

MINUTES OF THE PENLEE HOUSE AND PARK COMMITTEE MEETING held in Committee Room No. 3, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Tuesday 18 May 2010 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor J Parkin (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors M R Cotton

ALSO PRESENT

Alison Bevan (Director, Penlee House Gallery & Museum)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – were received from Councillors R A Mann, J Moreland, D Nebesnuick, J Ruhrmund, T E Williams.

Absent without apologies: Councillors M Lovegrove, K L W Perry, C A C White.

2. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

3. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2 MARCH 2010**

Having been circulated, it was

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

4. **REPORT OF DIRECTOR**

- (a) Exhibition, income and visitor number report

The Director reported that income figures were still approx. £2,000 down on the previous year with the total take at the end of April standing at £10,804.07 against £12,458.17 at the end of April 2009. Visitor numbers for the calendar year to date stood at 10,379 as opposed to 11,579 at the end of April 2009.

- (b) Forthcoming exhibitions

The exhibition brochure for the year 2010/11 had been distributed and an article about the summer exhibition, 'A Cornish Childhood', appeared on the front cover of the latest edition of 'Artefact', the newsletter of the Friends of Penlee House and the exhibition would be opened by Andrew George MP.

- (c) Acquisitions

Efforts were still being made to acquire the painting 'Abbey Slip' which had failed to sell at auction. The Director had negotiated a sale price with the

vendor and was now approaching various funding bodies to raise sufficient funding. £10,000 had been pledged by the Friends of Penlee House and individual members of the Friends had already donated £7,330 towards the purchase. An article would be appearing in the Cornishman newspaper in order to encourage interest from the public.

(d) Coach House development

The Director had been attending meetings of the West Cornwall Local Action Group and had been informed that a sum of European Funding money was available that needed to be spent on community and business projects before the end of 2013. The development of the Coach House would meet the criteria for this funding and the Director was continuing to pursue this possibility.

(e) Telephone System

The telephone system at Penlee House was now 13 years old and included several separate lines going into the building which incurred high line rental costs. The Director had already obtained quotes for a new system that would include an extension into the Coach House and a lease/rental contract was also an option that was being investigated. The possibility of including the telephone system in any potential European funding was also being pursued.

(f) Resolution to exclude the press and public

Due to the confidential nature of the next item, it was

RESOLVED – to exclude the press and public.

(g) Staffing matters (see confidential Appendix 'A')

(h) Resolution to re-admit the press and public

It was

RESOLVED – to re-admit the press and public.

5. REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

(a) Re- lining of Penlee House Car Park

The Town Clerk reminded members that a health and safety inspection of the car park had been requested and this had now been carried out and the recommendations would be reported back to the committee, when available.

(b) Structural repairs to Penlee House

It was reported that a piece of plaster had recently fallen from a soffit on Penlee House and, while repairing this, the workmen had discovered extensive damage to the roof tiles, guttering and downpipes. All repairs had

now been carried out, including the repair of a leak in the roof over one of the offices, and the roof was now secure and leak-free.

(c) Penlee Park staffing over the summer months

See Confidential Appendix 'A'.

(d) Election of fourth representative to Friends of Penlee House

The Town Clerk reported that Councillor Williams was unable to accept the position of a Town Council representative to the Friends of Penlee House due to her commitments as a Cornwall Councillor. This item would now be taken forward for consideration at the next Town Council Meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

Chairman
29 June 2010