

MINUTES OF THE PENLEE HOUSE AND PARK COMMITTEE MEETING held in Committee Room No. 3, St. John's Hall, Penzance on Tuesday 29 June 2010 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Councillor J F Moreland (Chairman)

Councillors M R Cotton
R A Mann
J Ruhmund

Also present - Alison Bevan (Director, Penlee House Gallery & Museum)

6. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – were received from Councillors D Nebesnuick, J Parkin, C A C White, T E Williams.

Absent without apologies: Councillor K L W Perry

7. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

8. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 18 MAY 2010**

Having been circulated, it was

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

9. **REPORT OF DIRECTOR**

- (a) Exhibition, income and visitor number report

The Director reported that figures were improving slowly compared with the first few months of the year with visitor numbers at the end of the current day standing at 14,923 which, although considerably lower than the 18,401 recorded at the end of June 2009, was not too far behind the figure for the financial year of 9,147 against 10,034 at the end of June 2009.

Shop takings for the financial were only slightly lower than 2009 at £24,795.13 as opposed to £24,934.95 and the total take for the financial year so far was £34,471.13 against £35,704.33 and the Director informed members that some of the income resulted from renting the Coach House to outside parties.

- (b) Forthcoming exhibitions

Work on the autumn exhibition 'Sea Change: St Ives 1914-1930' had already started and Penlee House was working with Tate St Ives to put on a weekend-long symposium in connection with the exhibition.

(c) Acquisitions – update on ‘Abbey Slip’ by Stanhope Forbes

Of the three funding bodies that had been approached for assistance with the purchase of ‘Abbey Slip’, the Art Fund had declined, the Board of Trustees of the National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF) would be considering the application at a meeting on 20 July and it was still under consideration by the V&A. A general appeal had been launched with gift aid forms being made available and, so far, £10,357 had been received in donations which equated to £12,620 with gift aid. The Friends of Penlee House had already agreed a donation of £10,000 and individual ‘Friends’ had also pledged personal donations that amounted to £11,000. The MLA had also indicated to the Director that the purchase would meet its pre-eminence criteria for capital gains tax relief and the Director was still optimistic that enough money could be raised to purchase the painting.

(d) New staff at Penlee House

The new member of the shop staff had already started and was settling in very well and proving to be a valuable team member.

A new Education and Outreach Officer had now been appointed and would take up the position on 12 July.

10. REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

(a) Finance update – closing figures for financial year 2009/10

The Committee reviewed the figures for the financial year 2009/10 and

RESOLVED – to approve the financial position (see Appendix ‘A’).

11. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

RESOLVED – to exclude the press and public from the meeting.

The Director left the meeting.

12. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

(a) Report of the Town Clerk on the operation of Penlee House Gallery and Museum

See Confidential Appendix ‘B’ attached.

The meeting closed at 8:05pm

Chairman
7 September 2010