

FALMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Cultural Services Committee held in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, The Moor, Falmouth on Monday 7th January 2019 at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillors G F Evans CC MBE (Chairman), A J Gillett (Vice-Chair),
M T McCarthy CC, P A Minson, A Parker, B M A Ross and D W Saunby CC.

In Attendance: A M Williams (Town Clerk)
H M Boex (Cultural Services Director)
R May (Dracaena Centre Manager)
K Springfield (Falmouth Youth Work and Education Co-ordinator)

A867 **APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received and approved from Councillor Robinson (ill).

A868 **INTERESTS**

None received.

A869 **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor Minson, seconded by Councillor Parker and

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting
held on 8th October 2018 be confirmed as a correct
record of the proceedings and signed by the Chair.

A870 **YOUTH SERVICES**

Kate Springfield and Richard May provided an overview of the delivery of youth services supported by the Council, accessing over 200 young people per week. There was a Friday night drop-in, Young Womens Group, multi-agency co-ordination etc. The core support from the Council enabled access to other external funders. The Refresh Community Education Programme pilot getting young people into work and volunteering had been very successful and hopefully funding could be secured to carry that on (£17-20,000 cost per annum). The youth work also engaged families with the Dracaena Centre. The Youth Criminal Justice pilot had also been successful (£10,000 cost per annum) and again it was hoped this could continue with funding. They responded to members questions regarding school collaboration and support and the engagement of other agencies.

It was proposed by Councillor McCarthy, seconded by Councillor Parker and

RESOLVED that the report be noted and that the
Council provides funding for the Refresh Community
Education Programme to complete the financial year
to 31st March 2019 (approximately £5,000) from the
Cultural Services Education Budget, to enable other
external funders to be sourced to carry on the initiative.

A871 **CULTURAL SERVICES REPORT**

The Cultural Services Director presented her report that was duly noted and forms part of these minutes.

Councillor Gillett provided updates on the Monkey Mural and Plastic Free Falmouth that was duly noted.

The Town Clerk provided an update on the Dracaena Skatepark proposal and the consideration of the planning application by the Secretary of State.

There being no further business to transact the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.00pm.

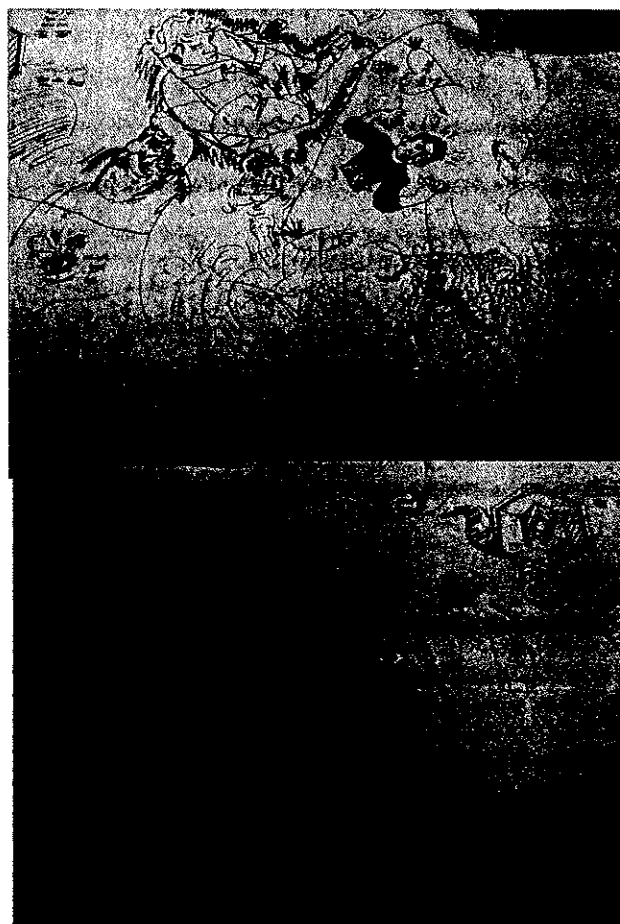
Signed: Date:

Introduction

This report covers the ten weeks since the Cultural Services committee meeting on 8th October 2018 which was held in the Council Chamber.



Some cheerful images of the feedback wall and the 'magic carpet' that appeared as part of our *World Illustration Awards* show



Library and Information Service

- 1.1 The Library continues to run smoothly with regular *rhyme time* and *story time* sessions on a Tuesday and *Lego Club* every Saturday morning and *Code Club* every other Saturday lunchtime.
- 1.2 We have a new Cornwall Council Library Relationship Manager, Rosemary Phillips, who has replaced Alan Thomas.
- 1.3 The last monthly statistical report issued by Cornwall Council was for October 2018. The total footfall was 10,923m books issued 8,165, new borrowers 105 with 1,108 computer sessions booked.
- 1.4 We have continued to hold very successful evening events including an evening with Patrick Gale on 18th October, Exeter University poetry evening on 12th November *Tales of Dough* on 15th November, 2018.

- 1.5 The Falmouth Poetry Group have come back to the library and in celebration we have been loaned a large oil painting by Peter Edwards that depicts Peter Redgrove and Penelope Shuttle in the late 70s when the former was poet in residence at Falmouth School of Art. This painting arrived on 22nd November and is now hanging above the self-service checkout area.
- 1.6 The Library once again hosted Santa's grotto on 29th November with a footfall of over 900 between 5:00pm and 8:00pm.

Art Gallery:

2. Supporters Scheme, donations, grant Income and awards

- 2.1 We have received a donation of £50,000 from private benefactors who wrote 'we are so impressed with what you are doing to extend the reach of the Gallery and to encourage the involvement in the Gallery of many disparate groups. [...] Your dedication to the work of the Gallery and to the wider community is evident and we congratulate you and your team on what you are achieving.' This donation is ringfenced for use by the Art Gallery and to support community engagement with the Art Gallery.

3. Acquisitions, Gifts and Bequests

- 3.1 We have received the entire collection and archive of Rodney Peppé's automata and children's book illustrations on long loan pending gifting to the nation in lieu of inheritance tax which is under negotiation.

4. Exhibitions and displays

- 4.1 The entrance gallery exhibition *Found in Falmouth* ended on 3rd November and was replaced with *War Stories* and exhibition about WW1 'munitionettes' in Cornwall featuring two impressive Stanhope Forbes oil paintings of women at war that were loaned by the Science Museum and the Imperial War Museum.
- 4.2 This exhibition has just ended and *The Window, Vince Tutton Retrospective* opens on 7th January 2019. Vince was a Lizard-based artist and many of the works were inspired by his home in Poltesco.
- 4.3 *Falmouth Alumni, 1950-1970* ended on 10th November and was replaced by the *World Illustration Awards* travelling exhibition. Falmouth Art Gallery is one of four venues hosting this prestigious exhibition.
- 4.4 The *World Illustration Awards* has also just ended and we are in the process of hanging *A Good Night: Nocturnes for Night Owls* which will open on the evening of 11th January and runs till 30th March.
- 4.5 Restoration of the Markey Mural was completed in October a new plaque commemorating the event was 'unveiled' by the Mayor in early December.

- 4.6 Anthony Fagin has an exhibition of photographs in the Community Gallery from his book *A Cycle of Cathay* which we launched on 7th December.

5. Visitor Statistics - art gallery

	Cumulative							Counted
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	% inc
Jan	2,355	2,469	2,645	2,814	3,116	2,870	3,046	6%
Feb	5,724	5,519	6,081	6,564	6,925	6,830	5,950	-13%
March	8,898	8,909	9,040	11,000	10,575	10,735	9,759	-9%
April	12,141	12,685	12,305	14,820	14,471	14,045	13,584	-3%
May	15,257	17,523	16,121	19,056	18,447	18,377	17,539	-5%
June	18,537	21,368	19,301	23,062	23,105	22,810	21,825	-4%
July	22,247	24,889	23,173	27,503	27,603	27,857	26,934	-3%
August	26,931	30,285	28,288	33,787	32,779	34,551	36,748	6%
Sept	30,318	34,814	32,693	38,022	37,242	40,285	41,467	3%
Oct	34,251	38,822	36,843	42,163	41,438	45,015	45,435	1%
Nov	37,601	41,709	39,896	45,376	44,965	48,593	48,501	0%
Dec	39,510	43,680	42,331	47,678	47,557	51,049	50,705	-1%

- 5.1 Overall visitor figures are slightly down on last year but considering the wonderful weather we had over the summer months it is a good result.

6. Community and learning - art gallery

	Cumulative							% inc
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Jan	370	361	410	1,016	763	879	763	-13%
Feb	936	756	887	2,171	1,775	2,118	1,319	-38%
March	1,473	1,385	1,597	3,611	2,685	3,492	2,318	-34%
April	1,900	2,017	1,994	4,300	3,417	4,008	3,066	-24%
May	2,523	2,703	3,586	5,697	4,525	4,866	4,185	-14%
June	2,876	3,299	4,244	6,451	5,659	5,833	5,059	-13%
July	3,272	3,562	4,747	7,156	6,170	6,392	6,684	5%
August	4,149	4,211	5,260	8,250	7,059	7,536	8,316	10%
Sept	4,629	4,791	6,106	9,245	7,812	8,398	8,982	7%
Oct	4,629	5,274	7,174	10,019	9,160	9,609	9,793	2%
Nov	4,629	5,615	8,037	11,265	10,125	10,809	10,499	-3%
Dec	4,629	5,921	8,953	11,674	10,768	11,325	11,030	-3%

- 6.1 Community engagement continues to be at the heart of all our activities and over the next three years we are particularly targeting young people in the 11-25 age

range. We have been running a series of workshops for the WILD young mothers group.

- 6.2 The Principal of the School of Art requested that we apply to be a venue for the *World Illustration Awards* three years ago. It is therefore fitting that we have worked closely with many different student groups this autumn. The most notable was a group of Year 2 dance students from Falmouth University AMATA who visited twice a week for five weeks to research the exhibitions and produce three performance pieces. These took place on the afternoon of December 13th and involved the giant floor art ,(see photograph on the front of this report).
- 6.3 Shallal 2 (the Falmouth branch of Shallal) also used the exhibition to inspire a newly choreographed piece *Picture It* which they performed in the gallery on the evening of the 12th December.
- 6.4 Regular sessions for local poetry groups, MIND, Sketch Club, Look Group, Knit Group, Langholme, Stroke Club and our drop in family workshops on the first Saturday of the month and throughout the summer holidays. We also had a visit from Roseland Park retirement village.
- 6.4 Falmouth Civic Society hosted a 'plastic free' event in the gallery on the evening of 9th October and also visited as a group for a behind the scenes tour with refreshment and a talk from the Director. Mawnan WI art appreciation group also visited the *War Stories* exhibition and also had a talk.
- 6.5 Sarah Scott and Sara Baistrocchi hosted two 'Philosophy for the Community' evening events and 'Night of the Tarot'.
- 6.6 We received visits from St Francis, King Charles Art Ambassadors, Marlborough School, St Mary's reception, Perranarworthal , Carrick APA, Truro College and Falmouth Primary nursery. Helston Secondary School also spent an 'inspire' day with us.
- 6.7 The Director has also been out and about lecturing to Heritage Management students at Exeter University; representing Falmouth at the Cornish Cultural Canapes event in London organised by Cornwall 365; giving a talk to the Friends of Penlee House Museum and Art Gallery; representing the Mayor at the Falmouth Contemporary Poetry Festival; sitting on a discussion panel at the Arts for Health South West AGM and judging an exhibition of artwork organised by Falmouth University Event Management students and held in the AMATA building. The two winning entries were then exhibited in Falmouth Art Gallery Limelight space.

7. Staffing, training and volunteering

- 7.1 Natalie Rigby ran an object handling course for the Cornwall Museum Partnership citizen curators and is also mentoring an AMA student who is working for the National Trust.
- 7.2 We hosted a Clore Leadership event which Natalie Rigby and Glyn Winchester attended.
- 7.3 All staff have undergone the Cyber Attack course.
- 7.4 Tamsin Bough attended the Volunteer Fair at FXU Penryn.

Youth Services

- 8.1 Will be represented at the meeting. There is a short synopsis of the Refresh programme at Appendix B.

Festivals & Events

- 9.1 This is covered by the Town Team's report to full council

Parks & Gardens

- 10.1 The Christmas Tree Festival switch on on Sunday 2 December was slightly touch and go because of the weather but was well attended anyway.
- 10.2 Jacqui Owen is helping to roll out the Cornwall Urban Buzz project in Falmouth and is busy working with volunteers sowing wildflower meadows, planting up pollinator-friendly flower beds and building bee hotels in order to encourage even more bees, butterflies, hoverflies and other insect pollinators into these places and create a real buzz in Falmouth!

Ponsharden Cemeteries

- 11.1 A further £11,500 has been raised by Lesley Lipert from Trusts and Foundations.

Joint Marketing and Publicity

- 12.1 The January-June leaflet has been produced and one dropped through my door at the beginning of January. Donna Williams should be congratulated for doing such a good job.

Henrietta Boex,
Director of Cultural Services
January 2019

Appendix A:

Refresh

The Dracaena Centre Community Education Programme Refresh, sets out a three-phase programme – “Engage. Develop. Progress.

- ‘Engage’ works to build basic skills and confidence through a range of challenges and tasks. Problem solving, social & thinking skills are developed through a focus on leadership and creativity. Our clients will also work towards accredited qualifications such as Emergency 1st Aid, Food Hygiene, Safeguarding, Health and Safety in the workplace. Clients will also learn interview techniques and CV development.
- ‘Develop’ introduces five categories’ which clients can gain practical application through volunteering within the Dracaena Centre. These categories include, Youth Work, Catering & Hospitality, Sports Leadership, Administration and Grounds Maintenance. Clients will be supported by our staff to learn and gain valuable experience within existing groups at the Centre. This gives the confidence to lead to Progress.
- ‘Progress’ supports our clients to move into external work experience/volunteering placement with one of our partner organisations e.g. Falmouth Town Council, Falcare CIC, Active Plus, Maritime Museum, who will support the learners in the work environment.

The pilot project was delivered over a 12-month period between 2017-2018 and has worked with 20 young people ranging in ages between, 17- 22 years. Of the 20 young people initially engaged 9 have become employed, 10 have purposefully engaged in volunteering, 15 have gained qualifications and 4 have disengaged two to three weeks after initial registration. The Refresh programme pilot has aimed to provide a relaxed inclusive but structured setting with Youth Work Support, based over an initial 8-12 week engagement period of training, qualifications and volunteering within the Dracaena Centre. The programme then progresses to volunteering and employment beyond the Community Centre, with open access to workers and ongoing support. Young people’s transport costs for Refresh sessions or job interviews were provided as part of the Lloyds funding grant.

Each session included the provision of a shared lunch, encouraging conversation and the opportunity to play pool/table tennis when not working. This interactive and social element of the club was vitally important to the young people and created relaxed conversation for informal education between workers and young people to find out

information regarding home life and barriers to employment and methods for further support. This particularly worked with young people struggling with low confidence.

Refresh has established an excellent working relationship with Penryn Job Centre. Referrals are received directly from the Job Centre to Refresh, while ongoing consultation with Penryn Work Coaches to support clients and Refresh attendance at Penryn and Truro Job Fair have been very successful. Another element which has worked extremely well has been our client's and client's extended family's familiarity and trusted relationship with the Dracaena Centre, both its location and its services and the Dracaena Centre Youth Project and Youth Workers.

Through this pilot we have been able to identify some key elements that young people struggle with when trying to find and maintain employment within Falmouth and Penryn.

- Young people are often isolated: The majority of young people struggle in friendships and with peers. Many school friends have progressed to college, university and employment, often moving away. Young people spend much of their time in their bedrooms or helping out in the home with childcare, care of a parent or household chores. Young people have little money to access other opportunities.
- Anxiety: Young people suffer from high social anxiety, which is impeded by progressive isolation
- Low self-esteem and confidence: Previously negative school experience, long term unemployment, poverty, perceived success of peers and parental disappointment and negativity result in extremely low self-esteem.
- Disability: Of the 20 young people registered 20 displayed disabilities. Dyslexia and autism showing the highest percentage.
- Education: A significant number of young people struggled to use cohesive and well-presented sentence structure, handwriting and spelling. Young people were extremely self-conscious of this and very embarrassed. Young people often spoke of negative school experiences.
- Personal Hygiene: Young people, particularly young males evidenced poor personal hygiene and unclean clothes etc.
- Work experience: The majority of young people had no previous work or volunteering experience. Volunteering with the Dracaena Centre has proved to be one of the most significant factors in gaining an interview or employment.

- Transport: None of the young people engaged could drive or had the financial capability to pay for driving lessons or a car. Young people relied on public transport but cost was prohibitive to travelling often.
- Family long term unemployment or sickness: Many you people were from families where one or both parents were long term unemployed or suffered with physical or mental health issues.