National Galleries of Scotland
Board of Trustees

Minute of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held in the Boardroom,
Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art Two, Belford Road, Edinburgh on
Monday 25th March 2019, 1300hrs

Present: Alistair Dodds (Deputy Chairman)
          Tricia Bey
          Edward Green
          Tari Lang
          Willie Watt
          Audrey Carlin
          Catherine Muirden
          Hannah Rudman

In Attendance: Sir John Leighton, Director-General
               Chris Breward, Jacqueline Ridge, Jo Coomber
               Brian Doneghan, Director of Operations (item 7)
               Christopher Baker, Director, European and Scottish Art
               and Portraiture (strategy session)

Apologies: Benny Higgins (Chairman), Nick Pearce, Bryan
           Robertson, Fiona Buchanan

Secretariat: Nicola Coutts

Open Business

1 Declarations of Interest
   There were no declarations of interest.

2 Chairman’s Business
   Alistair Dodds, Deputy Chairman, informed trustees that he
   would be Chairing the meeting in Benny Higgins’s absence.

3 Minutes

3.1 Minute of the Meeting of 4 February 2019
   The minute of the meeting of 4 February 2019 was
   approved as a correct record.

4 Matters Arising
   There were no matters arising.
Open Business
10 Reports

10.1 Collection Quarterly Report including acquisitions

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Professor Breward outlined the report and recent acquisitions. It was noted that the Antonio Zucchi was now formally acquired.

Trustees approved with thanks the Rose Elizabeth Paget Travel Album gift from Ben Thomson.

10.2 Public Engagement Quarterly Report

Ms Coomber presented the report noting some highlights.

The Trading Company, despite the disruption at the National Gallery, has had a good year, with events and e-commerce doing well.

BEINGS has opened at the Portrait Gallery with very positive feedback. Ms Hyslop has also visited the exhibition.

The Changing Places Toilet has been installed at the back of Modern 1. This is a free-standing portakabin unit which will be for the use of visitors with profound and multiple learning disabilities. This was ready in time for Disabled Access Day 2019 and received a 5 star review on Euan’s guide. Euan’s guide is a charity which was founded in 2013 by Euan MacDonald, who is a powerchair user. The website has thousands of disabled access reviews and listings for placings all over the UK and beyond.

With regards to Andy Warhol and Eduardo Paolozzi at Modern 2, numbers before Christmas had been low, however since then following some investment, Modern 2 is now seeing more activity and an up-lift in visitor numbers.

The Brand Design agency, D8, have been appointed and will start work in April 2019.

Trustees requested that the What’s on Guide be included in future Board papers, and for press releases.
and the NGS newsletter to go out to all Trustees.

Ms Lang discussed the social media take up. It was agreed that Ms Coomber will send Ms Lang a copy of the NGS social media approach.

10.3 Public Programme
10.3.1 Quarterly Report
Report noted.

10.3.2 Visitors Figures: January – February 2019
The visitor figure reports were noted.

11 Compliance & Risk

11.1 Strategic Risk Register
It was noted that the Risk Register was discussed at the Audit and Risk Committee on 26th February. At the meeting there had been discussion around the “Key Suppliers Risk” which would be picked up by the Leadership Team. Trustees commended the prioritisation of risks and the mitigating actions being undertaken.

11.2 Q3 Corporate KPI Report
It was noted that the Q3 KPIs had been discussed at the Audit and Risk Committee on 26th February. Ms Coomber explained that the visitor figure targets will be set as per the previous year with a set target and a stretch target based on past and sector performance.

12 Any Other Business
N/A

13 Date of Next Meeting
The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Monday 17th June at 1300hrs in the Boardroom, Modern Two.

Strategy Session: SNPG Vision
1 Presentation from Christopher Baker
All Trustees took part in a strategy session on the SNPG Vision.