

Advisory Committee on the Design of Coins, Medals, Seals and Decorations



Minutes

**291st Meeting
Buckingham Palace
3.00pm Thursday 21st June 2018**

Present

Lord Waldegrave of North Hill (Chairman)

Professor Phil Baines

Mrs Blondel Cluff CBE

Ms Nicola Howell

Professor Nick Mayhew

Mr Hughie O'Donoghue RA

Professor Jane Ridley

Lieutenant Colonel Mike Vernon

Mr Edmund de Waal OBE

Mr Thomas Woodcock CVO DL

Dr Kevin Clancy (Secretary)

Mr Lee Jones (Royal Mint Coin Design Department)

Apologies

Dr Nicholas Cullinan

Mrs Anne Jessopp

Item 1.0

Minutes of 290th meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 22nd March 2018 at the Shard were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Item 2.0

VE Day coins, 2020 (Circulating two-pound coin and commemorative kilo and five ounce coins)

A two-pound coin will be issued in 2020 to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day and it is intended the coin will be released into general circulation. A number of artists had been invited to prepare designs and images of the artwork had been sent to members of the Committee some days prior to the meeting. It was noted that there was a

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requirement in this instance for two designs to be selected, one for the circulating coin and the other for use on commemorative coins.

2.1

Circulating two-pound coin

██████████ thought **Designer B**'s work lucid and coherent, liking in particular the use of the searchlight. The Chairman agreed these were simple and strong designs and for him **B1**, **B3** or **B6** would be worth considering. **A1** was supported by ██████████ but he wondered what the lady was waving above her head. He recalled the image and had it in mind that the individual might be Gracie Fields. The Secretary undertook to investigate this further, with the suggestion that it need not require the depiction of a known public figure. The image of soldiers returning home, as shown in **F4**, was also liked by the Chairman but opinion returned to the work of **Designer B**, with **B3** emerging as the favoured option on account of the map being drawn more clearly.

It was agreed that **A1** and **B3** should go forward to the next stage, bearing in mind the comments noted below.

- **A1**. Check the accuracy of what the lady was holding in her raised hand. Check if it was an image of a known individual.
- Ensure the lettering was legible.

The Secretary undertook to progress the designs on this basis.

2.2

Commemorative kilo and five-ounce coins

With respect to the commemorative coins, the work of **Designer B** again attracted attention. The prominent use of the **V** for victory appealed to members, with **B1** and **B4** emerging as the most strongly supported.

Recommendation in favour of **B1** and **B4**. The following comments were made.

- **B1**. Replace the way in which the date was rendered with a more conventional style. Remove the people from either side of the **V**.
- **B4**. Remove the Union flag, the US flag and the Soviet flag from the design. Ensure there was additional detail in the map to make the most of the larger size coins.

The Secretary agreed to pass this feedback on to the artist concerned.

Item 3.0

Paddington fifty pence, 2019 (Circulating coin)

Following on from the release of coins celebrating Paddington this year, the intention was to issue additional coins next year which would be released into general circulation.

The same Royal Mint designer, David Knapton, had been invited to prepare artwork and the resulting 13 options had been circulated to members a few days before the meeting. Three approaches had been explored: Paddington at the Tower of London, Paddington at St Paul's Cathedral and Paddington shopping in Notting Hill, with the requirement being for designs for two of these to be selected. It was quickly agreed that the Tower of London and St Paul's Cathedral were the preferred approaches.

3.1

Tower of London

██████████ liked **Design 2** for the Tower and ██████████ was also taken with it but requested it be amended to ensure it did not seem as if

one of the towers were emerging from Paddington's ear. The Chairman noted that he preferred to see the label present on Paddington's duffle coat and with sandwich in hand.

Recommended **Design 2**. The following comments were made.

- Rearrange the elements of the design so one of the towers of the White Tower did not appear to be emerging from the side of Paddington's head.
- Retain the label and the sandwich.

3.2

St Paul's Cathedral

Of the designs submitted showing St Paul's Cathedral, **Design 4** was liked by [REDACTED] and the Chairman. [REDACTED] was happy with that choice but wanted to make sure the design would be properly drawn-up rather than being based on what seemed like a photoshop approach. [REDACTED] assured him that this would indeed be the case.

Recommended **Design 4**. The following comments were made.

- The view of St Paul's to be of the front, showing part of the clock face, as well as the dome, so more recognisably St Paul's Cathedral.
- Add the label on Paddington's coat.

For both the approaches selected, the Secretary undertook to convey the comments to Mr Knapton.

Item 4.0

250th anniversary of the birth of William Wordsworth two-pound coin, 2020 (Collector coin)

Having received approval to issue a two-pound coin to celebrate the birth of the poet William Wordsworth, designs had been commissioned from a number of artists, images of which had been sent to members during the week before the meeting.

The Chairman was concerned at the profusion of daffodils and wondered if it might be possible to explore other well known, or possibly better, poems by Wordsworth. [REDACTED] liked **A5** but appreciated it did look a little too much like a William Morris print. For [REDACTED], the simplicity of **A4** and its use of Wordsworth's signature worked very well but [REDACTED] pointed out if this approach were followed, it would bear a strong resemblance to a coin issued to commemorate Robert Burns some years ago. [REDACTED] felt creating designs honouring poets or poetry presented certain recurrent challenges: in the absence of the image of the poet being recognisable, how should the work itself or some pictorial realisation be presented? If the pictorial were going to be pursued in this instance, he wondered if clouds might work better than daffodils. [REDACTED] liked the lettering approach of **B3** and [REDACTED] was also in favour of the design but it was questioned whether more of the poem could be included while still retaining a sufficient degree of legibility.

As a decorative motif to accompany a letter-based design, the Chairman suggested using wild daffodils and making use of a type-face from the time could help add another layer of meaning. It was further suggested that lines from other poems ought to be explored.

A recommendation was made in favour of **B3**. The following comments were made.

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- Use a font relevant to the time. ██████████ suggested Bell or Bulmer italics. If using daffodils ensure they are of the smaller wild variety.
 - Prepare an additional design using an extract from a different poem that would fill the space in the same manner. Suggestions included:
'Bliss it was in that dawn to be alive'. The French Revolution as it appeared to enthusiasts at its commencement.
Ode: Intimations of immortality from recollections of early childhood.
The Prelude.
 - A poem in which butterflies or rainbows feature.

The Secretary agreed to pass on these comments to the artist.

Item 5.0

British Wildlife coins, 2019 (Bullion coin)

A design by Thomas Docherty depicting a red deer had been recommended at the meeting in March. Subsequently, however, it had been discovered that the design bore a strong resemblance to a coin issued by the Canadian Mint, meaning it would be unwise for the Royal Mint to progress with the artwork selected.

With a view to finding an alternative, the two other designs previously presented had been circulated to members a few days before the meeting.

After a brief discussion, it was agreed that **Design 1** was the most dignified alternative.

Recommended **Design 1**. The following comments were made.

- Ensure it was a red deer that was being depicted.
- Ensure there were the correct number of points on the antlers – should be 12.

The Secretary noted that these comments would be conveyed to Mr Docherty.

Item 6.0

Queen's Beasts - The Lion of Mortimer (Collector and bullion coins)

At the meeting in March a design had been selected for the Lion of Mortimer. A model had since been prepared and images had been circulated to members a few days before the meeting.

██████████ thought it an energetic treatment but ██████████ pointed out that the area under the lion's chin had closed up somewhat in the modelling and it was requested the gap be made slightly wider. In response to the Chairman, ██████████ indicated he was entirely happy with the design.

Recommended the design presented but with the following comments.

- The space below the lion's chin to be made clearer.
- The stop after 999 to be moved away from the last 9.

The Secretary agreed to pass these comments on to the artist.

Item 7.0

Wallace and Gromit fifty pence, 2020 (Collector coin)

Approval had been received to issue a coin to mark the 30th anniversary of

the release of the first Wallace and Gromit film. The coin design team at the Royal Mint had worked with Aardman Animations and the design as circulated, had been developed in concert with them.

Of the three options presented, opinion quickly resolved itself in favour of **Design 2**. A Latin scholar had been consulted prior to the meeting on possible inscriptions and the one selected by the Committee was **CASEUS PRAESTANS** which means, cracking cheese. The only material comment made was that consideration be given to the font employed.

Item 8.o

Remembrance Day coin, 2019 (Collector coin)

Two designs had been short listed at the meeting in March and photographs of the two models based on the original artwork had been sent to members in advance of the meeting.

The Chairman felt that the Committee had seen quite a lot of designs showing the Cenotaph in recent years and there had probably been something of a surfeit of poppies. He therefore requested that other approaches be pursued for this type of theme in the future. For [REDACTED] it was **C2** that conveyed the message of the coin simply and yet in a way that filled the space, balancing the poppy with the lettering. [REDACTED] agreed and [REDACTED] saw in it a different treatment from the previous use of poppies on coinage designs.

Recommended **C2**. The following comment was made.

- Move the dates in from the outer border of lettering.

The Secretary agreed to convey the comment to the artist.

Item 9.o

Lunar Year of the Rat, 2020 (Collector and bullion coins)

For the next in the lunar calendar series, a design was required for the year of the rat to be issued as a bullion coin in 2020. A number of designs had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

The Chairman reminded members that in Chinese culture the rat was regarded as inquisitive and tenacious and almost certainly did not have the negative press to be found in Britain. [REDACTED] wondered if the flower motif employed ought to be a peony, provided it could be incorporated without unbalancing the composition. For [REDACTED] **A5** represented the most successful design, partly because of the positioning of the Chinese character but also because the elements of the design worked together as a whole. The Chairman was happy to endorse this view and there was general agreement it was more promising than any of the others put forward by **Designer B**.

Recommended **A5**. The following comment was made.

- Replace the existing flowers with peonies. Take care to ensure it does not change the nature of the composition.

The Secretary undertook to pass this comment on to the artist.

Item 10.o

Report from the Sub-Committee on the Selection of Themes

A meeting of the Sub-Committee on the Selection of Themes for United Kingdom coins had been held on 4th June as a follow up to the one in March. The minutes of the meeting had been included in the papers sent to members prior to the meeting.

The themes put forward for circulating coins for 2019 and 2020, as detailed below, were endorsed.

2019

D-Day - £2

Wedgwood - £2

Sherlock Holmes - 50p

Paddington - 50p

2020

VE Day - £2

Mayflower - £2

Winnie the Pooh - 50p

Team GB - 50p

The Committee was informed that the Chancellor was in favour of a United Kingdom coin being issued to mark Britain's departure from the European Union. Design guidance was offered by the Committee which the Secretary undertook to reflect in the design brief given to artists.



Item 11.0

Other business

The Chairman noted that Adam Lawrence, former Deputy Master of the Royal Mint, had been awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

The Committee rose at 4.15pm

Advisory Committee on the Design of Coins, Medals, Seals and Decorations



Minutes

**292nd Meeting
Central Saint Martins
11.00am Tuesday 25th September 2018**

Present

Lord Waldegrave of North Hill (Chairman)

Professor Phil Baines

Professor Nick Mayhew

Mr Hughie O'Donoghue RA

Professor Jane Ridley

Lieutenant Colonel Mike Vernon

Mr Edmund de Waal OBE

Mr Thomas Woodcock CVO DL

Dr Kevin Clancy (Secretary)

Mr Lee Jones (Royal Mint Coin Design Department)

Apologies

Mrs Blondel Cluff

Dr Nicholas Cullinan

Ms Nicola Howell

Mrs Anne Jessopp

Item 1.0

Minutes of 291st meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21st June 2018 at Buckingham Palace were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Item 2.0

75th anniversary of VE Day, 2020 (Circulating two-pound coin and collector kilo and five-ounce coins)

Designs had been short listed at the meeting in June for VE Day circulating and collector coins and revisions had been made to one of these, images of which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. A concern had been expressed within the Royal Mint that two of the options looked too similar and, with that in mind, it had been requested the

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Committee review all the designs submitted previously to see if any might have potential.

2.1

Circulating two-pound coin

After some discussion, members confirmed they were happy with the selection of **A1** and **B3** made at the meeting in June and had no further amendments to add to those already put forward. It was agreed that models of these two would be presented at the meeting in December.

2.2

Kilo and five ounce coins

██████████ spoke in favour of **C1** and the Chairman liked the use of the Churchill quotation. ██████████ agreed because it reflected, through the presence of the flags of many nations, the involvement of other Allied powers. The correct crown as used during the reign of George VI, ██████████ noted, should be shown and he undertook to supply the correct reference. ██████████ wanted to see **IN** reduced in size and felt it would be better to dispense with **TH** as part of the date.

These amendments were agreed and the requirement for an edge inscription would be raised at the meeting in December.

Item 3.0

Paddington fifty pence piece, 2019 (Circulating coin)

Two designs had been selected at the last meeting, one depicting Paddington in front of St Paul's Cathedral and the other with the Tower of London as a backdrop. Models of both had been prepared and photographs had been sent to members some days prior to the meeting.

3.1

Tower of London

Members were largely content with the design presented but ██████████ requested Paddington be made to look a little less like he was emerging from a wind tunnel.

3.2

St Paul's Cathedral

The same observation was made with respect to the windswept nature of how Paddington had been modelled in this instance as well. In addition, ██████████ thought the perspective of the right arm was not correct and he requested the Greenland-like cloud formation be removed. The Chairman wanted to ensure that the writing on the label would be legible and, with these comments noted, members were happy to approve the design.

Item 4.0

400th anniversary of the *Mayflower* two-pound coin, 2020 (Circulating and bullion coins)

Two designers had been asked to submit designs on the theme of the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the *Mayflower* from Plymouth to America. Photographs of the resulting artwork had been sent to members in advance of the meeting.

As a general observation applying to all the designs under consideration, the Chairman requested the accuracy of the ships be checked with a maritime expert.

4.1

Circulating two-pound coin

The work of Designer B immediately appealed to members and, in particular, **B1** seemed to capture a sense of energy and dynamism. ██████████ supported it, as did the Chairman and, while ██████████ did not dissent, he thought the lettering need not be italicised. He also wanted

to see simplified versions of the **M** and **R** of **MAYFLOWER**. [REDACTED] wondered if this ship would have been flying the Union and St George's flags. The Secretary undertook to find out and he also agreed to look into why the moon formed part of the design. With these comments in mind the Committee was content to see the design modelled.

4.2

Bullion coin

With respect to the bullion version, members were attracted to **A3**. [REDACTED] thought its highly detailed nature would make it sympathetic to the manufacturing process for bullion coins. Members were happy to endorse this view and the Secretary agreed to check the accuracy of the anchor at the bottom of the design.

Item 5.0

Team GB fifty pence, 2020 (Circulating and collector coins)

Approval had been received to issue a fifty pence piece in 2020 on the theme of the Great British team which will be competing in the Tokyo Olympic Games. The work of two artists had been sent to members a few days prior to the meeting.

[REDACTED] did not care for the words 'Believe in Extraordinary'. While he did not object to the sentiment, the poor grammar offended him and other members agreed. [REDACTED] thought **B1** had succeeded in bringing the subject matter alive and making it seem fun. [REDACTED] also liked the design but thought it best to drop **TOKYO** since its inclusion would probably not be allowed by the IOC. He requested that a version be developed with the Team GB logo in the centre as in **B2**. The Chairman and other members were happy with this recommendation and an amended version would be presented at the meeting in December.

Item 6.0

Lunar Year of the Rat, 2020 (Collector and bullion coins)

At the last meeting a design had been selected for use on collector coins, with an adapted version of the same for use on bullion coins. Models had since been prepared, photographs of which had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

The Chairman was content with the way in which the rat had been modelled and he was supported in this view by other members. A number of detailed comments had been raised by an expert in this aspect of Chinese culture which would, if possible, be accommodated.

Item 7.0

Wallace and Gromit fifty pence piece, 2019 (Collector coin)

At the meeting in June a single design had been recommended and a model had since been worked up, images of which had been sent to members in advance of the meeting. The modelled version had been shown to Aardman Animations and they were entirely happy with the result.

Members were reminded that the Latin inscription, **CASEUS PRAESTANS**, could be translated as **CRACKING CHEESE**. There were no dissenting voices around the table and the design, as modelled, was approved by the Committee.

Item 8.0

British scientists (Collector coins)

8.1

Stephen Hawking fifty pence, 2019

Approval had been obtained to develop a series of coins based on the theme of great British scientists and a provisional list had been drawn up

which included Stephen Hawking. A number of designers had therefore been approached and images of the resulting artwork had been sent to members some days prior to the meeting.

██████████ prefaced the discussion by saying how encouraged he was to see science being promoted through the medium of coinage. The Chairman liked **B5** in large part because of the intriguing way in which the black hole had been rendered and ██████████ thought its being offset made it even more compelling. The work of Designer A was supported by ██████████ who thought it would be fascinating to show such a level of mathematical detail, while ██████████ thought **E2** had potential. After further discussion **B5** emerged with the strongest level of support and it was decided to take only that design forward for further development. ██████████ requested the lettering be altered to a style less like a gift card and versions would be developed with and without the denomination.

Item 9.0

Agatha Christie two-pound coin, 2020 (Collector coin)

Designs had been commissioned for a new United Kingdom coin to be issued to mark the 100th anniversary of the publication of Agatha Christie's first novel. Several artists had accepted the invitation to submit designs and images of their work had been circulated to members some days before the meeting.

The jigsaw puzzle approach adopted by Designer A appealed to the Chairman and, in particular, **A2** seemed to him the best. ██████████ agreed, reflecting that Christie's books were puzzle-like in their structure. ██████████ expressed reservations about the level of detail it would be possible to reproduce on **A2** because of the way in which the design had been constructed. It was, as a result, suggested it be simplified somewhat. ██████████ thought **A9** was worth considering and the Chairman readily agreed, with ██████████ requesting the weight of the lines making up the maze be somewhat lightened. It was resolved that **A2** and **A9** would be taken forward for further development.

Item 10.0

Beatrix Potter fifty pence, 2019 (Collector coin)

Continuing the very successful series of coins issued on the theme of characters from Beatrix Potter's books, two new designs had been prepared for release next year. The subjects in this instance were Peter Rabbit and Samuel Whiskers. They had been drawn by Emma Noble, the Royal Mint designer who had prepared the artwork and models for all the coins issued so far. Images had been sent to members prior to the meeting.

The Chairman was happy with the artwork presented and other members of the Committee also gave their approval.

Item 11.0

200th anniversary of the death of George III crown piece, 2020 (Collector coin)

A number of artists had been invited to submit designs for a crown piece to be issued in 2020 to mark the 200th anniversary of the death of George III. Images of the artwork from those involved had been sent to members some days prior to the meeting.

The Chairman thought **C2** was well balanced but ██████████ indicated the crown would need to be changed and undertook to supply reference. It

was suggested that the rural scenes either side of the central portrait could be made clearer and it was requested other ways in which George III's contribution could be symbolised be put forward. ██████████ spoke in favour of **D2** and it was suggested the coinage portrait of George III by Benedetto Pistrucci be used for this design as it had in **C2**. It was pointed out that the numbers on the spines of the books in **D2** should read from left to right and the other symbols, it was hoped, could be drawn with greater clarity.

The Secretary agreed to pass these comments on to the artists concerned with a view to examining models in December.

Item 12.0

Snowman fifty pence, 2019 (Collector coin)

A coin on the theme of the Snowman had been approved for release in 2018 and designs had been approved by the Committee some months ago. It was planned to issue another coin drawing inspiration from the same story next year and designs had accordingly been prepared, photographs of which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Of the three drawings presented members were happy to recommend **Option 2** without further amendment.

Item 13.0

Other business

13.1

Brexit fifty pence, 2019

The Committee examined designs for a fifty pence piece to be issued in 2019 to mark Britain's exit from the European Union. It was decided to recommend a design based on lettering which made use of the inscription PEACE, PROSPERITY AND FRIENDSHIP WITH ALL NATIONS.

The Committee rose at 12.15pm

Advisory Committee on the Design of Coins, Medals, Seals and Decorations



Minutes

293rd Meeting
Cutlers' Hall
11.00am Tuesday 11th December 2018

Present

Lord Waldegrave of North Hill (Chairman)
Professor Phil Baines
Dr Kevin Clancy (Secretary)
Mrs Blondel Cluff
Ms Nicola Howell
Mrs Anne Jessopp
Mr Lee Jones (Technical adviser, Royal Mint Coin Design)
Professor Jane Ridley
Lieutenant Colonel Mike Vernon
Mr Thomas Woodcock CVO DL

Apologies

Dr Nicholas Cullinan
Mr Edmund de Waal OBE
Professor Nick Mayhew
Mr Hughie O'Donoghue RA

Item 1.0

Minutes of 292nd meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 25th September 2018 at Central Saint Martins were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Item 2.0

75th anniversary of VE Day, 2020 (Circulating two-pound and collector kilo and five-ounce coins)

Three designs had been short listed at the meeting in September and models for each had since been prepared, photographs of which had been sent to members some days prior to the meeting. It was noted that two designs were required, one for a two-pound circulating coin and another that will be used on kilo and five-ounce coins.

..... The options that were most strongly supported were Design A and Design

B, the view being that Design C had more of an Edwardian feel and so did not fit the time period of the mid-1940s. Opinion ultimately resolved in favour of Design B for the circulating coin because it had a simple and clear message, while the more intricate nature of Design A would be better suited to the larger format of the kilo and five-ounce coins.

2.1

Circulating two-pound coin – Design B

Mrs Cluff observed that 1945 should be added to the 2020 date, otherwise the anniversary may not be sufficiently clear. The Chariman liked the design and [REDACTED] also spoke in favour of it, both feeling it would work well as a circulating coin. The Secretary noted that the design was the work of Stephen Taylor.

2.2

Kilo and five ounce coins – Design A

[REDACTED] liked the intricacy of the design but [REDACTED] regarded the choice of font for the numerals at the top as somewhat misjudged. He also questioned the repetition of the word VICTORY but it was decided, on further reflection, to keep the repetition but to make the words stand out more from the background texture. It was also hoped the crowd could be modelled with greater clarity. The Secretary noted that the design was the work of Dominique Evans.

Item 3.0

400th anniversary of the *Mayflower* two-pound, 2020 (Circulating and Bullion coins)

Two designs had been selected at the last meeting, one for a circulating two-pound coin and the other for use on bullion coins. Models of both had been prepared and images had been sent to members a few days prior to the meeting.

3.1

Circulating two-pound coin – Design B

[REDACTED] thought the revised typeface an improvement and he liked the dynamic quality captured in the modelling of the ship. Mr [REDACTED] was concerned about the appearance of the Union Flag and St George's cross at the top of the two masts on the grounds that it could not be proven beyond doubt that the ship would have flown these flags. It was therefore agreed to remove any design details and show blank flags as on Design A.

The edge inscription recommended was UNDERTAKEN FOR THE GLORY OF GOD, the first line from the *Mayflower* Compact. The Secretary reported that the design was the work of Chris Costello, an American artist who had also been approached by the United States Mint to design their coin on the same theme.

3.2

Bullion coin – Design A

Of the two options presented for the bullion coin, the Chariman preferred the one with the anchor and [REDACTED] also thought the anchor's inclusion a good idea. No amendments were put forward and the Secretary reported that the winning artist was John Bergdahl.

Item 4.0

Team GB fifty pence, 2020 (Circulating and collector coins)

At the meeting in September members preferred a single design which represented all the sports of the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games through pictograms. Two versions of this design had since been worked up and images circulated a few days before the meeting.

The Chairman noted that attempting to summarise all sports through a

single design was always a difficult brief but Designer B had created a well balanced design and [REDACTED] regarded it as an engaging response. [REDACTED] wondered if the governing body had been shown the design to ensure no sports had been omitted and that all the icons were correct. It was noted that the governing body had been consulted and was content. Nevertheless, there was some doubt about whether rowing had been represented and the Secretary undertook to look into it.

Of the two options presented the Chairman preferred revised design 2, in part because he thought the Team GB lion looked better without the rectangular frame. With no other comments being put forward, the Secretary reported that the winning artist was David Knapton.

Item 5.0

Agatha Christie two-pound, 2020 (Collector coin)

Two designs had been short listed at the meeting in September and they had since been developed into three options, images of which had been sent to members during the week prior to the meeting.

Of the two main routes presented, the jigsaw puzzle and the maze, [REDACTED] preferred the jigsaw approach but thought it had gone backwards in translation to model form. [REDACTED] agreed, pointing out that the individual pieces of the jigsaw could be given clearer outlines and the space left by the missing piece could be made to look more three-dimensional. For the Chairman, the maze did not convey the sense of Agatha Christie's work as strongly as the jigsaw idea and he wondered if the icons from the original drawing could be introduced in simplified form to the surface of the individual pieces.

The inscription was judged too complicated and it was agreed to have AGATHA CHRISTIE around the top of the design, 100 YEARS OF MYSTERY around the middle and her signature at the bottom.

The Secretary agreed to convey this feedback to the artist with the intention of presenting a revised design to the Committee at the next meeting.

Item 6.0

200th anniversary of the death of George III crown piece, 2020 (Collector coin)

At the last meeting two designs had been selected. Amendments had been made addressing comments put forward by members and models had been prepared, photographs of which had been sent to members in advance of the meeting.

From the start of the discussion there was no particular support for Design D, with [REDACTED] thinking it in no way as strong as Design C. Given that the purpose of the coin was to symbolise the achievements of George III's reign, it was requested that confirmation be obtained of a strong link between the Royal Observatory and the king. [REDACTED] requested that the crown be amended and also the accuracy of the cypher checked, providing the Secretary with reference to that end.

For the edge inscription it was agreed to recommend I GLORY IN THE NAME OF BRITAIN. The Secretary reported that the winning artist was Dominique Evans.

Item 7.0**Snowman fifty pence, 2019 (Collector coin)**

A design had been selected at the last meeting and a model had since been prepared, images of which had been sent to members in advance of the meeting.

Having reviewed the model, members were content to endorse the design without amendment.

Item 8.0**250th anniversary of the birth of William Wordsworth two-pound, 2020 (Collector coin)**

Designs had been examined for a coin to commemorate the work of William Wordsworth at the meeting in June and artwork by Designer B had been selected. Two models had since been prepared, images of which had been circulated to members during the week before the meeting. In addition, the artist had put forward some alternative options for consideration.

The Chairman sympathised with the view from the Royal Mint that the designs were rather text heavy and personally he hoped a coin in honour of Wordsworth could step beyond daffodils. Of the designs presented, Option 2 was the most strongly supported but it was requested that the wording from revised model 2, NATURE NEVER DID BETRAY THE HEART THAT LOVED HER, replace the existing quotation. Mr [REDACTED] thought some of the designs had the air of postcards and, in conveying feedback received from [REDACTED], the Secretary noted that he regarded the approach generally as too sentimental. A more rugged treatment was thought to marry better with much of the tone of Wordsworth's poetry and, to meet this observation, it was suggested that designs be prepared showing the mountainous landscape of the Lake District. It was also requested that designs featuring Dove Cottage set within a landscape be developed. [REDACTED] wondered if the presence of daffodils could be restricted to small decorative motifs in the margins and, if used at all, the Chairman requested that they be the smaller wild variety.

The Secretary undertook to convey this feedback to the artist with the intention of reviewing revised designs at the next meeting.

Item 9.0**Tower of London, series II, 2020 (Collector coins)**

The first series of coins on the theme of the Tower of London had been well received and a second had therefore been developed. Other elements of Tower history would be explored in the second series and the subjects covered would include, imprisonment, the White Tower, the Royal Mint and the Menagerie. A number of designers had been approached and photographs of the resulting artwork circulated to members a few days prior to the meeting.

The Chairman was taken with the work of Designer A but [REDACTED] thought the use of the three lions of England might look like a locked-up football team and she regarded it as a somewhat confusing way to represent a Menagerie. [REDACTED] agreed with the Chairman in supporting Designer A, with both Set 1 and Set 2 having clear merit. The work of Designer B was judged too obscure by the Chairman and there was little support for the approach taken by Designer C in this instance. No specific amendments were put forward with respect to Designer A's work and Set 1 was in the end judged the stronger of the two. There remained

for [REDACTED] hope that a different approach could be taken to the representation of animals in A2.

Item 10.0

Music Legends – Queen, 2020 (Collector coin)

It was intended to issue a series of coins on the theme of British music legends and the first band for which designs had been developed was Queen. Artwork had been created in collaboration with the licence holder acting on behalf of the band and images had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

The Chairman has not happy with the options presented. He and other members felt there was a distinct lack of variety and the single approach taken was not at all their taste. It was requested that the Royal Mint return to the licence holder and request much greater flexibility in how the visual assets could be interpreted.

Item 11.0

Two Lions, 2020 (Bullion coin)

Some months ago a design for a bullion coin based on British and Chinese dragons had been approved by the Committee and it had been very well received. It had therefore been proposed that a coin be issued on the theme of British and Chinese lions. Designs had been commissioned from one artist and photographs of the three options had been sent to members prior to the meeting.

The Chairman liked the quality of the artwork and [REDACTED] agreed, preferring either Option 1 or 2. Opinion resolved in favour of Option 1 on the grounds that in Option 2 it appeared as if the Chinese lion were pushing a football onto the head of the British lion. No amendments were suggested but it was requested that the accuracy of the Chinese lion be checked. The Secretary noted that the artist was [REDACTED].

Item 12.0

Other business

12.1

Queen's Beast series – White Horse of Hanover (Collector and Bullion coins)

A modelled version of the White Horse of Hanover was presented at the meeting and members were happy to approve it without further amendments. The Chairman and other members stressed how much they liked the series and the hope was expressed that another use for the designs could be found.

12.2

Wider Service Medal

[REDACTED] noted that the Committee would be reviewing designs at the meeting in March for a new official medal, the Wider Service Medal.

The Committee rose at 12.25pm

Advisory Committee on the Design of Coins, Medals, Seals and Decorations



Minutes

**294th Meeting
The Royal Mint
11.30am Thursday 21st March 2019**

Present

Lord Waldegrave of North Hill (Chairman)
Professor Phil Baines
Dr Kevin Clancy (Secretary)
Ms Nicola Howell
Mrs Anne Jessopp
Mr Lee Jones (Technical adviser, Royal Mint Coin Design)
Lieutenant Colonel Andy Lucas (Ministry of Defence)
Professor Nick Mayhew
Ms Clare Morgan
Professor Jane Ridley
Lieutenant Colonel Mike Vernon
Mr Edmund de Waal OBE
Mr Thomas Woodcock CVO DL

Apologies

Mrs Blondel Cluff CBE
Dr Nicholas Cullinan
Mr Hughie O'Donoghue RA

Item 1.0

Minutes of 293rd meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11th December 2018 at Cutlers' Hall were approved and signed by the Chairman.

██████████ noted that revised designs for Wordsworth were not being presented at the meeting but that it would be on the agenda for a future occasion and the Chairman was relieved to hear the theme had not been dropped.

Item 2.0**Wider Service Medal**

A number of artists had been invited to submit designs for a new official medal to be called the Wider Service Medal (WSM). A summary of the eligibility criteria for the medal had been circulated in advance of the meeting, together with images of the designs prepared.

██████████ summarised the circumstances in which the medal would be awarded and noted that options for the ribbon had not yet been drawn up. He noted that **A1** captured well the remit to be covered by the medal in showing symbols of land, sea and air but the belt in the centre was not liked and there would be questions about which part of the globe should be shown. In response to a question, he confirmed that the wording should be FOR WIDER SERVICE. His other stated preference was for **B2** because the four arrows suggested global coverage and the presence of the laurel symbolised success.

The Chariman was not keen on any of the designs featuring hands, commenting that **A3** reminded him of a Christmas pudding, but he was taken with **B1** and **B2**. ██████████ did not care for the hands or the lettering of **B1** but he strongly supported **B2** which he judged dignified and looked like an official should. For ██████████, **B2** was much the best of the designs presented and other members expressed their support.

The Secretary indicated that the design would now be modelled in time for the meeting in June.

Item 3.0**75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, 2020 (Collector coin)**

At the Theme Selection Sub-Committee meeting in February it was decided to change the focus of how the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War should be commemorated so that the War as a whole rather than just VE Day would be marked. With this in mind, a new design brief had been prepared and issued to a number of artists. The outcome was 29 designs, photographs of which had been sent to members some days prior to the meeting.

The Chairman was not hugely impressed with the quality of response to the subject matter. ██████████ drew attention to the dove, as represented in **A4**, but for ██████████ it reminded him too much of the logo for twitter and instead he thought **A5** had more potential. ██████████ appreciated the difficulties the artists were confronting in employing symbolic abstractions of war and peace through images of doves or wording but he regarded these as legitimate responses to the subject matter. The question for him was whether other artists would be capable of exploring a more sculptural approach both in relation to the dove and lettering. The names suggested to take on the re-imagining of the dove from **A4** included Nicola Hicks, Paul Day and Antony Dufort, and for the lettering-based design as presented in **A5**, Gary Breeze and Richard Kindersley were suggested. In reflecting further how **A5** might be developed, ██████████ wondered if the word PEACE could be given more emphasis than WAR and if the sense of the words as monumental inscriptions could be more strongly conveyed.

The Secretary agreed to look into re-briefing along the lines suggested by members.

Item 4.0**Agatha Christie two-pound, 2020 (Collector coin)**

A design based on a jigsaw puzzle had been selected at the last meeting, with the request that it be amended to allow symbols of a simpler nature from Agatha Christie's novels to be incorporated. The changes had been made and images of how the design had developed had been sent to members a few days prior to the meeting.

The Chairman expressed support for the underlying concept of the design but he felt it had somehow lost its coherence. The Secretary reported that [REDACTED], in notes she had provided before the meeting, agreed the design lacked legibility, which for her was particularly apparent in relation to the absence of a sense of depth to convey the hole left by the missing jigsaw piece. [REDACTED] thought the line around the outer inscription added unnecessarily to the weight of detail, prompting him to suggest its removal, as well as that of the diamond motifs. With the same line of reasoning in mind, [REDACTED] wanted to see the name AGATHA CHRISTIE removed from the top and the phrase, 100 YEARS OF MYSTERY repositioned to take up the space. The signature at the bottom of the design still provided a reference to the author and [REDACTED] argued for losing the dates to free up the outer band still further. Other members readily agreed to these changes. Additional suggestions directed simplification were put forward with respect to reducing the overall number of jigsaw pieces and replacing the cup and saucer with the revolver. [REDACTED] requested that a typeface from the 1930s be employed to provide the design with a period feel.

All these comments were accepted and the Secretary undertook to pass them on to the artist. As far as an edge inscription was concerned, the Committee favoured LITTLE GREY CELLS.

Item 5.0**Tower of London series II, 2020**

A set of designs was selected at the last meeting exploring the themes of the White Tower, the Royal Mint, the Menagerie and the Prison. The set was endorsed without any significant amendments but three alternative options had been developed with respect to the Menagerie and the Prison based on ideas submitted by the same artist last time. Images of all these options had been circulated to members a few days prior to the meeting.

The Chairman did not care for the alternative designs and [REDACTED] agreed, seeing in the executioner's axe a strong resemblance to a golf club. The three lions from the original designs were regarded by [REDACTED] as powerfully drawn and he could not readily conceive of a better solution. For [REDACTED] the lettering for the Prison coin was grounded in an authentic Tower story and should therefore be retained.

The conclusion was to progress to models based on the original designs selected by the Committee and the Secretary noted that the artist was the herald painter Timothy Noad.

Item 6.0**British Red Cross two-pound coin, 2020 (Circulating coin)**

Approval had been received to release a United Kingdom two-pound coin in 2020 to mark the 150th anniversary of the British Red Cross. A number of artists had been approached to prepare designs and photographs of the artwork had been sent to members in advance of the meeting.

The Chairman indicated that he was not initially overwhelmed by the

quality of response to the brief but [REDACTED] spoke in favour of **B1** and wondered if, as a truly international organisation, the globe could occupy more of the centre of the design. The anniversary dates could then be placed in the area occupied by the South Atlantic. In an effort to simplify the design, it was thought unnecessary to repeat BRITISH RED CROSS around the central cross and, in looking at another option, **A6**, there was agreement that the same change could usefully be made to that design as well. [REDACTED] pointed out that heraldically a red cross was represented by vertical lines and alternative versions of **A6** and **B1** could be developed rendered in this way.

It was acknowledged that the British Red Cross would need to be consulted on some of the changes put forward but the Secretary undertook to ensure this was pursued.

Item 7.0

Britannia, 2020 (Commemorative and bullion coins)

As had been the case for several years, designs on the theme of Britannia had been commissioned for commemorative and bullion coins, and one was now required for use in 2020. A number of artists had been approached and images of the artwork prepared had been sent to members in advance of the meeting.

The work of Designer B captured the attention of a number of members, with support being expressed initially for **B2** and **B3**. [REDACTED] had noted her preference for **B2** but discussion moved to **B1**, provided the artist could make the figure look a good deal more heroic. [REDACTED] liked the idea of Britannia being draped in a flowing Union Flag and, while not disagreeing, the Chairman wanted to see a much larger shield, together with a more clearly defined background. [REDACTED] judged Britannia's head in **B1** to be too small and he too wanted to see a more dynamic figure drawn with great strength. As an alternative, opinion moved in favour of **E1**, but accompanied by the same request for a Britannia more idiomitable in form and spirit.

The Secretary agreed to pass on these observations to the two artists concerned.

Item 8.0

Dinosauria series, 2020 (Commemorative coins)

Approval had been received to issue a series of coins on the theme of Dinosaurs, with the intention being to highlight a British link and to give the series an educational focus. The use of colour had been stressed in the design brief and was directed at showing what it was thought dinosaurs actually looked like. Two artists had been approached, both of whom were specialists in palaeontological art, and images of the designs they had created had been forward on to members some days prior to the meeting.

[REDACTED] thought it excellent that there were artists who specialised in this type of work and congratulated the Royal Mint on enlisting them for the project. The Chairman expressed a clear preference for Designer A, singling out **A2**, **A4** and **A8**. [REDACTED] agreed and all other members were happy to endorse this view, regarding the designs as particularly well drawn.

Item 9.0**Rosalind Franklin fifty pence, 2020 (Commemorative coin)**

Approval had been received to issue a coin celebrating the achievements of Rosalind Franklin as part of an ongoing series on the theme of British Science and Scientists. A number of artists had been approached and their response to the brief resulted in the submission of 31 designs, images of which had been sent to members in advance of the meeting.

The Chairman was pleased to see [REDACTED] being celebrated in this way but he recognised it could prove difficult to represent her work through a representation of the famous Photograph 51. For [REDACTED] the scientific contribution itself should be regarded almost as important as the individual and this approach had been reflected in the designs so far approved as part of the series. [REDACTED] agreed that the Stephen Hawking coin had encapsulated a complex idea beautifully and he hoped the same could be achieved in this instance. He liked the graphic strength and simplicity of **B5**, while the Chairman was attracted to **B7**, in part because of its off-centre view. A similar approach had been adopted in **B3**, but with the image flipped to the left and this design attracted the support of [REDACTED]. The play on the end characters of her name in forming DNA in **B2** it was suggested could be applied to **B3** and the reference to PHOTOGRAPH 51 from **B4** could also be added to the **B3** design. As for **B5**, the Chairman thought it could be improved if there were a greater sense of perspective.

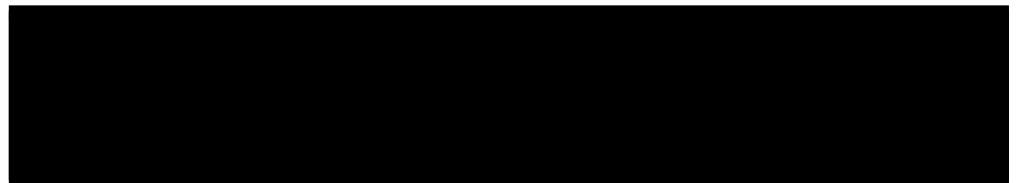
The Secretary agreed to pass on the suggestions put forward to Designer B, with the intention of having models for review at the next meeting.

Item 10.0**Report from the Sub-Committee on the Selection of Themes**

A meeting of the Sub-Committee on the Selection of Themes for United Kingdom coins had been held on 14th February. The minutes of the meeting had been circulated to members a few days earlier.



In view of the large number of war-related coins that had been issued in the last few years, the Second World War series should be approached in a consciously different way.



Item 11.0**Other business****11.1****Two lions**

It had not been possible to circulate revised designs for a coin on the theme of the Chinese and British lions in advance but member had the opportunity to review the artwork at the meeting. The designs were endorsed without further amendment.

The Committee rose at 1.08pm
