

FALMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Cultural Services Committee held in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, The Moor, Falmouth on Monday 1st April 2019 at 7.15pm.

Present: Councillors G F Evans CC MBE (Chairman), A J Gillett (Vice-Chair), P A Minson, A Parker, J C Robinson and D W Saunby CC.

In Attendance: A M Williams (Town Clerk)
H M Boex (Cultural Services Director)

A872 **APOLOGIES**
None received.

A873 **INTERESTS**
None received.

A874 **MINUTES**
It was proposed by Councillor Minson, seconded by Councillor Gillett and

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2019 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chair.

A875 **CULTURAL SERVICES REPORT**
The Cultural Services Director presented her report that was duly noted and forms part of these minutes.

Further she provided detail of the nominal expenses and Cultural Services budget update for 2018/19, with a more detailed break down of Gallery Shop income (£26,000), donations (£61,000) and grants (£55,000). This was duly noted.

Further in regard to acquisitions she reported two opportunities to acquire important works for the Town Collection.

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

RESOLVED that

- (i) the Matthew Draper work 'Falmouth Docks' be acquired for £5,000 to £5,500
- (ii) the Henry Scott Tuke work 'Mrs Fouracre' be acquired at auction depending upon price.

In regard to staffing matters the Director and Town Clerk reported upon NJC pay scale changes and proposals to rationalise the Cultural Services Team to provide more operational responsibility across roles, enabling an enhanced strategic role for the Director. Also supporting the Town Councils Caretaker/Curatorial and Saturday Information Services opening aspirations.

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

RESOLVED that the Staffing Committee be recommended to approve the rationalisation of the Cultural Services Team and proceed with recommended recruitments.

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 7th January 2019 which was held in the Council Chamber.

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. We are sounding out the popularity of introducing a Chess club.
- 1.2 The last monthly statistical report issued by Cornwall Council was for January 2019. The total footfall remains fairly consistent at 10,017, books issued 8,078, new borrowers 88 with 905 computer sessions booked.
- 1.3 Councillors have expressed a wish to open the Information Service on Saturday mornings and we are exploring ways in which we can support this (see section 7 staffing)
- 1.4 To celebrate International Women's day and as part of the *Library Universal Offer* Sara Baistrocchi, supported by other members of the Cultural Services team, organised a World of Women festival from 7th -10th March.
- 1.5 Over the four days and evenings, events, talks, films and workshop activities aimed at women of all ages and abilities took place in the Library, the Gallery and Chamber. Most of the sixteen events were fully booked and the feedback was very positive (example at Appendix A).
- 1.6 This type of programming also fulfils our commitment to the health and wellbeing strand funded by Arts Council England through the Cornwall Museums Partnership. The five principles of the weekend were connect - notice - learn - exercise – volunteer.

Art Gallery:

2. Supporters Scheme, donations, grant Income and awards

- 2.1 We have received £61,545 in the financial year 2018/19.

3. Acquisitions, Gifts and Bequests

- 3.1 Joanna Mattingley has gifted us an etching by William Martin depicting Market Street in Falmouth.
- 3.2 We purchased for £200 a maquette of the medallion made by the late artist Peter Wright depicting a Falmouth Packet. The roundel was set in the arch over the High

Street as part of the Packet Quay development. The maquette will go in the first floor of the Old Post Office.

4. Exhibitions and displays

4.1 The exhibition *A Good Night: Nocturnes for Night Owls* finished on 30th March and is being replaced with *The World as Yet Unseen, Women Artists in Conversation with Partou Zia*. This exhibition has been curated by Professor Penny Florence PhD of the Slade School of Fine Art and Clare Cooper of Art First who was Partou's gallerist. This exhibition has a preview evening on Saturday 6th April from 6:00-8:00 and runs until 15th June.

4.2 The entrance gallery currently features *René Halkett – From Bauhaus to Cornwall* it has been curated by freelance writer Marcus Williamson who has had a long association with the Art Gallery. The exhibition runs until 11th May, 2019.

4.3 To complement the *World as Yet Unseen*, our Citizen Curators are curating a show of work in the community stair gallery that has been inspired by the Art Gallery's Margaret Whitford bequest. Citizen curators is a volunteer programme that is also funded by the Art Council England through the Cornwall Museums Partnership.

5. Visitor Statistics – art gallery

	Cumulative								Counted
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% inc
Jan	2,355	2,469	2,645	2,814	3,116	2,870	3,046	2,835	-7%
Feb	5,724	5,519	6,081	6,564	6,925	6,830	5,950	5,788	-3%
March	8,898	8,909	9,040	11,000	10,575	10,735	9,759	8,668	-11%
April	12,141	12,685	12,305	14,820	14,471	14,045	13,584	8,668	-36%
May	15,257	17,523	16,121	19,056	18,447	18,377	17,539	8,668	-51%
June	18,537	21,368	19,301	23,062	23,105	22,810	21,825	8,668	-60%
July	22,247	24,889	23,173	27,503	27,603	27,857	26,934	8,668	-68%
August	26,931	30,285	28,288	33,787	32,779	34,551	36,748	8,668	-76%
Sept	30,318	34,814	32,693	38,022	37,242	40,285	41,467	8,668	-79%
Oct	34,251	38,822	36,843	42,163	41,438	45,015	45,435	8,668	-81%
Nov	37,601	41,709	39,896	45,376	44,965	48,593	48,501	8,668	-82%
Dec	39,510	43,680	42,331	47,678	47,557	51,049	50,705	8,668	-83%

5.1 We are 11% down on last year's cumulative figures to date.

This may be due to three things:

- Easter holidays are later this year;
- M&S closure
- a slow start to schools engagement in January plus cancellations in the cold snap.

6. Community and learning – art gallery

	Cumulative								
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% inc
Jan	370	361	410	1,016	763	879	763	428	-44%
Feb	936	756	887	2,171	1,775	2,118	1,319	1,061	-20%
March	1,473	1,385	1,597	3,611	2,685	3,492	2,318	1,771	-24%
April	1,900	2,017	1,994	4,300	3,417	4,008	3,066	1,771	-42%
May	2,523	2,703	3,586	5,697	4,525	4,866	4,185	1,771	-58%
June	2,876	3,299	4,244	6,451	5,659	5,833	5,059	1,771	-65%
July	3,272	3,562	4,747	7,156	6,170	6,392	6,684	1,771	-74%
August	4,149	4,211	5,260	8,250	7,059	7,536	8,316	1,771	-79%
Sept	4,629	4,791	6,106	9,245	7,812	8,398	8,982	1,771	-80%
Oct	4,629	5,274	7,174	10,019	9,160	9,609	9,793	1,771	-82%
Nov	4,629	5,615	8,037	11,265	10,125	10,809	10,499	1,771	-83%
Dec	4,629	5,921	8,953	11,674	10,768	11,325	11,030	1,771	-84%

- 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
- 6.2 Regular sessions for local poetry groups, , Sketch Club, Look Group (who had a talk from Marcus Williamson on the *René Halkett* exhibition) , Knit Group, Langholme, Stroke Club and our drop in family workshops on the first Saturday of each month. We have also hosted two Zero waste/recycling workshops.
- 6.3 Mawnan WI art appreciation group visited the *René Halkett* exhibition and Truro U3A History Group also visited both groups received a talk from the Director.
- 6.4 We received visits from St Francis, King Charles Art Ambassadors, Marlborough School, St Mary's reception, Perranarworthal , , Truro College SEN groups and Mullion nursery.
- 6.5 The Director gave a talk to Carnon Downs Old Cornwall Society and has attended the annual Cornish Heritage Awards.
- 6.6 Professor Penny Florence PhD gave an illustrated talk to the Citizen Curators and Margaret Whitford and her legacy.
- 6.7 As part of the Spring Festival, Jean Carr installed a display in the MB foyer detailing the fascinating history of the daffodil trains.
- 6.8 Jo Clarkson has been running a project with community groups exploring Fibonacci theories by painting sunflower heads. A display of these has also been put up in the MB Foyer.
- 6.9 The MB Foyer also hosted Fairtrade Falmouth for two weeks.

7. Staffing, training and volunteering

- 7.1 Alex Hooper has not been well since the start of the year and has decided after 31 years of service to retire. He was working four days a week. His retirement combined with Pat Collinson's two and half days a week provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the changes that have taken place in Cultural Services and to redeploy the resource most efficiently without losing our excellent visitor services.
- 7.2 The Director will present a draft staffing structure for discussion by the committee and if approved that will then be taken to the Staffing committee.
- 7.3 Natalie Rigby and Henrietta Boex have completed 'working at height' training.

Youth Services

- 8.1 Kate Springfield will be reporting twice annually at the end of March and September. Her report will be carried forward to the next meeting.

Festivals & Events

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

Parks & Gardens

- 10.1 Jacqui Owen has continued to roll out the Cornwall Urban Buzz project in Falmouth. She also organised the school's who came to paint the Town Yellow and played a major role in the Spring Flower Festival held over the 23-24th March weekend.
- 10.2 Children from Falmouth Schools will shortly be planting up the beds in Queen Mary Gardens.

Ponsharden Cemeteries

- 11.1 Now that spring is here, we will launch the development phase for Ponsharden Cemeteries.

Joint Marketing and Publicity

- 12.1 Donna Williams is consulting with the Town Team to redesign the July – December leaflet. Any feedback will be gratefully received.

Henrietta Boex,
Director of Cultural Services
April 2019



EVENT FEEDBACK

What did you like or not about the event?

lovely afternoon trying a new activity
and meeting people in a cozy
venue - and the fact the people

running the course

How did you hear about

Facebook

Any suggestion for future

More of the same

There was more

Email: info@falmouthartgallery.com

Thankyou