

FALMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Cultural Services Committee held on 11th April 2022 at 6.00 pm in the Atherton Suite, The Old Post Office, The Moor, Falmouth.

Present: Councillors K E Edwards (Chair), L D Coley, D V Evans BEM, G F Evans MBE, B M A Ross, D Saunby CC and Z Young.

In Attendance: R N Thomas (Responsible Financial Officer – RFO)

A905 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Councillor Chin-Quee (Cornwall Housing business) and Seiler (holiday)

A906 INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

None received.

A907 MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Coley and

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 24th January 2022 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chair.

A908 CULTURAL SERVICES REPORT

As the service is currently without a Director, the Chair presented the Cultural Services report, which had been prepared by the various service heads, and this report was duly noted and forms part of these minutes. The Committee appreciated the contents of the report thanked staff for their work.

A909 TOWN CLERKS REPORT

The RFO reported that the Cultural Services Director recruitment had been signed off and that this would now be progressed.

It was proposed by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Coley and

RESOLVED that the gallery opening hours be adjusted to replicate the library service opening hours to support staff whilst recruitment was ongoing. This arrange would be reviewed once a new Director was in post.

The RFO reported that it was usual practice for the Council to employ some part-time/casual staff to support service delivery.

It was proposed by Councillor Edwards, seconded by Councillor Coley and

RESOLVED that such posts can be supported by external contractors and where suppliers are used who are self-employed, payment by way of invoice will be required.

There being no further business to transact the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 18:44 pm.

Signed: Date:

Senior Librarian Update

Falmouth Library

From the 4th April the library has reverted to its full time opening hours and now closes at 5 p.m on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays with Wednesdays and Saturdays remaining at 1 p.m.

Lego club has restarted on Saturdays on a weekly basis and Storytime sessions have also now restarted weekly during termtime.

Rhymetime sessions have also returned on a weekly basis during termtime and since restarting have seen numbers rapidly return to pre-pandemic attendance levels with an average of 20 babies and pre-school children attending along with accompanying parents, grandparents or carers.

The Library is hosting an Easter Activity craft session on Tuesday 12th April at 2 p.m (aimed at early years and primary age range)

King Charles School has now had all of its classes visit the library and in fact on the 4th and 6th April year 2 classes have made repeat visits in order for the children to engage with reading independently.

Hannah MacDonald is the new Library Customer Services Apprentice and started on the 4th April.

The February statistics report showed there were 95 new customers join during the month with the public access computers used 451 times and 6112 books issued.

Contact has been made with one of the organisers of Falmouth Book Festival to see if the Library can once again host events later in the year (October).

Visitor Services Manager update

Cultural Services Jan-April 2022.

New apprentices

Both Falmouth Art Gallery and Falmouth library have taken on two new apprentices this month to support staff with front of house services and events.

Volunteers

Our volunteer digital platform has now reached **362** sign ups with 8 new 'challenges' posted this year so far. In addition to this the gallery and library have reinstated regular volunteering opportunities after lockdown restrictions. We continue to support local working groups and charities to recruit new members.

Work placements

It has been a very successful year so far, for work placements.

For the first time we took on Four year 10 students from Penryn College who spent the week with us at the gallery, completing a project together and curating their own mini exhibition and producing some impressive artwork too.

We have also had 3 photography students from Falmouth University choosing us as their placement venue and enriching our photography archive with their stills and films of gallery exhibitions and events.

Visitor numbers

Numbers continue to improve and increased rapidly during half term week. We enjoyed greeting over 200 visitors each day.

Visitor numbers, excluding outreach, for the gallery from January 4th to April 7th **7,062**.

Online marketing and engagement

DIGITAL REACH	1 JAN - 1 APR	
GALLERY WEBSITE	6483	New Visitors
FALCULTURE.ORG	1355	New Visitors
FACEBOOK	4,193	Likes
TWITTER	6,087	Followers
INSTAGRAM	6,514	Followers

Meaningful interactions:

- Our 3 New Instagram posts about the new exhibitions, average 109 genuine 2-way interactions in just one week.
- The gallery website is gaining 72 new visitors a day.

Bloomberg app

We have partnered with Bloomberg Philanthropies (New York) to build an inclusive digital visitor guide. The App can be used in the gallery or from home. Falmouth Art Gallery will feature alongside Museum of Modern Art, Dulwich Picture Gallery, Hayward Gallery, Guggenheim, Serpentine, Turner Contemporary, The Design Museum, ICA and Whitechapel Gallery. The App launches at the end of June.

Workshops and Engagement

We have started to get back into the swing of things post lockdown, even though rates are still high which demands a lot of re-arranging of dates and times, we have managed to accommodate school visits and other community groups regularly.

The Art of Animation exhibition was a great success, a family friendly show that brought in a wide cross section of the community. In collaboration with the Uni we had three visits from secondary schools, **Redruth, Brannel and Bodmin** with **student ambassadors** showing the students around. We also had a number of early years workshops linking to the Hungary caterpillar and The Snail and the whale etc

We have had positive re-engagement with all regular activity: **Baby Paint** (in the gallery and the Dracaena), **Baby Jam** and **Little fingers**. This has been well received. With many new parents having babies during lockdown this has offered much needed social interaction and community connection.

We are continuing work with **Penryn ARB Special needs class, Wild Young Parents Project, Splanna, Truro SEN class** and **Stroke survivor's art group**. The stroke survivors are working with artists Viviane Vaux and Katy Teare on a **print and stitch project** that will be displayed at **Princess Pavilions**. We have begun new connections with **Pencalenick** and **Moogiewonderland** and we are excited to see where these relationships take us.

Tom Retchford our **poet in residence** achieved his **Gold Arts Award**. A nationally recognised qualification accredited by Trinity London!

Our work with **Dracaena centre** has got back up and running along with their groups. Artist Viviane Vaux has been working with their Nurture groups, we have also been collaborating with **Lucie Hackney** with her community wellbeing project '**Not Limiting Me**' art sessions have been run with **Young Women's group** and **Young men's group**. These images will then be displayed throughout Falmouth 24th June to 2nd of July with added AR.

Our regular groups are also back.-

Knit and natter, 2 poetry groups, sketchclub, Tell Tales and the Look Group.

Thank you for inviting us to St Pirans day, it was great fun with over 100 children taking part in the activity we provided.

Our school groups are starting to pick up with both outreach and onsite visits from EYFS classes, KS1&2 and Home ed.

Collections

- **RCPS Tuke Collection:** The gallery has renewed the Service Level Agreement for the RCPS Tuke Collection for another five years.
- **GIS:** We have also successfully insured the collection of 288 works under the Government Indemnity Scheme for three years or until April 2025.
- **Acquisitions:** In 2021 we accessioned 11 new works of art into our collections, including works by Charles Napier Hemy, Sophie Anderson, William Holman Hunt, Peter Lanyon,

Graham Sutherland, Howard Hodgkin and many more. More acquisitions on the way for 2022.

- **Long term loans:** Bryan Wynter, Barns-Graham, Rodney Peppe
- **Loans in:** Over the past financial year 2021-2022 the gallery has administered 110 incoming loans from private and public collections.
- **Loans out:** The collections team has continued its successful loan programme and has administered loans of artworks to Penlee House, Whitechapel Gallery, Leeds Art Gallery, MK Gallery, Nottingham Castle Trust, Bodmin Keep and Watts Gallery Artists Village.

- **Exhibitions going back to April 2021**
 - There and Back & Here and There
 - Ingenious? & Weird and Wonderful
 - Freud, Minton and Ryan: an Unholy Trinity & Watts Tuke touring shows
 - Thanks for the Apples
 - The Art of Animation & Rodney Peppé the Storyteller
 - Polperro: Cornwall's Forgotten Art Centre & Blake + 7

Upcoming Exhibition and touring show

The Legend of King Arthur – A Pre-Raphaelite Love Story

Natalie has managed to secure a successful funding bid of £46,578 from the Art Fund Weston Loan Programme to administer the touring exhibition to three venues. The tour will run to the following schedule:

William Morris Gallery - 8th October 2022 – 28th January 2023

Tullie House - 4 Feb 2023 – 5th June 2023

Falmouth Art Gallery - 16th June 2023 – 29th September 2023

Natalie has also successfully secured loans from V & A London, London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, Southampton City Art Gallery, William Morris Gallery, London, Birmingham Museums Trust, Tate, Leeds City Art Gallery, Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool and Bradford Museums and Galleries. A list of works and lenders is listed at the end of the document.

A full colour catalogue to accompany the show is planned for release in August 2022. The catalogue features four essays by authors Dr Jo Banham, freelance curator and lecturer; Sarah Crown, Director of Literature at Arts Council England; Dr Jim Cheshire, Associate Professor of Cultural History at the University of Lincoln and Jacky Nowakowski, Archaeologist and writer. The introduction has been written by Alison Smith, Chief Curator at National Portrait Gallery. The publication will be sold at all three venues at a retail price will be £25

Laurence King Publishers are working with Natalie and Tony Johns, freelancer for Falmouth Art Gallery to produce an original concept King Arthur Quest game and an illustrated jigsaw which will both be illustrated by Adam Simpson. These will be distributed worldwide, we have managed to agree 10 complimentary copies of each for the venues for community engagement purposes.

Natalie has managed to secure partnership with Malcolm Bell and Visit Cornwall who has publicised the exhibition at the World Trade Fair, we are hoping to attract German and American Cruise Ship trade through this, but also reduced cost advertising through Visit Britain and GWR.

Falmouth Art Gallery Exhibitions

2022-2023

Main exhibitions:

2nd April to 18th June 2022

Polperro – Cornwall's Forgotten Art Centre

This exhibition will celebrate the artistic community that visited and grew in the village and is being curated by Cornish Art Historian David Tovey.

Even as late as 1925, Polperro drew the comment, "Surely there cannot be another place of such quaint rarity – (its) medieval charm is set in a gem of Cornwall's most rugged rock scenery - unique and inimitable." Whilst the number of artists who were permanent residents or regular visitors to Polperro were relatively small, the village was always swarming with artists in the summer months. For the very first time, this exhibition will showcase a range of artists, drawing on works from both public and private collections, who were both respected residents and highly acclaimed visitors. The exhibition will highlight how Polperro developed an international reputation leading to visits from distinguished artists from around the world including America, Australia, New Zealand, France, Germany, Holland and even China. The show will also reveal the various Schools of Painting that were established in the village, with an emphasis on twilight effects and the regular summer visits of foreign art classes.

25th June to 10th September 2022

Hewva Hewva

This family orientated exhibition will explore stories from Cornwall's fishing industry, past and present. Visitors will be introduced to the huer who saved a village from starvation with his amazing dreams, the importance of fishing to the Newlyn School painters, the role of women in fishing and the realities of life at sea. We hope to display a fine selection of traditional and contemporary paintings hung alongside illustration, sculpture and automata.

17th September to 19th November 2022

Light in the West - South West Academy

26th November 2022 to 28th January 2023

Imagine Falmouth

Falmouth Art Gallery's 'Imagine Falmouth' returns on a larger scale as a bi-annual exhibition and arts prize. We have invited emerging and established artists from across the county to submit their very best works for you to enjoy. This time there is no theme and no restrictions on medium so the exhibition will reflect the very best of Cornish art today. Works will be selected by an independent panel of artists and curators. For details about how to apply please visit www.falmouthartgallery.com

Permanent Collection Exhibitions:

28th March to 21st May 2022

Blake + 7

Pop Art from Falmouth Art Gallery collection

23rd May to 16th July 2022

Roll the Dice

An exhibition from Falmouth Art Gallery Collection curated by Splanna Youth Panel.

18th July to 24th September 2022**Surrealists in Cornwall**

85th Anniversary Celebration in partnership with Lee Miller Archive

26th September to 19th November 2022**South West Academy**

A curated show from FAG collection

26th November to January 2023**Art Funded Works**

Highlighting 10 years of curation and collecting

January to March 2023**Knight and Dame**

A 'royal' selection of artists from Falmouth Art Gallery collection Dame Laura Knight to Sir Terry Frost.