



National Galleries of Scotland Board of Trustees

BT 23/03P

Public minute of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held in the Boardroom at Modern Two on Monday 5 June 2023 at 1330hrs.

Present: Benny Higgins (Chair)
Audrey Carlin
Lynn Richmond Gemma Gray
Chris Sibbald Hannah Rudman
Professor Kate Sang Jim McConville
Dawn Thomson Apphia Campbell

In Attendance: Sir John Leighton, Director-General
Bryan Robertson
Imogen Gibbon
Valerie Urquhart
Adam Christie
Isabella Miller
Jacqueline Ridge
Kerry Watson and Grania Diver (item 1)

Apologies: Andrew Wilson
Rucelle Soutar
Anne Lyden

Secretariat: Elaine Anderson

Reserved Business

- 1 **Potential Disposals**
Printroom at Modern Two
Presentation from Kerry Watson, Librarian and Grania Diver,
Paolozzi Project Archivist

Discussion redacted.

Open Business

- 2 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no new declarations of interest.

3 **Chairman's Business**

There was no Chairman's business

4 **Minutes**

4.1 **Minute of the meeting of 27 March 2023**

The minute of the meeting of 27 March 2023 was approved.

5 **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising which were not already covered on the agenda.

6 **Director-General's Report**

The Director-General updated trustees on the current public programme, noting that "Your Art World" was due to open on 24 June in the lobby at the National.

Discussion redacted.

Open Business

7	Reports		
	7.1	Collection Report	
		<p>Ms Gibbon outlined the current programme, noting some of the recent acquisitions.</p> <p><i>Redacted.</i></p> <p>Ms Gibbon reported a significant amount of activity and programming in respect of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. In particular, the Marie Maitland/Ashley Douglas collaboration had had a wide-reaching effect in the LGBTQ+ community.</p>	

		<p>Ms Gibbon reported that the Portrait Gallery contemporary space now had moveable crates to enable displays during the day and the temporary removal of those displays to clear the space for events activity in the evenings.</p> <p>A grant had been secured from Scottish Government to purchase two pieces of research equipment for the conservation team.</p> <p>Ms Rudman asked whether NGS should trade-mark the movable crates, if they were a pioneering design. Ms Gibbon agreed to check with the art movement team to establish the facts.</p>	IG
		Proposed Acquisitions: <i>Redacted</i>	
		<i>Open Business</i>	
	7.2	Public Programme 2023-24	
		<p>Ms Gibbon outlined the current and forthcoming programme.</p> <p>The Whittle exhibition had received critical acclaim and the artist had very positive feedback on the development of the show. The exhibition was free to the public and the outreach activity programme was exceptional.</p> <p><i>Decades: The Art of Change 1900-1980</i> was now open at Modern Two, a free show which was running until early next year.</p> <p>Trustees noted that the Grayson Perry show was due to open in July. Good merchandise had been acquired and there would be some limited-edition ceramics available.</p>	
	7.3	Audience & Digital Quarterly Report	

		<p>Ms Miller noted the visitor numbers across the sites over the previous 2-3 months. The scaffolding had come down at the Portrait, which may boost the numbers.</p> <p><i>Redacted.</i></p> <p>The Trading Company had performed well across the last financial year, but sales had slowed down over the last 4-5 months. The retail team had high hopes for recovery through the Grayson Perry exhibition, with his UK-wide appeal and launch just ahead of the Festival.</p> <p>Ms Miller shared the definition of Net Promoter Score, clarity for which had been sought at the recent Audit & Risk Committee meeting.</p> <p>The audience research results had been shared with the Leadership Team the previous week. There were a number of opportunities which could be followed up to develop relationships with the audience. It was agreed to share the executive summary and recommendations with trustees in due course.</p>	IM
		<p><i>Open Access:</i> <i>Discussion redacted.</i></p>	
	<i>Reserved Business</i>		
	7.4	Chief Operating Officer's Report	
		<i>Redacted.</i>	
	7.4.1	Health & Safety Policy	
		Trustees approved the revised Health & Safety Policy.	

Reserved Business

8 Financial Matters

Redacted.

9 Major Projects Progress Reports

Redacted.

Open Business

10 Compliance & Risk

10.1 Performance Measures 2022-23: Q4

Ms Anderson shared the performance data and report from quarter 4, noting the positive out-turn, good exhibition performance and excellent retail figures.

10.2 Strategic Risk Register

Ms Anderson presented the strategic risk register and shared the covering report which had been considered by the Audit & Risk Committee. Trustees noted the movement in the register from the previous quarter.

Trustees noted also that the risk management framework was under development.

10.3 Safeguarding

Ms Anderson noted that an additional training session would be set up in due course for the trustees unable to attend the previous session.

It was noted that the Board still required to nominate a trustee responsible for safeguarding.

All

10 Any Other Business

There was no other business.

11 Date of Next Meeting

Monday 11 September 2023 at 1330 hours.