

MEETING TITLE	Minutes of the 95th meeting of the London Blue Plaques Panel	
DATE	5th February 2026 at 11am	
LOCATION	English Heritage Offices, 100 Wood Street, London EC2V 7AN	
MEMBERS	Professor William Whyte (Chair) Professor Tilly Blyth Mihir Bose Dr Simon Chaplin Andrew Graham-Dixon	Alex Graham Professor Claire Harman Amy Lamé Dr Shini Somara Petroc Trelawny Hannah McCann
ATTENDEES	Geoff Parkin – Interim Chief Executive Dr Matt Thompson – Conservation, Curatorial and Learning Director Jeremy Ashbee – Head Historic Properties Curator Cathy Power – Blue Plaques Manager Rebecca Preston – Blue Plaques Historian Susan Skedd – Blue Plaques Historian Howard Spencer – Senior Historian, Blue Plaques Sarah O’Grady – interim Head of Governance (minutes) – by Teams	
APOLOGIES	Professor Richard Aldrich Yolanda Brown OBE DL Gus Casely-Hayford OBE Emily Gee	

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

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone the meeting,
- 1.2 There were no new declarations of interest
- 1.3 Apologies – as noted above.

Item 2 – Minutes of the meeting held on 11th June 2025 and 7th October 2025 and any matters arising

- 2.1 The Minutes of the meeting on 7th October 2025 were approved as a fair and accurate record.
- 2.2 A correction was agreed to the Minutes of the meeting on 11th June 2025 to record that the Panel’s decision regarding Sybil Fairfax was to defer.

Item 3 – Chair’s report (verbal)

The Chair gave an update and thanked Panel members for supporting the unveiling of blue plaques.

Item 4 – Conservation, Curatorial & Learning Director’s report (verbal)

The Director gave an update including the appointment of a new Board Chair, Tony Hales, CBE.

Item 5 – Preliminary considerations

Under its terms of reference, the Blue Plaques Panel advises English Heritage on the erection of blue plaques. The Panel considered the following preliminary cases:

Eileen Gray (1878–1976)

The Panel’s decision was to shortlist.

Harold Shergold (1915–2000)

The Panel’s decision was not to shortlist.

Sir George Edwards (1908-2003)

The Panel’s decision was not to shortlist and to refer the nomination to the National Scheme.

Sir (Charles) Richard Fairey (1887–1956)

The Panel’s decision was not to shortlist.

Sheila Scott (1922–1988)

The Panel’s decision was not to shortlist.

Samuel Wroath (1908–1995)

The Panel’s decision was not to shortlist.

Gertrude Hermes (1901–1983)

The Panel’s decision was to shortlist.

Rupert Guinness, 2nd Earl of Iveagh (1874–1967)

The Panel’s decision was not to shortlist.

Denton Welch (1915–1948)

The Panel’s decision was not to shortlist.

Kathleen Kennedy, later Cavendish (1920–1948)

The Panel’s decision was not to shortlist.

John Cranko (1927–1973)

The Panel’s decision was not to shortlist.

Geoff Love (1917–1991)

The Panel’s decision was not to shortlist.

Albert Sammons (1886–1957)

The Panel’s decision was to shortlist.

Sir Michael Tippett (1905–1998)

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist and to refer the nomination to the National Scheme.

Jeanne Deroin (1805–1894)

The Panel's decision was to shortlist.

Walter Guinness, 1st Baron Moyne (1880–1944)

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist.

Thomas Jones (1870–1955)

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist.

Jeremy Sandford (1930–2003)

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist.

Gabrielle Enthoven (1868–1950)

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist.

Pauline Henriques (1914–1998)

The Panel's decision was to shortlist.

Roddy McDowall (1928–1998)

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist.

Helen Hanks (1886-1949)

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist.

Mickey Davis (1910 - 1954)

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist

West Ham FC

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist

Forugh Farrokhzad (1934 – 1967)

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist

Henry Charles Stephens (1841 – 1918)

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist

Ronald Raven (1904 – 1991)

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist

Kenneth Denton Shoemith (1899 – 1939)

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist

George Wimpey (1855 – 1913)

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist

Mashriq Urdu News Weekly (founded 1951; published from suggested address from 1961 – 2021)

The Panel's decision was not to shortlist.

Item 6 – Final reports

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

Item 7 – Any other business

None

Information papers:

- London Blue Plaques awarding criteria
- Panel Member Role Description
- Public relations update
- London Blue Plaques Programme: progress report (Protected)

Minutes: S O'Grady 5th February 2026