

FRIENDS OF THE HATTON GALLERY
COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday 21st August 2018.

Present. Geoff Mills (Chair) (GM); Zoe Allen (ZA); Heather Baker (HB); Simon Court (SC); Jo Cousin (JC); John Dance (JD); Roger Newbrook (RN); Richard Thompson (RT); Tomke Kossen-Veenhuis (TKV); Bob Young (BY).

1. Apologies for absence: Maggie Bassendine.
2. Minutes. The Minutes of the meeting of 10th July 2018 were signed as a true record.
3. Matters arising. None
4. Gallery Report. ZA referred to the following Gallery issues and events:
 - a. There had been a recent meeting with Hatton marketing staff, the aim of which was to improve flow of information.
 - b. The MFA exhibition with a private preview was scheduled for Friday this week
 - c. There had been 135 visitors to the late shows. (RT offered to inform Foth members on email dbase about gallery events/exhibitions if they wished).
 - d. There was a viewing day for the Indian Miniatures on 25th July.
 - e. There was a sketch book day at the beginning of August and there will be the BA Fine art workshops running during the holidays.ZA then referred to three specific items she had asked to be placed on the agenda:
 - a. Acquisition of Artwork (attached to the agenda as ANNEX 1). This was a request from Julie Milne seeking the support of the Friends for acquiring a work by Kate Liston, following her exhibition at the Hatton Gallery from February to May 2018. The amount sought was £500 and this was unanimously agreed. JD to action.
 - b. TWAM impact report 2016/17. Request for further reports from Friends Groups. (attached to the agenda as ANNEX 2). RT to provide report.
 - c. Research. Some time ago Kelsey Thornton had proposed that the Friends produce a book, the aim of which was to keep members interested and involved in the Hatton during its temporary closure. Unfortunately this never progressed to completion. However, ZA was now seeking a history of the Hatton from as many sources as possible. This could be anecdotes on events and key steps, anything of interest linked to the Gallery and its history. HB agreed to include an item in the September Bulletin seeking information.
5. Treasurer's Report. JD reported that there was £7,075 in balances. The artists who had sold works in the summer exhibition had now been paid.

6. Membership Report. RT reported that in the last three months membership has been showing a marginal increase.

May	155
July	163
To date in August	167

This was still well below the numbers before the closure of the gallery when they exceeded 200 and in earlier years 300.

It was clear that there needed to be a concerted drive to improve the figures. It has always been said that Hatton Friends are very much practitioners and that numbers have declined since the loss of the main gallery as a venue for exhibitions.

7. Talks/Lectures. JC had secured interest from nine possible sources to deliver talks etc.

a. A Talk by Fiona Gray entitled 'Creative Impressions' had been arranged for 30th October.

8. Events TKV

a. 6th and 27th October: Natural forms. Drawing and painting creative workshops with Reniri Barnes.

b. 24th November and 8th December. Print workshops with Caroline Coode and Vhairi Cardinal.

c. Contemporary Art Club at the Hatton. This is a developing idea for artists who were interested in contemporary art to meet say monthly. They would discuss art work, ideas, research, share experiences techniques and knowledge and encourage and support interest in contemporary art. Details still to be finalised. It was agreed to support the idea in principle and place an item in the September bulletin to promote the scheme.

d. Possibility of a Christmas exhibition or Christmas market to be linked with a similar event planned for the gallery at the same time. TKV to contact R. Talbot to find out availability of the Long Gallery. It was felt that for a Christmas exhibition to be successful it would need a good lead in period before the Christmas break. A decision to be made via on-line communications once the availability of the Long gallery had been determined.

9. Bulletin HB. It had been agreed to issue a bulletin in September (deadline for items was 4th September). RT asked that all spare copies be sent to his address whereupon he would deliver to the Gallery.

10. On-line Media Co-ordinator: RN gave a short presentation of the new website which he was currently revising and updating. He had previously made a replicated version in 'word press' available to each member of the committee seeking their views. He asked that everyone have a close look at it. There were several minor issues but the site was generally well received. RT still needed to agree the content of the new membership form. However, there was still a good supply of existing forms available. RT to contact RN with final details of new form.

RN asked whether there was a list of works the Friends had help the Gallery acquire of the years as he thought this would make a valuable item in the record and on the website. All agreed to help provide whatever information they knew of personally

11. Any Other Business

- a. BY proposed that a donation be made from balances to organisations that support and host the Friends exhibitions. This was on the basis that a key factor in retaining and increasing membership was the opportunity for the Membership to take part in exhibitions. On the last occasion it was the University that had hosted an exhibition and that some donation should be offered to them. ZA referred to a Bursary in the University and that a donation to that would probably be most welcome.
- b. The vacant post of Vice-Chair remained unfilled.

The meeting ended at 18.10

Date of next meeting: 9th October 2018.

Richard Thompson
Secretary

Amendments.....
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Signed as a true record.....

Chair.....

Date.....