Ffederasiwn Amgueddfeydd ac Orielau Celf Cymru
The Federation of Museums and Art Galleries of Wales
Charity Registration No. 1102270

Minutes of the Committee Meeting 15th March 2006
The Old Library, Cardiff

1. Apologies

Dafydd Roberts, Andrew Deathe, Scott Reid, Chris Wilson, Frank Olding, Chris Morgan.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed as true record. (Correction to Item 7. Helen Paerry should read Helen Perry)

3. Matters arising

- **Chris W** to circulate a report on membership to the committee via email.
- The 'What's in Store' grant has been received. The first draft is in circulation. Frank Olding is writing a discussion paper on Archaeological Resource Centres for presentation at the 'WIS' meeting on 22nd March. There may be pressure from individual local organisations for items to remain in own county. The Federation must emphasise the need for ARC's. WIS is looking at a single standard from excavation to deposition. A consultation document will be published in two weeks. The Federation will support this. WIS has asked for training via CyMAL, i.e. Introduction to archaeology, the emphasis will be on museums and excavators working together. This will be combined with an introduction to WIS. The survey on digitization has highlighted the need for the project to be adaptable for other types of collections.
- **Rachael R** to check with MDA that all museums in Wales have been notified they have MDA membership.

4. President's Report

- CyMAL have awarded the Federation a grant to purchase five A3 and five A4 colour printers for the Digihub kits. **Chris D** will inform those groups who already have kits. He will also request a report from groups on how the equipment has benefited them.
- The Federation has agreed to take part in a grant application to Welsh Assembly Government's Initiative 'Making the Connections'. This will look at partnerships between museums, archaeological trusts and the Royal Commission.
- The Federation has been approached to support Culture Shock which is looking at identity and diversity, perhaps by looking at it in Federation seminar on ethnography. Chris D to talk to Rowena Hill, Monmouthshire Museum Service. Copies of the Culture Shock report can be obtained from Carol Whittaker, CyMAL.

5. Editors Report

- The next copy of YMAG will be a themed issue on 'Inspiring Learning for All'. It will be published in May 2006. In addition **Rachael R and Chris D** will write an article about the proposed Development Officer; all groups with a Digihub kit will be expected to submit an article 'What Digihubs have done for me; **Rachael R** will write an article about MDA training and **Frank** will submit an article on 'What's in Store'.
  Rachael A to look at costs if a copy of YMAG is sent to all Museum Association members in Wales as a membership drive.

6. Correspondence

Leaflets advertising the UEA Museum Leadership Course.
Invoice for catering for MDA training session at Bodelywyddan Castle.

7. Reports from Sub Groups

- A meeting for the Diversity Group on 19th April at the CyMAL offices. Carolyn Graves-Brown will talk about university museums and Frank will talk about Accreditation.
- Andrew was not present to report on the education and access group and its proposed changes. **Rachael R** to ask Andrew for an update.
- Members of the committee received a written report from Jane about the stewardship group. **Jane H** to send a copy to Andrew for posting on the website.

8. Events + Training

- 12th January 2006 – Dressing up the Past. This was a very successful event with 20 delegates.
- Documentation for Accreditation – these sessions went well. Eight delegates attended the one at Bodelwyddan and nine delegates went to the session held at Carmarthan.
- 28th March 2006 – Documentation for Accreditation, Cynon Valley Museum - **POSTPONED**
- Scott has send Miles Fletcher comments on his 'Skills Development Force' Project. **Scott** to send Andrew details to post details of this project on the website.
- 4th April 2006 – Training for the Future 'A Review of training Provision for Museum Workers in Wales'
- TBC – Ethnography Seminar. This will take place in a room at Tredegar House. The charge for the room has been waived. Monmouthshire Museums Service has confirmed all costs with Scott except for the hire of lunch. There will be charge for lunch, for delegates who are not members of the Federation there will be a charge for attendance.
- Contemporary Collecting seminar. Scott has asked Anna Smith, Cardiff Museum Project Officer to consider this event, with a view to running something in Autumn 2006.

- It was agreed that we would not run another MDA Documentation for Accreditation training session this financial year.
- **Chris W** to work with Mark Taylor on a Museums Association event in Wales.

9. Digihubs

A request for equipment has been received from Caerphilly Museums Service. **Rachael R** to ask Rowena Riley for a summary of their project.

10. The Scottish Museums Federation has asked us to speak to them about our experiences since our relaunch. **Rachael R** to find out where their meetings take place. Chris D or Rachael R to give presentation at their spring meeting on 15th May or at the AGM in 27th November.

11. Performance Indicators

General discussion on whether the Federation should be campaigning to get PI's for local authority museums reinstated. It was decided that it was probably not worth pursuing and that we should concentrate on developing the proposed Museum strategy and also accreditation development. These initiatives would provide opportunities to emphaise to authorities the value and role of museums.

12. AOB

- It was agreed that travel expenses will be paid to committee members whose organisations are unable to support this cost. (Rate = 25p per mile or standard train fare)
- Susan reported on the Cultural Tourism Partnership, Heritage subgroup. Members of this group are officers from Wales Tourist Board, NMGW, CADW, National Library and the Federation. They are preparing a questionnaire on the built heritage in Wales. The group has a strong focus on art and built heritage, but more attention needs to be paid to collections and portable antiquities. They are discussing cultural gateway sites in Wales. Potential locations are The Old Library, Cardiff, National Library, (for Mid Wales). A site for the North is still being investigated. **Susan** to send to all Federation Committee members a document about Cultural Signposting. This will look at developing a sense of place in the public realm. The Aldo Papine Award for Leisure & Tourism Education in Schools has a 2006 Theme of Cultural Tourism. They are seeking entries from schools delivering leisure and tourism courses at Key Stage 4. See http://www.gttp.org for details.

13. Date of next meetings

Monday 12th June 2006, South Wales Borderers Museum, Brecon
Friday 11th August 2006, Cardiff (location to be confirmed)