



MEETING TITLE	Minutes of the 85th meeting of the Blue Plaques Panel	
DATE	5 October 2022 at 11am	
LOCATION	English Heritage Offices, 100 Wood Street, London EC2V 7AN and by Zoom	
MEMBERS	Sir Tim Laurence (interim Chair) Professor Richard Aldrich Mihir Bose Dr Simon Chaplin Chania Fox Emily Gee	Alex Graham Andrew Graham-Dixon Professor Claire Harman Amy Lamé
ATTENDEES	Anna Eavis – Curatorial Director & Panel Secretary Jeremy Ashbee – Head Historic Properties Curator Jessica Bishop – Philanthropy Manager Cathy Power – Blue Plaques Manager Rebecca Preston – Blue Plaques Historian Judeth Neville – Head of Governance (minutes)	
APOLOGIES	Dr Gus Casely-Hayford OBE Susie Thornberry	Howard Spencer – Senior Historian, Blue Plaques Alexandra Carson – PR Manager

Item 1 – Apologies, announcements and declarations of interest or any other business

- 1.1 **Professor Claire Harman** declared an interest in the report relating to **Sylvia Townsend Warner**, as she had nominated this candidate prior to becoming a member of the Panel. The Panel agreed that Professor Harman could, if so requested by the Chair, provide input to the discussion but must otherwise absent herself from the debate and decision. **Chania Fox** noted that Sylvia Warner had been relevant in the Shout Out Loud programme in which Chania had participated, although Chania had not led that stream of work.
- 1.2 There were no other new declarations of interest.

Item 2 – Minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2022

- 2.1 Approved as a fair and accurate record.

Item 3 – Matters arising

- 3.1 There were no matters arising.

Item 4 – Secretary’s report (oral) (Anna Eavis)

- 4.1 We have since the February meeting installed four plaques: the Ayahs’ Home, the Match Girls’ Strike (thanks to Alex Graham, Panel Member Speaker), Dadabhai Naoroji (Mihir Bose, Panel Member Speaker) and Sir Hersch Lauterpacht (Jeremy Ashbee, Speaker). We have also installed a plaque to the National Union of Suffrage Societies, with a delayed press launch. Three further launches are planned this season.
- 4.2 The second edition of English Heritage’s Blue Plaques book is to be reprinted. Howard Spencer has written a section on Bob Marley for the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* soon to be released: this was commissioned as a result of the Blue Plaques research.

A further update from the Secretary is included in a protected appendix to these minutes as it contains information that is potentially protected from public access.

Item 5 – PR Update

- 5.1 The Panel noted the PR Update.

Item 6 – Blue Plaques Programme - Progress Report

- 6.1 The Panel noted the progress of the plaques programme.

Item 7 – Criteria for the evaluation of Blue Plaque proposals

- 7.1 Noted.

Item 8 – Preliminary considerations

- 8.1 Under its terms of reference, the Blue Plaques Panel advises English Heritage on the erection of Blue Plaques. The Panel considered 12 preliminary reports as follows:

Friedrich Hayek (1899–1992)

The panel’s decision was to shortlist.

Jacques-Émile Blanche (1861–1942)

The panel’s decision was not to shortlist.

Sidney Nolan (1917–1992)

The panel’s decision was not to shortlist.

Paul Levertoff (1878–1954)

The panel’s decision was not to shortlist.

Denise Levertov (1923–1997)

The panel’s decision was not to shortlist.

Sylvia Townsend Warner (1893–1978)

The panel’s decision was to shortlist.

Renée Vivien (1877–1909)

The panel’s decision was not to shortlist.

Douglas Adams (1952–2001)

The panel's decision was to shortlist.

Edith Nesbit (1858–1924)

The panel's decision was to shortlist.

Amanda Ira Aldridge (1866–1956)

The panel's decision was to shortlist.

Cecilia Payne-Gaposchkin (1900–1979)

The panel's decision was to shortlist.

George Arliss (1868–1946)

The panel's decision was not to shortlist.

Betty Nuthall (1917-1983)

The panel's decision was not to shortlist.

Guy Standeven (1928-1988)

The panel's decision was not to shortlist.

Toto Koopman (1908-1991)

The panel's decision was not to shortlist.

Item 9 – Shortlist of recommendations awaiting final report

9.1 Noted.

Item 10 – Final reports

This item is included in a protected appendix to these minutes as it contains information that is potentially protected from public access.

Item 11 – Any other business

11.1 **Jessica Bishop** noted that we plan to relaunch the Blue Plaques Circle next year and will share more details with the Panel in due course.

11.2 The Panel noted the dates for the 2023 meetings and that the February date is to be rescheduled.

Minutes: J Neville 5.10.22