tour could be arranged to visit the Aickman's Yard to see the stored exhibits. The Assistant Head of Museums confirmed they could facilitate this.

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp asked whether contact could be made with the Manager of True's Yard Museum to see if a visit could be undertaken by the Committee.

9 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

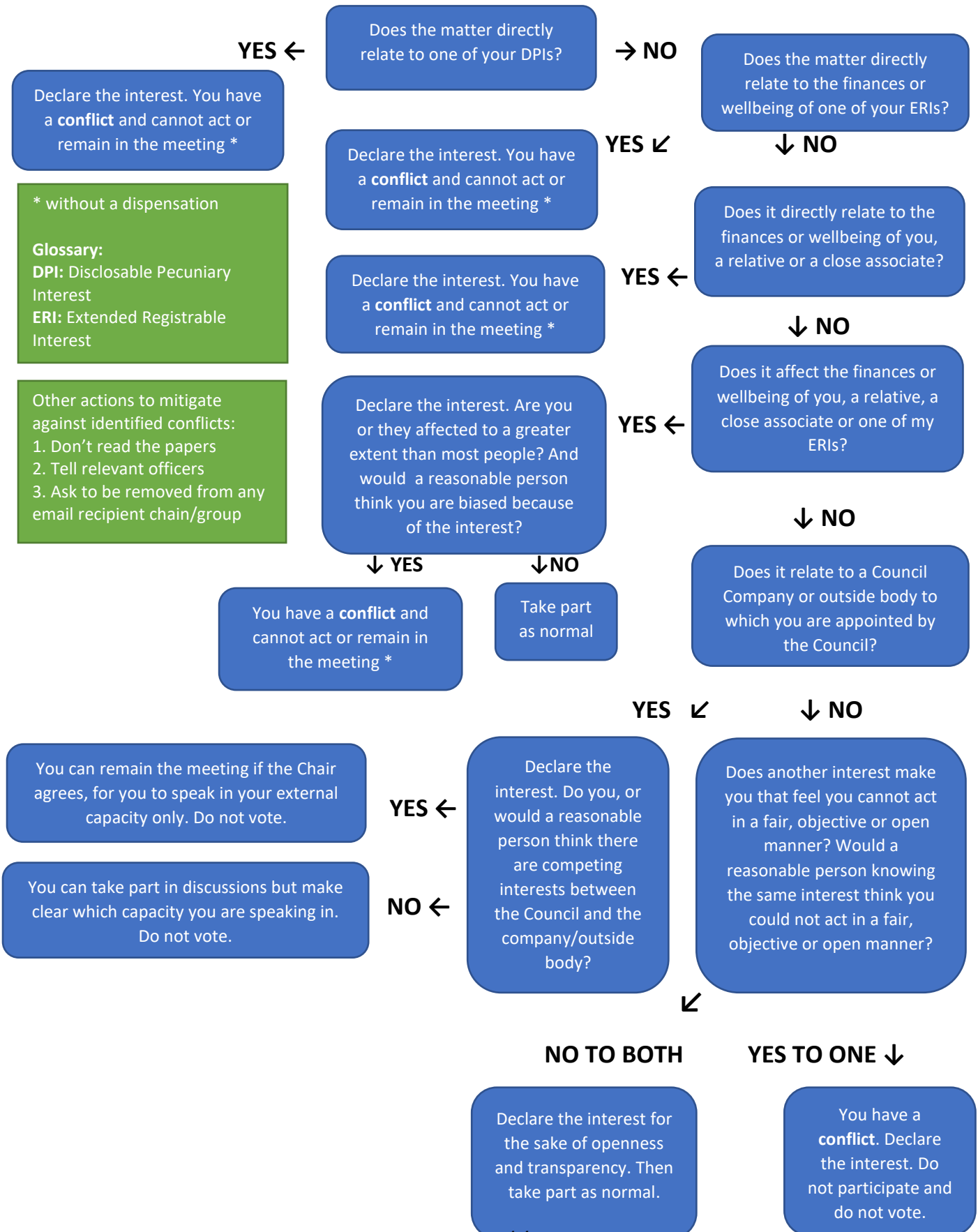
The next meeting of the King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee would be held on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 2.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, King's Lynn.

**The meeting closed at 3.20 pm**

**DECLARING AN INTEREST AND MANAGING ANY CONFLICTS FLOWCHART**



**START**





If you need this report in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact Robin Hanley on 01603 493663 and we will do our best to help

**KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK  
AREA MUSEUMS COMMITTEE**

**16 September 2024**

**Item No.**

**KING'S LYNN MUSEUMS REPORT**

**Report by the Assistant Head of Museums**

**This report provides information on King's Lynn Museum activities in the period from June 2024 – August 2024**

**1 Exhibitions and events at Lynn Museum**

**1.1 Current Exhibition: *The Moon: Meet our Nearest Neighbour***

2 February – 15 September 2024

This touring exhibition explores earth's natural satellite – the moon. A key exhibit is a large moon model suspended above the exhibition, making use of the museum's high chapel ceilings. Also, as part of the exhibition visitors have the opportunity to touch a real piece of moon rock. Other artefacts include ephemera from the 1969 moon landing. These displays, together with an associated programme of events and activities has been supported by a grant of £10,000 from the UK Shared Prosperity Funding for West Norfolk for arts cultural heritage and creative activities through the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk.

The Moon theme has informed the museum's event programming. The exhibition has proved very popular with visitors and has received excellent publicity including:

[BBC Radio Norfolk - BBC Radio Norfolk, Moon landing in King's Lynn](#)

[The Moon: Meet Our Nearest Neighbour - Exhibition at Lynn Museum \(whichmuseum.co.uk\)](#)

[Giant model Moon in major new exhibition at Lynn Museum | Eastern Daily Press \(edp24.co.uk\)](#)

[Museum in King's Lynn launches new moon exhibition which is free until the end of March \(lynnnews.co.uk\)](#)



Model of the Moon at Lynn Museum.

## **1.2 Forthcoming Exhibition *Woof: A Celebration of Dogs* Tuesday 1st October 2024 – Sunday 29th June 2025.**

The curatorial team is currently working on *Woof* the dog-themed next exhibition at Lynn Museum which opens shortly. This show is curated in-house drawing upon natural history, archaeology, art and social history



collections. The majority of the items exhibited will be from the Lynn Museum reserve collection, supplemented with internal loans from Gressenhall, Norwich Castle and the Norfolk Costume and Textile collections, national collections, and from private individuals. The Tate Gallery has approved the loan of three artworks for the exhibition including a piece by David Hockney. The Kennel Club has also approved the loan of 'England Expects' a painting by Maud Earl of two Toy Bulldogs, an extinct breed.

*Pom*, by Andy Warhol (above), an exhibit in *Woof* at Lynn Museum from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 on loan from the East Anglian Art Foundation.



The exhibition will be aimed at a family audience with themes including:

- *Origins of the dog* - a natural history focus, featuring a taxidermy wolf and dog skull.
- *Early dogs* - archaeological collections including a Roman gold ring with blue glass intaglio and an Egyptian painted panel.
- *Working like a dog* - dogs as working and competing animals.
- *Canine companions* - domesticated dogs.



Picture: 'A Distinguished Member of the Humane Society' oil painting by William Henry Ruggles (active 1833-1846) after Edwin Henry Landseer (1802–1873), an exhibit in *Woof..*

### 1.3 Family events

The museum continues to offer events and regular family trails during holiday periods. Over the summer of 2024 the museum events were:

On 01/08/2024, Dinosaurs & Fossils with 167 children and a total of 307 attending. On 08/08/2024 the theme was Egyptians with 71 Children and a total of 176 attending. On 15/08/2024 the theme was Romans with 42 children and a Total of 161 attending. The final event on 22/08/2024 was Vikings with 80 Children and a total of total: 216 attendees.



Event at Lynn Museum.

#### **1.4 Family Trails**

Trails are provided at the museum for children and families to enjoy an exploration of the museum. Trails offered at the Lynn Museum in the reporting period have included:

- 25/05/24 - 02/06/24 'Whizzy Space Inventions' with 106 participants,
- 20/07/24 - 28/07/24\* 'Eric the Archaeologist (for the Festival of Archaeology) with 43 participants.
- 30/07/24 - 04/08/24 'Dinosaur Dinner' with 163 participants
- 06/08/24 - 11/08/24 Egyptian Gods with 112 participants
- 13/08/24 - 18/08/24 Mistake Mosaic with 80 participants
- 20/08/24 25/08/24\* Viking Adventures with 121 participants

#### **1.5 Mini Museum**

Lynn Museum continues to provide regular activities for our youngest visitors through the monthly mini museum programme. Activities are delivered by the museum's learning team. These have included:

- 20/06/2024 Space Explorers 11 children; 23 total
- 18/07/2024 The Mart Fairground 13 children 31 total
- 25/07/2024 Dinosaurs\* 18 children 41 total



Publicity poster for minimuseum at Lynn Museum for autumn 2024.

### 1.6 Coffee Mornings

The monthly themed coffee mornings continue to be offered at Lynn Museum. These offer a chance for people to enjoy the museum with an informal activity. The coffee mornings take place on the last Friday of the month. In this reporting period:

- 28/06/2024 Summer Flower Pots with 13 participants.
- 26/07/2024 GI/Friendly Invasion with 18 participants.
- 30/08/2024 Vintage Badges with 10 participants.

### 1.7 Talks Programme

Recent talks at the museum have included:

- 28/06/2024 Roman Fashion & Beauty: Colour, Height, and Status by Hayley Simmons with 23 attending.
- 26/07/2024 The Friendly Invasion of Norfolk in WW2 by Mark Taylor with 25 attending.
- 30/08/2024 Werewolves, witches and weather: how the Moon helps to shape Norfolk Folklore by Siofra Connor (Norfolk Folklore Society) with 21 attending.



### 1.8 Finds Identification and Recording Day on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July

On the 27<sup>th</sup> July the Museum worked with our colleagues at the Finds Identification and Recording Service to offer an archaeology finds day. This proved to be a successful event with 41 people interacting with the archaeologists with many bringing in finds for identification.

**Finds Identification and Recording Day**



**Saturday 27th July 2024 11am to 4pm**  
**Kings Lynn Museum**

**Found an archaeological object?**

Have you found something interesting like a metal object, coin, piece of pottery or flint? Bring it along to show us!

The Finds Identification and Recording Service from Norfolk County Council will be at the Museum to take a look at your material and talk to you about recording.



[www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk)
[www.lynnmuseum.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.lynnmuseum.norfolk.gov.uk)
[www.finds.org.uk](http://www.finds.org.uk)

### 1.9 Pewter Pilgrims Adult Workshop

Museum Learning Assistant Hayley Simmons delivered a series of three events this summer at Lynn Museum for people learning how to make and cast pilgrim badges. 25 people participated in these two-hour long workshops.



**New dates added!**

## Pewter Pilgrims Adult Workshops

at Lynn Museum

Learn how to create and cast your own pewter souvenirs in our 2 hour workshop and go on a Pilgrimage Walking Tour around King's Lynn

**Wednesday 10th July**  
**Friday 19th July**

10.30am-2.30pm  
Ticket £5  
Booking Required



This programme has been supported by Norfolk County Council and King's Lynn and West Norfolk Council - Love Your Market Town programme





Carved cuttlefish moulds and pewter badges from the workshop at Lynn Museum

## **2 Newman Legacy project**

As previously reported, the Lynn Museum has benefited from a legacy given specifically for the museum's use and provided by the late Eric and Rita Newman. The Newmans were siblings who had retired to Congham near King's Lynn with interests in local history and helping children learn. The museum service is very grateful for the Newmans' generosity.

Newman Assistant Curator Jan Summerfield joined the team in February and Newman NMS Teaching Museum Trainee Alice started in April. The team has been working on the cataloguing and documenting material in the museum stores, as part of a planned programme of collections management work supported by the Newman legacy. The team has enhanced 4705 object records in recent months.

## **3 Other Museum developments**

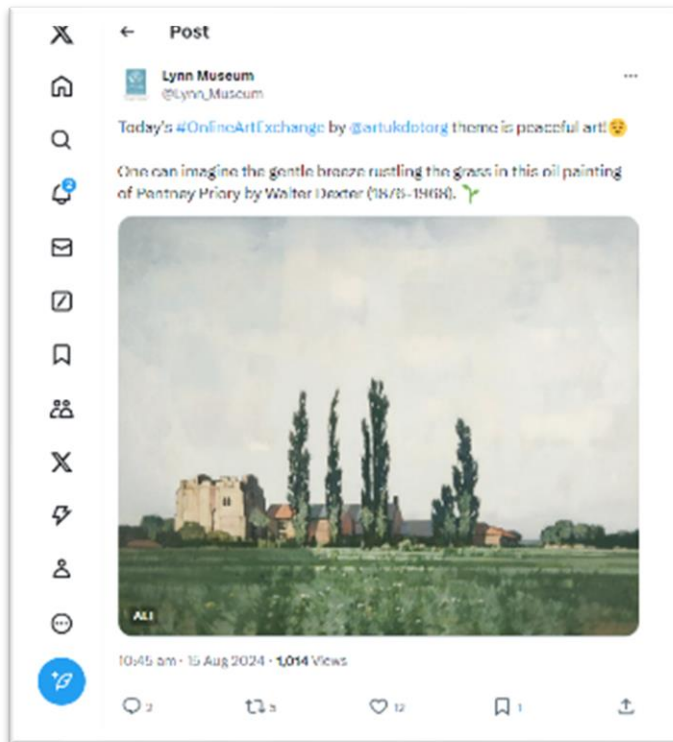
### **3.1 Publicity and promotion**

The Lynn Museum continues to develop its social media presence, with Twitter and Facebook and now Instagram accounts being actively used and maintained by staff. The museum's X (Twitter), Facebook and Instagram accounts may be seen here:

[Lynn Museum \(@Lynn\\_Museum\) / X \(twitter.com\)](#)

[Facebook](#)

[King's Lynn Museum on Instagram • Photos and videos](#)



Example of a social media post from the museum featuring a painting of Pentney priory by Walter Dexter.

As well as digital delivery, the museum has maintained strong links with local media outlets including the *Lynn News*. Staff continue to contribute to a fortnightly *Picture This* column, with a focus on local drawings, engravings and paintings.

A variety of films linked to Lynn Museum are available on the museum's YouTube Channel, here: [Lynn Museum - YouTube](#)

A number of online exhibitions are available through the Google Arts and Culture platform: [Lynn Museum, King's Lynn, United Kingdom — Google Arts & Culture](#)

### 3.2 NMS Teaching Museum Trainees

One year-long paid traineeships are offered as part of the Norfolk Museums Service Teaching Museum scheme, principally funded through the NMS Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation programme. For 2024-25 we have Newman Teaching Museum Trainee, Alice Ochocka working on the Newman collections project at the museum. We also have the Curatorial West Trainee working at both Thetford and Lynn Museums, Anna Heffron. Both trainees started work in early April 2024 and have proved valuable members of the team.

### 3.3 Building Work at Lynn Museum

Following a period of structural monitoring of the Victorian chapel building, a programme of remedial works to the schoolroom building (the current

Seahenge Gallery) has taken place, involving the installation of tie rods at roof level. This work started after the Easter holidays and ran until late June. The work went well and the gallery reopened on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June.

### 3.4 Retail offer at Lynn Museum

The museum team continues to develop the retail offer at Lynn Museum working with the NMS Retail Manager Hat Johnson. New lines include a revised Seahenge mug and greetings cards using designs from the Taylors seed packets.

### 3.5 Cultural Strategy Development consultation event at Lynn Museum

Lynn Museum was a venue for community consultation for the development of a new Cultural Strategy for the town. Local people were asked to imagine King's Lynn in the future, then draw, 'What should it look like?'

## 4 Borough Council partnership working

The delivery of NMS services in King's Lynn & West Norfolk continues to operate under the terms of the current Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Borough Council. Under an extension to this agreement, NMS continues to provide curatorial and conservation advice, support and an enquiry service for those Borough collections currently held in the Town Hall including fine art and Civic Regalia.

NMS staff continue to support Borough Council colleagues with the development and delivery of relevant cultural and heritage project across the Borough, including ongoing support for Towns Fund projects including the Guildhall project. Newman Curator, Dayna Woolbright, has contributed to the

work on the St George's Guildhall project Interpretation Strategy and to various events and exhibitions, working with Jane Hamilton Learning and Engagement Officer at the Guildhall Team. Other work has included organising and installing 'The Magic of Middle Earth' exhibition displaying collections relating to *Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit*.



(left) publicity image for The Magic of Middle Earth exhibition on display at the St George's Guildhall.

NMS continues to support the Borough Council with the delivery of the NLHF-funded *Stories of Lynn* project focussed on King's Lynn Town Hall. NMS manages the Stories of Lynn Learning & Engagement Officer post, which is co-funded by the Borough

Council and the NLHF Kick the Dust: Norfolk project. Elizabeth Joisce, the postholder goes on maternity leave shortly and recruitment for her cover is underway.

NMS Newman Curator, Dayna Woolbright leads on supporting the Borough Council and Festival Office on collections management advice and support. Recent contributions have included advice on the safe use of the civic regalia, and delivery of temporary displays at Stories.

Recent examples have included support for the maintenance of displays at Stories of Lynn and care for the historic collections in the Town Hall during the sanding and sealing of the wooden floor upstairs.

The Lynn Museum's free admission period starts again in October and will run until the end of March 2025. This free admission period is provided under the terms of the Service Level Agreement (SLA) between the Borough Council and NMS.

## **5 Learning & Outreach**

### **School visits**

Lynn Museum continues to offer a range of school workshops run flexibly to accommodate teachers' needs. Typical sessions include the Anglo-Saxons, Vikings, Romans and Iceni, Bronze Age and Seahenge, Stone Age, the Second World War, Ancient Egyptians, and Homes Long Ago.

School sessions normally follow a pattern of a carousel of different activities with children learning in a variety of styles. Delivery of sessions is normally undertaken by a mix of museum staff and freelance costumed interpreters.

The following link for teachers explains what is on offer at Lynn Museum for pupils at Key Stage 2.

[Key stage 2 education at Lynn Museum - Norfolk Museums](#)

Lynn Museum learning staff continue to work closely with Stories of Lynn in the running of joint school workshops on topics such as Maritime Life, Lord Nelson, Captain Vancouver, Crime and Punishment, Frederick Savage and the Lynn Mart, the Great Fire of London and Floods and Flooding.

## **6. Kick the Dust Norfolk – project update**

### **Background**

The target audience for Kick the Dust activity is young people aged 11-25, with a particular focus on young people aged 16-25 who do not normally engage with the heritage or consider it relevant to their lives. Priority participants are young people facing multiple challenges and barriers, including YMCA clients and other young people engaging with NCC and partner organisations specialist support services. Key project partners include YMCA Norfolk, Creative Collisions (Great Yarmouth) and NCC Children's



Services, Norfolk's Libraries and Public Health. Kick the Dust provides a progression pathway for young people, enabling them to use heritage to develop their confidence, skills and routes into employment using the Player, Shaper, Leader model.

Following the successful conclusion of the National Lottery Heritage Fund funded Kick the Dust project, Norfolk Museums Service (NMS) has secured additional funding through an Arts Council England (ACE) NPO Uplift award for the period 2023-27. This enables 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 2023-25 NMS is also receiving funding from Norfolk County Council (NCC) Public Health to support Kick the Dust activities countywide 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 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. Feedback from young people shows that they value the skills they develop as part of the project with the top Page 19 of 40 10 five skills being cited as: problem solving, digital, communication, team working and creativity.

The following data is based on the period 1/5/23 to 31/7/24.

**Number of interventions with young people:** Between 1/5/23 and 31/7/24 there have been 2,056 interventions involving 888 **individual young people** taking part in 1,804 hours of quality activity. 98% 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:

- 16% of activity was at Player level (to introduce new young people to the project)
- 62% at Shaper level (longer term project with young people determining the content)
- 22% at Leader level (long term engagement – young people leading projects, acting at governance level, mentoring staff)
- 67% of all activity involves young people in leading and designing projects

Breakdown of activity taking place in each area:

- 34% (140 opportunities) in Kings Lynn,
- 26% (104 opportunities) in Thetford
- 20% (83 opportunities) in the East (covering Great Yarmouth, Cromer)
- 18% (71 opportunities) in Norwich
- 2% (8 opportunities) outside of area and 3 other opportunities for our online work experience programme targeted at Thetford and Kings Lynn young people.

57 volunteering opportunities have been provided, with 3 young people taking on the role of Project Assistant and 11 as a Young Ambassador. Of all delivery, 86% involves young people being part of a long-term group, providing them with a deeper understanding of heritage and allowing them to explore their identity, develop their skills and confidence and embed themselves more in their local communities, a key aim of ACE. The young people have access to all of NMS sites and can visit with a friend or family member for free during their engagement for that year. Free passes were issued to those beginning on the programme in June 2023.

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. Mental Health First Aid training with the YMCA Norfolk team will be delivered in September and October as an accredited course, Mentoring and Coaching will follow in November and December 2024. Autism training will take place online on 31 October 2024. Three of the team are undergoing Arts Award training to add additional value to the programme. Page 20 of 40 11 Our offer to support young people around the important theme of mental health and wellbeing is on-going and will be measured through the evaluation framework using data from the young people's feedback forms as well as narrative evaluation which will be reported on in September / October 2024. Working with colleagues in Public Health NCC team we will be able to interrogate the data around impact on mental wellbeing and match this to the interviews with the young people engaged in the narrative evaluation programme. Up to

31/7/24 data shows that 36% of the individual young people who have taken part in the new programme of activity identify as having a mental health issue showing the need for this programme, although this has dropped slightly in the last quarter from 43% as we work with a larger number of young people. Through a systematic approach to evaluation, in partnership with Norfolk Library and Information Service, the team will be able to demonstrate the impact on mental health on those talking part and the young people will be able to monitor their progress through the programme in relation to skills, confidence and mental health.

NMS and NCC continue to work together through the 'Making Creative Futures' group, chaired by the Kick the Dust Project Coordinator, where members from across Children's Services and Norfolk Public health identify ways to engage the hardest to reach and most vulnerable children and young people. 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 through our Kick the Dust offer. The focus is on mental health and wellbeing and has representation from the NCC Public Health team who bring a different perspective to the meetings. This group acts as the vehicle to share best practice, ideas and resources and its membership continues to grow.

**Target audiences: (some young people fall into more than one category) as of 31/7/24**

- FE/HE – 37%
- YMCA clients – 12%
- Secondary schools – 28%
- Young people with mental health issues – 36%
- SEND – 4%
- Outside of mainstream education – 25%
- NEET – 31%
- Looked after children and adopted living those at home - 1%
- Care Leavers – 1%
- Young Carers – 3%
- New arrivals and refugees – 5%
- Pregnant young mums and teenage parents – 1%
- Other groups – 17%

In terms of how young people find out about Kick the Dust, the Kick the Dust website is being used effectively with 38% of young people finding out about the project through the updated web pages (<https://www.museums.norfolk.gov.uk/join-and-support/kick-the-dust>); 18% through a family Page 21 of 40 12 member, 19% coming via one of our partner organisations and 16% having already taken part in a previous Kick the Dust project.

**Impacts on mental health and well being**

The new young people's feedback form includes the 78 positively worded items from the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being scale for assessing a population's mental well-being. The Young Ambassadors developed the new framework alongside Public Health NCC, and this allows us to measure impact in this key area. In addition, we are implementing a narrative evaluation model working with a smaller number of young people who are part of a long-term project group which will be reported on at the end of September/ October 2024 to provide a richer story to accompany the raw data. From the Young People feedback forms, following their involvement in Kick the Dust, **41%** strongly agreed that this had had a positive impact on their mental health and wellbeing with a further **44%** agreeing that their involvement in Kick the Dust has helped them have more positive mental health. An additional question has been added to identify young people with neurodivergent tendencies and is showing that since March **52%** of young people engaged in Kick the Dust identify as neurodivergent which is significant when designing new activity in terms of additional barriers these young people may face.

Of the 48 responses to 31/7/24, the following data chart highlights how young people were feeling before taking part in Kick the Dust:

**Part 1 Wellbeing statements** % 48 responses None of the time Rarely Some of the time Often all of the time I've been feeling optimistic about the future 0 17 33 29 19 I've been feeling useful 0 6 33 48 10 I've been feeling relaxed 0 19 33 29 17 I've been dealing with problems well 0 6 38 48 6 I've been thinking clearly 0 8 29 46 13 I've been feeling close to other people 0 13 21 46 19 I've been able to make up my own mind about things 0 8 19 44 27  
The following data chart highlights how 33 young people were feeling following their engagement in Kick the Dust between March and June 2024 (NB: Part 2 is only completed once a young person has finished a group/ activity and has had a 121 session with the Project Worker) Page 22 of 40 13

**Part 2 Wellbeing statements**

% 33 responses None of the time Rarely Some of the time Often all of the time I've been feeling optimistic about the future 3 6 34 44 13 I've been feeling useful 0 0 24 45 30 I've been feeling relaxed 3 13 34 34 16 I've been dealing with problems well 0 9 21 45 24 I've been thinking clearly 3 3 27 39 27 I've been feeling close to other people 0 9 15 45 30 I've been able to make up my own mind about things 0 3 18 39 39

From the additional questions asked of the young people taking part, the programme is meeting their needs and helping them see themselves in a museum or heritage setting, with 94% stating the programme went above their expectations and 100% stating they felt welcomed and respected by staff and volunteers.

- 100% of all young people strongly agreed that the museum was a safe space for young people like themselves who were struggling;
- 100% strongly agreed they were given a voice that was listened to;

- 84% strongly agreed that they understood heritage better than they had done before taking part
- 78% strongly agreed that following their engagement heritage was more relevant and 78% strongly agreed that heritage represented young people like themselves;
- 85% stated they now had a greater understanding of museums and the job roles available with 84% strongly agreeing that they could see themselves working in the sector;
- 91% strongly agreed that the skills they had acquired would be useful to them in the future with a further 38% agreeing;
- 72% strongly agreed they felt more connected to their local community than previously;
- 50% agreed that their involvement had helped them to explore and feel more connected to their own identity and heritage.

### **Summary**

The NLHF funded Kick the Dust project ended in March 2023 with evidence clearly demonstrating the impact on young people and staff engaging in activity. The programme is now in its second year of the ACE funded project. Kick the Dust is a three-stage journey, with young people developing transferable workrelated skills including digital 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. Page 23 of 40 14 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 partnerships that have been developed through Kick the Dust provide a strong base on which to build, bringing new young people into museum and library spaces.

Success comes in many guises and this month another of our former YMCA young people has progressed onto an Access Course at Norwich College with a view to applying for university in 2025, others have secured employment with one former YMCA young person now working in the Norwich Visitor Services team whilst studying both citing the Kick the Dust programme giving them the confidence to take these steps. Former participants and Young Ambassadors have since progressed into employment or onto further and higher education, having gained the confidence to move towards their goals. Another Young Ambassador secured a bursary to run her own project through Norfolk and Norwich Festival Bridge and has been working with groups in Norwich and the Library on a creative writing project linked to heritage and is starting a new project in Kings Lynn through funding from English Heritage entitled 'Rise Up! Hidden Histories of the Castles'.

**Quotes** from our Young Ambassadors regarding their engagement in Kick the Dust and their involvement in the 'Done and Dusted' celebration event, 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 (Chloe is now on a Level 4 Apprenticeship working in London for Channel 4) ‘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 (Emily is now studying for an MA and remains an active Young Ambassador)

‘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 (Jazz has worked on another KTD project and is an active Young Ambassador, presenting at the NLHF and GEM webinar in March 2024) ‘I have now been offered a place on an access course to help me realise my dream of going to university next year’ ‘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 (Marr is studying an MA at UEA and remains an active Young Ambassador) Page 24 of 40 15 ‘I’ve really enjoyed being part of Kick the Dust and it’s given me so many amazing opportunities that I’d never get otherwise. I loved the opportunity to go behind the scenes at museums and learn about objects and collections from experts. It felt like I was being taken really seriously as a young person and that my voice mattered. The project was really well planned and executed and there was always something new to learn. I met people who had really different skills and backgrounds to me and it was so fun to work with a new group of people. It felt like the staff really cared about me and were always trying to support me and provide me with new opportunities. Without Kick the Dust, I don’t think I’d have been able to get my first job in the heritage industry and feel confident in my own knowledge and skills.’ (Rosa – Young Ambassador and participant in Knights of the Sound Table) ‘I have very much enjoyed my time as part of the Kick the Dust work experience program. I feel a bit more confident in social situations than I did before, and I have a much firmer idea of what jobs are available in the museum service.’ (Amy – work experience) ‘Being part of this organisation, have given me a boarder view of where I see myself in the future and the career I want to go into. It has given me confidence and developed me as a team player when working together. It has given a boost of independence which I keep on achieving.’ (Emily – online work experience and Young Ambassador) Responses to the Curator Camp in Thetford held in summer 2024 included statements such as ‘this project made me feel happy’, ‘this project has increased my confidence’, ‘I now work better with other people’.

### **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 (YHYF) project. The application was submitted by YMCA Leicester, with NMS as Lead Partner. Following the completion of the Development Phase, a Round 2 application was submitted on schedule at the end of May 2024. This complex application was put together by a joint project team of staff from YMCA Leicester and NMS. If the Round 2 bid is successful, project delivery will commence in late 2024.

### **7. Visitor figures**

Visitor figures for the period will be circulated at the meeting

### **8. Recommendations:**

That the Area Museums Committee notes the report

Report Contact:

Dr Robin Hanley

Assistant Head of Museums (Head of Service Delivery)

Shirehall, Market Avenue, Norwich NR1 3JQ

Tel: 01603 493663 e-mail: [robin.hanley@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:robin.hanley@norfolk.gov.uk)



**KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK AREA MUSEUMS COMMITTEE**

**September 2024**

**TRUE'S YARD FISHERFOLK MUSEUM REPORT**

**Report by Museum Curator**

**1. Temporary exhibitions and events at True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum**

**1.1 Exhibition Programme.**

As mentioned in my previous report we decided to change up our exhibition schedule and produce a new exhibition, which might be more appealing to general audiences. *The History of Fish and Chips* has garnered considerable interest and featured on BBC News Online. We have seen an increase of approximately 500 visitors compared to this time last year.

**Exhibition Schedule 2024**

<b>Archaeology Exhibition</b>	<b>July- September 2024</b>
<b><i>St Nicholas: The Man, The Legend, The Chapel and the New Hanse</i></b>	<b>October 2024- December 2024</b>

**1.2 Summer Art Exhibition**

Our annual art exhibition theme for 2024 was *Nostalgia...King's Lynn Through Time*. The High Sheriff of Norfolk, David Flux, opened the exhibition on 5th July. It featured 21 brand new pieces by local artist, Alan Castleton inspired by photographs from the town's past. So far we have had 1,793 attendees with still two weeks of the exhibition to go. Alan has also been incredibly generous, two paintings have been offered to the Museum as a donation and 10% of each sale of the remaining paintings will be donated to the Museum.

**1.3 True's Talks**

Our autumn programme has now been launched. All talks will take place on Thursdays between 26<sup>th</sup> September to 14<sup>th</sup> November between 1pm-2pm. They are free to attend.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Title</b>
<b>26<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Dr Paul Richards</b>	<b>Death in the Time of Cholera: A Lethal Outbreak in London in 1854</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> October</b>	<b>James Bagge</b>	<b>True's Talk: Nigh on Two Hundred Years at Stradsett</b>



<b>10<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Dr John Alban</b>	<b>Norfolk Soldiers Serving in the Count of Holland's Friesland campaign of 1396</b>
<b>17<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Dr Julian Litten</b>	<b>Chauncey Hare Townshend: Patron of West Lynn Church</b>
<b>24<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Jeff Hoyle</b>	<b>A History of Fish and Chips</b>
<b>31<sup>st</sup> October</b>	<b>Dr Michael Gilbert</b>	<b>Masters and Merchants; 17th Century Trade in the Wash</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Tony Kirby</b>	<b>Tides of Fortune; The Rise and Fall of English Holiday Resorts</b>
<b>14<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Dr Paul Richards</b>	<b>500 Years Since Lynn's Tudor Political Revolution (1524-2024)</b>

Thanks to funding from the Norfolk Community Foundation Love Norfolk Fund, we have been able to extend our current provision to allow for 20 additional places on site and online screening of our talks.

#### **1.4 Pat Midgley Memorial Lecture**

‘Museums of the Future’ by Dr Jago Cooper, Executive Director of the Sainsbury Centre and professor of Art and Archaeology at the University of East Anglia. Formerly, he was Curator of the Americas at the British Museum. Since 2011, he has written and presented a series of programmes for BBC Four.

#### **Other Museum Developments**

##### **2. Events**

**8th September** Heritage Open Day

**13th September** Gloucester 1682 Talk & Dinner at the Town Hall (**Mayor’s Charity of the Year Event**).

**26th September** – True’s Talks begin.

**23rd October**- Dinner in Memory of Fishermen and Sailors, Crown and Mitre.

**20th November** Pat Midgley Memorial Lecture – Museums of the Future -Dr Jago Cooper.

**6th December** St Nicholas Day TBC

**12th December** – Carol Service at All Saints Church

**13th December**- Christmas Quiz.

##### **3. Fundraisers**

###### **3.1 The Mayor’s Charity of the Year**

The King’s Lynn Sea Cadets and ourselves were chosen as charities of the Year by The Worshipful Mayor of the Borough of King’s Lynn and West Norfolk, Paul Bland.

This is a huge boost and we are grateful to have been chosen.

###### **3.2. Gloucester 1682 Talk**

On Friday 13th September at 6:30pm, The Worshipful Mayor of the Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, Paul Bland, will be hosting an evening charting the history and the future of the Gloucester, a royal ship carrying the Duke of York, which ran aground off the Norfolk coast in 1682.

Two of the team who discovered the Gloucester, Julian and Lincoln Barnwell, along with Professor Claire Jowitt from the University of East Anglia will be speaking at the event. Together, they will deliver a highly interesting and informative presentation, before the evening's guests enjoy a convivial supper in the Assembly Room.

The event offers the opportunity for first-hand insights from the team who are intimately involved in what has been described as 'Norfolk's Mary Rose' - a key part of our county's strong maritime heritage.

### 3.2 Friends of True's Yard

We are most fortunate to have the support of the Friends, they are a vital part of the Museum community and their fundraising events this year continue to sell out quickly.

## 4. Partnerships

### 4.1 The Festival of Archaeology

The Festival of Archaeology was a roaring success where we collaborated with the Museum of London, King's Lynn Under Siege and West Norfolk and King's Lynn Archaeological Society. It will definitely be repeated next year.

13th July - Tour and Talk on foreshore- 22 attendees

16<sup>th</sup> July - site visit to a local excavation - 15 attendees

20th & 27th July- 'Skeletons and Pirates' mock excavation, recording and identification and object handling- 4 sessions all fully booked.

23<sup>rd</sup> July- Poos, Pots and Cave Art Activity- 28 attendees

25<sup>th</sup> July – Travel through Time excavation- Fully Booked



## 5. Learning and Outreach

### 5.1. Summer Holiday Activities

#### Slime and Bubbles & Victorian Fairground Activity Days

13<sup>th</sup> August - Slime and Bubbles – this activity proved to be incredibly popular with 81 children and 65 adults. In future, we will be having designated slots for these activities as demand outstripped supply at one point.

27<sup>th</sup> August- Victorian Summer funfair - 83 attendees.



#### 5.2 Oral History Project- Capturing Memories

Our new Oral History Committee is hard at work capturing new oral histories and so far 10 new stories have been recorded (last report 5). The new project ‘Capturing Memories’ will focus on recording the memories of the last generation of Northenders and those of the people of Lynn.

#### 5.3 Social Media

Currently the Museum’s Facebook page has 2.3k followers; Twitter/X has 1,443 followers, and Instagram 461 Followers (last report 439).

## 6 Visitor Numbers

Figures for 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 – mid August 2024 = 4,703.

## 7 Resource Implications

Finance- Increasing costs of utilities, insurance, accountancy have proved challenging. Savings and income generation is a big part of the 2024/25 budget.

Property- There was an incident of vandalism to our entrance door, which was reported to the police.

Staff- Curator 2 days a week, Deputy Manager 3 days a week, Museum Assistant 2 days a

week.

## **8 Recommendations**

That the Area Museums Committee notes the report.

Originator of report:

Lindsey Bavin

Museum Curator

True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum

Tel: 01553770479

e-mail: [info@truesyard.co.uk](mailto:info@truesyard.co.uk)

**Stories of Lynn and Tourist Information Centre Visitor Figures**

	Stories entries	Stories - schools	<b>Stories Attendance Total</b>	TIC - In person enquiry	TIC - Telephone enquiry	TIC - Email enquiry	TIC - Overseas visitors	TIC - Pontoon Enquiry	TIC - Accommodation enquiry	TIC - Tourism pack sent out
Jun-24	745	314	<b>1059</b>	1097	115	37	0	15	0	33
Jul-24	722	238	<b>960</b>	1156	191	29	0	16	0	30
Aug-24	1153	0	<b>1153</b>	1328	137	27	0	19	0	17