

Friends of the Hatton Gallery

Minutes of the Committee Meeting

Held in office 2 on Tuesday 12th March, 2013

Present:- Simon Court - Chair, Vhairi Cardinal, Bob Young, Alysia Trackim, Jean Taylor, Kelsey Thornton, John Dance, Aubrey Anderson, Jo Elliott, Richard Thompson, Julie Milne - TWAM

1) **Apologies for Absence:** Marion Thompson, Violet Rook

2) **Matters arising** from minutes of meeting held on the 15th January 2013 - none

3) Gallery Report

- There have been three good exhibitions recently. Fire alarms disturbed the opening, but there were very positive comments about the Ed Ruscha, Katrin Hüber and John Darwell exhibition, with Hüber and Darwell responding directly to Schwitters' work. Ruscha was also influenced by Schwitters. The gallery is considering a series of exhibitions about Schwitters' legacy.
- Hazel Barron-Cooper, the Learning Officer, has been working around the Ed Ruscha exhibition. Using Art Fund funding, Hazel has bought in the services of a freelance specialist consultant to encourage schools to use the Hatton as a resource. In particular, Hazel would like to encourage more secondary schools to participate. Hazel has been working with all ages from nursery to teens to BA students. There is now a student placement from Durham University working 2 days a week within the gallery making learning materials. Hazel has been doing outreach work in care homes, libraries and with the Mental Health Trust.
- There was some discussion around signage. There is to be new discreet blue signage. JM said the architect would be looking at the design in stage 2. KT asked if it was in the brief. JM said we should write up details required and send them to JM. JM was supportive of FoTH signage.
- Stage 1 HLF funding was submitted on 1st February. The outcome will be known at the end of May. The submission was made focusing on the heritage context of Schwitters and was made with the cooperation of TWAM, the Hatton and the university. The conservation plan includes Fine Art and the Hatton. The funding requested amounts to £150,000, part of which will be for a funding manager to write bids, some will go towards a training access officer to draw university personnel into the Hatton to work with different community groups.
- Stage 2 – the delivery phase is for the renovation going forward. The total cost is £3,533,000 and the bid is for £656,500. TWAM would have to raise the rest of the cash, working with the university on a fundraising strategy. There will be a fundraising event at Tate Britain in London. SC asked if there would be one in the north-east. JM expects that there will be.

4) **Treasurer's Report** – The Treasurer reported funds of £8000. £3000 is reserved to buy a painting. Membership to BAfM has been paid and insurance too. Charity Commission returns have been done. Gift Aid will be applied for on 22nd April. The

Treasurer asked committee members if the list of trustees was up to date. JM will contact Rob Airey re conserving the Bacon.

5) Membership Report

RT reported that there are currently 218 members, of whom 128 have already renewed their membership. E-mail addresses need to be updated. Members should be asked clearly about e-mailing the newsletter and the bulletin.

18 members have been removed from the list of members. 19 members have so far agreed to receive newsletters and bulletins by e-mail.

RT is updating the e-mail list, having had 23 bounce-backs from 100 e-mails so far.

6) Events

JT reported that 26 members attended the Malcolm Yorke event.

Aubrey Anderson's print workshop was interrupted by a power cut and has had to be rescheduled for the second day.

The Merzbarn talk by Rob Airey is on the website, facebook and in the newsletter.

JT said it was too late to arrange a summer party. There was some discussion around the future of parties. It was suggested that we just have previews with 'nice nibbles'.

7) Exhibitions

RT has still not been paid for the painting that was sold at the Christmas exhibition.

SC will e-mail JM re payment.

It was agreed that the title of the summer exhibition will be *FoTH Summer Exhibition*.

SC had contacted 36 Lime Street re the winter exhibition. There was no news as yet.

BY pointed out that 2 exhibitions yearly is not really traditional. There was some discussion around how the two exhibitions came about.

8) Publicity

BY reported that leaflet will now be in 1/3 A4 format. Membership forms will be looseleaf. He showed committee members an A\$ membership form. The current newsletter is out now and is online and on facebook.

9) AOB

AT has recruited 4 new members.

AA suggested sending out membership forms to 6th Forms and art staff. The committee agreed to do this.

KT has produced details of FoTH space requirements in the refurbished gallery.

SC mentioned possible collaboration with CAS and Rebecca Morrill. He has contacts with the Shipley Gallery.

Date and Time of next meeting Tuesday 14 May, 2013.

Signed: _____ Date: _____