

**National Galleries of Scotland  
Board of Trustees**

Minute of the open business of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held in the Boardroom, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art Two, Belford Road, Edinburgh on Monday 29 January 2018 at 1400 hrs.

**Present:** Benny Higgins, Chairman  
Alistair Dodds  
Tari Lang  
Tricia Bey  
Nicky Wilson  
Lesley Knox  
Willie Watt  
Nick Pearce  
Edward Green

**In Attendance:** Sir John Leighton, Director-General  
Chris Breward  
Jacqueline Ridge  
Jo Coomber  
Nicola Catterall

**Apologies:** Catherine Muirden

**Secretariat:** Elaine Anderson

**Action**

There were no declarations of interest.

***Open Business***

**1 Chairman's Business**

All matters were covered on the agenda.

**2 Minutes**

**2.1 Minute of the Meeting of 27 November 2017**

The minute of the meeting of 27 November 2017 was approved as a correct record.

Mr Dodds commented on the excellent interview with Annie Lyden on BBC Alba on the Johnstone photography collection, commending the publicity and content.

**3 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

## 8 Directorate Reports

### 8.1 Collection & Research

Professor Breward presented a new report which brought together collection and research in one paper. There were no acquisitions requiring Trustee approval.

Discussions were underway about the future direction of Pig Rock Bothy.

HLF and Art Fund applications had been successful for the Murray McKinnon archive, therefore the purchase would be going ahead. This was an excellent partnership opportunity with the National Library of Scotland and the funding would support a curator post and touring programme.

It was noted that the attempt to acquire the Walter Frier portrait of the Princess Zanzibar had been unsuccessful.

### 8.2 Public Engagement

#### 8.2.1 Quarterly Report

Ms Coomber outlined the Public Engagement report. The Head of Marketing post remained vacant, but it was hoped to fill it in due course. It was planned to close Modern One for 10-12 days in March to accommodate the development of the shop.

Ms Coomber updated Trustees on the current tour of Monarch of the Glen and the inclusion of a postcard image of *Mother and Child* by Norah Neilson Gray, with welcome message, in the new Scottish Government baby boxes.

Trustees also noted the development of internal communications, including the approach to the strategy sessions for all staff.

#### 8.2.2 Winter Events Listing

Noted.

### 8.3 Public Programme

#### 8.3.1 Quarterly Report

Trustees welcomed the new style of report, which brought together the exhibitions listings and commentary into one document.

8.3.2 **Visitor Figures: November-December 2017**  
The visitor figure reports were noted.

9 **Corporate and Business Planning**

9.1 **Data Protection Compliance Plan**

Ms Anderson outlined the Data Protection Compliance Plan and asked Trustees to note the content. It was agreed to document the work with sister organisations and seek greater support from the Audit & Risk Committee.

10 **Any Other Business**

10.1 **The Queen**

Mr Green enquired how NGS might respond to the Queen's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday or her death. It was noted that the galleries would close out of respect when she dies and a display would be pulled together at short notice at the PG.

10.2 **Plastic Bottles**

On the back of recent publicity about waste management and recycling, it was noted that NGS was considering, through the Sustainability Officer, how empty plastic bottles should be managed. It may be worth having a presentation at a future meeting.

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10.3 **Board Agenda Plan 2018**

Noted.

10.2 **Dates of Interest 2018**

Noted.

11 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Monday 26 March 2018 at 1315hrs in the Boardroom, Modern Two.