

**MINUTES OF THE PENLEE HOUSE AND PARK COMMITTEE MEETING** held in Committee Room No. 3, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2008 at 7.00pm.

**PRESENT**

Councillors JF Moreland (Chairman)  
M Lovegrove (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors MR Cotton  
RM Lawrence  
RA Mann  
D Nebesnuick  
CAC White

**ALSO PRESENT**

Alison Bevan (Director, Penlee House Gallery & Museum) and Sophie Layton, a student with the Museums Association for whom Alison Bevan was acting as mentor and who wished to observe the function of the Council in relation to the running of a gallery.

25. **APOLOGIES**

Councillors JH Dixon, F Granger, J Parkin, TE Williams

26. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

27. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2008**

Having been circulated, it was

**RESOLVED:** that they should be signed as a true and correct record.

28. **REPORT OF DIRECTOR**

(a) **Exhibition, Income and Visitor Number Report**

The Director reported that visitor numbers for the calendar year so far were good with a figure of 36,490 having been reached at the end of the current day against 36,411 at the end of December 2007, representing the second highest number on a calendar year basis for the past ten years.

Shop takings at the close of day showed a slight dip at £84,323.82 against £85,772.22 at the end of November and although total takings for the financial year to date stood at £116,953.92 against £120,005.32 at the end of November 2007, the figures were still very healthy and looked to be on target to reach £145,000 at the end of March 2009 and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the Director's verbal report be noted.

(b) Forthcoming exhibitions

The preview evening of the current exhibition 'A Village in Focus – Mousehole' which marked the centenary of the foundation of Mousehole Male Voice Choir (who also performed during the evening) had attracted a record number at a preview and it was noted that the annual 'Crafts for Christmas' fair was also running until 10<sup>th</sup> January 2009. The Director reported that part of the 'Mousehole' exhibition (mainly the personal memorabilia of the Mousehole Male Voice Choir members) would close in January to make way for 'A Village in Focus – Newlyn' which would run from 17<sup>th</sup> January to 14<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

The following exhibition would be 'Wild Cornwall' in celebration of Charles Darwin's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday and would run from 21<sup>st</sup> March to 13<sup>th</sup> June 2009 and the preview evening would be combined with the re-dedication of the Sensory Garden. The Chairman mentioned the possibility of engaging an actor to perform a short piece based on Darwin's life and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the position be noted.

(c) Agenda and Minutes for 'Friends of Penlee House' meeting – 27<sup>th</sup> October 2008

The agenda and minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> October having been distributed to all members it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that receipt be noted.

The Chairman informed members that he had held discussions with some of the 'Friends' members about establishing a 'Friends of Penlee Park' group that would be in a position to apply for grant funding for various projects in the park and this had been met with general enthusiasm and he would also liaise with the 'Friends of Morrab Gardens' group and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the position be noted.

29. **REPORT OF TOWN CLERK**

(a) Extension of Orangery Café lease

The Town Clerk reminded members that a review of the extension of the café lease was due and a meeting with the café proprietor would be arranged and the outcome of the discussions reported back at the next committee meeting and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the position be noted.

(b) Correction of date for dedication of Sensory Garden

The date for the dedication of the Sensory Garden would now be Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2009 (not Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March as previously reported) to coincide with the preview evening of the 'Wild Cornwall' exhibition and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the position be noted.

(c) GSD Security Guards

The Town Clerk reported that officers at Penwith District Council had recently held a meeting with GSD and Inspector Mark Eccles of the Penzance Police Force to discuss security issues within the town and to carry out a review of the patrols undertaken by GSD throughout the summer months.

The possibility of introducing 'call out' patrols only on a trial basis would be considered and a further report would be forthcoming at the next committee meeting in January and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the position be noted.

30. **FINANCIAL POSITION INCLUDING REVISED ESTIMATES 2008/09 AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2009/10**

The Committee considered its financial position to the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008 and it was

**RESOLVED:** to note the position.

The Committee considered the proposed revised budget in respect of the year 2008/2009 and the proposed budget in respect of 2009/2010 together with supporting notes and it was

**RECOMMENDED:** that the revised budget for the current year and the proposed budget for the ensuing year be approved (see Appendix 'A').

Further information on the year on year and total costs of salary reviews will be provided to members and the supporting reports in this respect appear as confidential Appendices 'B' and 'C' to the minutes.

8:30pm

Chairman  
20<sup>th</sup> January 2009