Museums Disposal Panel Report



Author: Alan Popper Date: Feb 2012 Ref. No.: DPR090312 0002

SECTION 1

1.1 Description of Object/Objects

BBC Radio Lincolnshire Outside Broadcast Radio Car – Ford Cortina Estate, presented to the MLL as a gift in 1989; it has been on display in the same location ever since. The vehicle is significant in that it was the first outside broadcast car that BBC Radio Lincolnshire received and it made its first official outside broadcast from here at MLL a week after the received it in 1977/78.

1.2 Reason For Disposal

While presented as a gift in 1989, this item has never actually been formally accessioned into the collection and there is no formal paperwork describing/recording its handover in the history files.

My predecessor made enquiries regarding rationalisation in 2003, however, this proved impossible due to the status of the intended recipients at the time. Having reviewed the correspondence received in 2003, however, it is clear that the BBC consider the car our responsibility/property and do not wish to have it back.

At present we do not have the expertise to fully look after the car and it has sat with no interpretation, out of context, in the corner of the external display area open to the elements since 1989 and it is rapidly approaching a point where it will require serious intervention.

Having reviewed the Museum Association's re-interpreting/revisiting collections guidance and having noted that the Lincolnshire Vintage Vehicle Society (LVVS) have now become a fully accredited MA site, it was felt that this vehicle would be better relocated to this site where it could be better housed and cared for by specialists in the field and accessed in context with important vehicles from around Lincoln and Lincolnshire.

1.3 Suggested Means of Disposal & Reason

It is proposed that the vehicle should be offered to the Lincolnshire Road Transport Museum (accredited Museum) located in Lincoln and ran by LVVS as a gift/full transfer of ownership on the understanding that it is stored and displayed inside, alongside other important vehicles from Lincolnshire - this would improve care and context of display.

1.4 Impact Statement

Potential Risks:

Negative publicity from local radio station, but this should be mitigated by arguing that it ensures better, care, display in context and that we are ensuring that it remains on display in Lincoln where it was originally based.

Negative feedback from site/visitors – discussions with the site team suggest that this should be minimal.

Potential Benefits:

By transferring the car we are ensuring best/better access, care and interpretation of collection object. The space vacated can be used to house one of the working engines, which are moved outside but then covered with an unsightly tarpaulin through the summer months – bringing better care and display to one of the collection's highlights.

Contrary to the potential risk, this could actually be a good news story for both Museums.

1.5 Other Considerations

It is suggested that this vehicle can only be gifted to this one site ran by LVVS to ensure the vehicle remains on show in context within the County. If this site is unable to accept the Car we must look at other ways to display and care for the object.

1.6 Recommendation

Request the Disposal panel give permission for CAO to approach LVVS to see if they would be willing to accept the Car as a formal gift with caveats about display, access and care.

SECTION 2

(to be completed by Disposal Panel)

2.1 Panel Decision

Fully agree with Disposal Report Section 1 recommendation	
Agree with Disposal Report Section 1 recommendation, with additional requirements/comment (section 2.2)	X
Disagree with Disposal Report recommendation for reasons given below (section 2.2)	

2.2 Additional Comments

- Approach LVVS with offer, but without putting caveats on the offer (see section 1.6).
- If LVVS are interested, talk to BBC Radio Lincolnshire about the transfer.

Signed: Jonathan Platt (Chair of Disposal Panel) Date: 9th March 2012

Subsequently, LVVS was contacted and unfortunately they do not have the space or the funds/capacity to take on the car at the present time. They do not foresee being in a position to acquire the car for at least a couple of years, but it was agreed to keep the lines of communication open as LVVS were very interested in the vehicle and to a potential future disposal.

Mark McCree, May 2012

SECTION 3

(to be completed by Collections Officer)

3.1	Exec Report No
3.2	Exec Decision No
3.3	Action / Date Completed Ensure a copy of the Authority deaccession/disposal form is attached to this sheet
3.4	Name, Contact Details & Status of Recipient Accredited museum, private museum etc.
3.5	New Location and Number of Object For future access, should enquiries come in.
3.6	Benefits Achieved for the Service/Object: Short summary tying back to section 1.4