

MINUTES OF THE PENLEE HOUSE AND PARK COMMITTEE MEETING held in Committee Room No. 3, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Tuesday 1 December 2009 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor M Freeman (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors M R Cotton
J H Dixon
R M Lawrence
R A Mann

ALSO PRESENT

Alison Bevan (Director, Penlee House Gallery & Museum)

25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – were received from

Councillors M Lovegrove, J F Moreland, D Nebesnuick, J Parkin, J Ruhrmund, C A C White, T E Williams.

Absent without apologies: Councillor K L W Perry.

26. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

27. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3 NOVEMBER 2009

Having been circulated, it was

RESOLVED - that the Chairman should sign the Minutes as a true and correct record.

28. REPORT OF DIRECTOR

(a) Exhibition, income and visitor number report

The Director reported that, unfortunately, income figures in comparison to previous years continued to be low with the shop take at the end of November standing at £76,863.53 against £83,903.44 at the end of November 2008. Total take for the year to end November stood at £108,836.91 against £116,420.54 for the same period in 2008 and visitor figures for November this year at 1453 were the lowest recorded since 1998 which was most likely a reflection of the economic climate and the very bad weather conditions.

(b) Forthcoming exhibitions

The next exhibition 'Penlee Inspired' would begin on 5 December and would run until 9 January 2010, accompanied by the annual selling exhibition 'Crafts for Christmas'. The launch of this exhibition would also coincide with the launch of the newly refurbished Social History Gallery, the new Penlee House website and the 'Object Project'.

The following exhibition, running from 16 January to 13 March 2010 would be 'West Cornwall Studio Pottery 1920-1980'.

(c) Acquisitions

The Director reported that there were no new acquisitions but efforts to raise funding for the purchase of 'Abbey Slip' were still being made and it was hoped that purchase of a portrait of Alfred Munnings by Harold Knight would also be possible.

(d) South West Federation of Museums

The Director reported to members that she had recently been nominated to the position of Chairman of the South West Federation of Museums and the Committee congratulated her on this achievement.

29. REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

(a) Update of structural repairs to the Memorial Chapel

The Town Clerk reported that designs for a new roof on the Memorial Chapel had now been received and quotes for undertaking the work would be requested and the grant application to the War Memorial Trust could then be processed.

(b) Budget revision 2009/2010 and proposed budget 2010/2011

At the recent General Purposes meeting it had been recommended that a series of informal meetings be held early in 2010 to look at budget priorities for the Council over the next three years in terms of short, medium and long-term goals.

The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that a new chiller unit for Penlee House would be one of the priorities and also repairs to the roof and guttering of the Link into Learning building.

(c) Coffee machine for Orangery Café

It was reported that the new coffee machine was now in place and, although the cost was very high, the machine should last for at least 10 years and therefore looking at the cost spread over this period it appeared reasonable.

30. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

(a) Staffing at Penlee House

This item, being of a confidential nature, it was

RESOLVED – to exclude the press and public.

See confidential Appendix 'A'.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Chairman
19 January 2010