

Minutes of the Extraordinary Treasure Valuation Committee

Conservation Meeting Room, British Museum, Friday 21st December 2007, 10am

Present:

Committee

Norman Palmer (chair)
John Cherry
Jack Ogden
Trevor Austin (on phone)
May Sinclair (on phone)

Other

Caroline Barton (BM)
Roger Bland (BM)
William McMyn (DCMS)
Rachel Stratton (DCMS)

Apologies

Peter Clayton
Stephen Hodgson (DCMS)

Item 1: Harrogate Hoard

1. Viking hoard from Harrogate, North Yorkshire (2007 T2)

One provisional valuer suggested £496,000 for a) the cup, b) the gold armlet, c) the hack silver and d) the 617 coins. The second provisional valuer suggested £216,800-£221,100 for 1) silver gilt cup, 2) gold armring, 3) silver pennanular armring, 7) silver armring, 18) silver armring of two wires twisted together, 26) silver large ingot and balance of silver hoard (excl. coins). The third provisional valuer suggested £850,000 for the 617 coins. The fourth provisional valuer suggested £665,420 for the coins. The Committee replied to the finders comments, stating that the recommended valuation is taking into account the cleanability of the hoard. The cup's rareness and potential at auction were taken into account; it was felt that the first provisional valuer's coin valuation was too low and that the third and fourth provisional valuers were more accurate in their price range. The coin valuation of Mr [REDACTED], submitted by the finders, was also taken into account and the Committee agreed that they would not anticipate a reduction in prices at auction due to the quantity and agreed with the lower scale of Mr [REDACTED]'s valuation range. The Committee recommended £1,052,800, the division of which is £280,000 for the cup, £10,000 for the gold armring, £4500 for the three silver armrings, £800 for the ingot, £7,500 for the rest of the objects and £750,000 for the coins.

Item 5: Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 13th February 2008, Hartwell Room, British Museum, 11am.