

National Galleries of Scotland Board of Trustees

Minute of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held in the A.K. Bell Room, Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Queen Street, Edinburgh on Monday 4 April 2015 at 1400 hrs.

Present: Ben Thomson, Chairman Edward Green
Alistair Dodds Tricia Bey
Lesley Knox Nicky Wilson
Benny Higgins Catherine Muirden

In Attendance: Sir John Leighton, Director-General
Michael Clarke Christopher Baker
Patricia Convery Frank Gribben

Paul Gilfillan (Item 7 only)
Val Urquhart (Item 8 only)
Brian Doneghan (Item 10.5 only)

Apologies: Tari Lang, Nick Pearce, Willie Watt, Jacqueline Ridge,
Nicola Catterall, Simon Groom

Secretariat: Lesley Ellen

Action

1 Chairman's Business

The Chairman expressed his sadness at the passing of Allan Murray who had been a major benefactor.

Visitor figures – the Chairman congratulated all colleagues on their excellent achievement in attracting a record number of 2.145m visitors to the Galleries in 2015/16.

Board Review Committee – the Chairman advised that arrangements were being put in place to appoint a new Chair by April 2017 when his term as Chairman would come to an end. Lesley Knox would be chairing the Board Review Committee and would be driving the process forward with Willie Watt and Tari Lang. Further details would be brought to the next meeting of the Board of Trustees.

2 Minutes

2.1 Minute of the Meeting of 25 January 2016

The minute of the meeting of 25 January 2016 was approved as a correct record.

3 **Matters Arising**

Follow-up Fire Report – discussed as an agenda item later in the meeting.

Round-up report on the future of Generation – to be discussed at the Board strategy meeting in May.

Report on plans for the SNG Collection during the SNG project works to be discussed at the next meeting of the Major Capital Programme Committee.

Reserved Business Redacted

10 **Departmental and Gallery Reports**

10.1 **Scottish National Gallery**

Trustees noted the report and approved the acceptance of the gift of *Birch Trees on a Rocky Incline: Fontainebleau* about 1821–22, Achille-Etna Michallon.

10.2 **Scottish National Portrait Gallery**

Christopher Baker outlined the report.

An update was given on issues relating to the BP Portrait Award exhibition which had closed on 28 February. Trustees discussed the issues relating to this sponsorship and agreed that it has been highly beneficial for NGS, and for the promotion of portraiture.

Trustees noted the report.

10.3 **Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art**

Trustees noted the report and approved acceptance of the long-term loan of *Untitled* 1934, Jean Helion.

10.4 **Audience Engagement**

10.4.1 **Quarterly Report**

Trustees noted the quarterly update on audience engagement.

10.4.2 **Visitor Figures: January–February 2016**

The visitor figures were noted.

10.5 **Operations**

10.5.1 **Prevention of fire and of water ingress**

Trustees considered a report on the measures that were being taken to prevent re-occurrences of water ingress incidents. Brian

Doneghan provided additional information and answered Trustees' questions. A further detailed report will be presented at SMT in May once the present round of camera surveys of internal drainage pipes has been completed.

The report was noted and it was agreed that further reports would be submitted in the future if additional measures were proposed.

11 Public Programme 2016–20

11.1 Public Programme Evaluation

The report on the evaluation of the summer 2015 Public Programme was noted.

12 Compliance Matters

12.1 Performance Measures: Quarter 3 Report

The Quarter 3 report was noted.

12 Any Other Business

There was no other business.

13 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held at 1pm on Monday 20 June in the Boardroom, Modern Art Two.