

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Minutes of the meeting of the Art Collection Committee held on Tuesday 23rd March 2004

Present: Professor S E Bassnett (in the Chair), Mr M Lloyd Smith,
Mr P Varney, Ms G Hedley

Apologies: Ms C E Charlton, Ms A Yeomans

In attendance: Ms S Shalgosky, Ms J Lloyd

1/03-04 Terms of Reference and Membership

REPORTED:

(a) That the Council, at its meeting on 6th July 2001, established a Committee for the Oversight of the University Works of Art Collection (later renamed Art Collection Committee), with terms of reference as follows:

- (i) To be responsible to the Council for the management of the University's Collection of Works of Art and its development.
- (ii) To approve a collection management plan and to receive reports and recommendations on its implementation and review.
- (iii) To approve, for submission to the Council, an annual report from the Curator on the collection.

(b) That the membership of the Art Collection Committee for 2003/04 is as follows:

Chair, a senior professor of the University	Professor S E Bassnett
A member of academic staff	Mr M Lloyd Smith
A lay member of the University Council	Mr P Varney
A person external to the University with expertise in the area	Ms G Hedley (Director of the Contemporary Art Society)
A student representative	Ms A Yeomans
University Secretary	Ms C E Charlton

2/03-04 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 23rd June 2003 be approved.

3/03-04 Matters Arising

(a) Library Exhibition Room (Minute 11/02-03 (a) referred)

REPORTED:

That the Accommodation Review Group has recently reviewed the use of the Library Exhibition Room, and has resolved that the room continue in its current use for the foreseeable future, with a view to any changes in its use being implemented for the beginning of the academic year 2005/06.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee note that the Accommodation Review Group resolved that the Library Exhibition Room continue in its current use for the foreseeable future, and welcome this information.

(b) Proposed Acquisitions (Minute 11/02-03 (c) referred)

REPORTED:

(i) That a work by George Shaw has been purchased, and is currently on tour, but will be returned shortly.

(ii) That a text work by Nicky Hirst has been purchased and will be delivered shortly.

(iii) That it was not possible to develop a commission with Michael Craig-Martin.

(c) Forward Plan for 2003-04 (Minute 12/02-03 referred)

REPORTED:

(i) That an analysis of the opportunities presented for display of the Collection by the purchase of University House were included in the Forward Plan.

(ii) That the second sentence of the third paragraph (on religious works) was deleted from the Forward Plan.

(d) Results of Annual Survey (Minute 14/02-03 (c) referred)

REPORTED:

That the Curator has consulted with experts about how to reduce the build up of algae in the Moon Pool sculpture.

RECEIVED:

An oral report on progress from the Curator.

RESOLVED:

That the build up of algae in the Moon Pool sculpture would be monitored during hot weather, and maintained through basic pool hygiene.

4/03-04 Chair's Business

REPORTED:

The recent deaths of Cyril Barrett and Patricia Mallett who were both instrumental in the development of the collection.

RESOLVED:

That the Chair would send the condolences of the Committee to the relatives of Cyril Barrett and Patricia Mallett.

5/03-04 Annual Report

CONSIDERED:

The Annual Report on the University Works of Art Collection (Paper ACC 1/03-04).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That full acknowledgement of the funding for the purchase of the work by George Shaw be included in the report.
- (b) That the section on Storage be expanded to include a wider analysis of the accommodation difficulties experienced by the Mead Gallery.

- (c) That the Annual Report be approved and recommended to the Council.

6/03-04 Accommodation at the Mead Gallery

RECEIVED:

An oral report on progress on resolving accommodation difficulties at the Mead Gallery by Mel Lloyd Smith.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee note:

- (a) The staff at the Mead Gallery were experiencing difficulties with the size of their office accommodation, and problems with access to their stores.
- (b) The bid by the Mead Gallery (as part of a wider Warwick Arts Centre bid) for office accommodation within Senate House.

7/03-04 The Continuation of the Special Collections Scheme

RECEIVED:

An oral report on the continuation of the Special Collections Scheme from the Curator and Gill Hedley.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee note:

- (a) The Special Collections Scheme comes to an end in September 2004. During the five years of the scheme, 350 works have been acquired.
- (b) The Contemporary Arts Society is continuing to push for funding for the development of contemporary collections.
- (c) The six institutions in the West Midlands are considering acting as a consortium to purchase works and rotate their exhibition.

8/03-04 Acquisitions

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Curator on new acquisitions.

- (a) Donation of collection by the Warwick Arts Trust.
- (b) Purchase of ceramic vessel by Jane Blackman by the Friends of the Mead Gallery.
- (c) Donation of print by Bridget Riley in memory of Cyril Barrett.

CONSIDERED:

- (d) Proposed donation of work by Alan Davie.
- (e) Proposed donation of work by alumnus Julian Broadhurst.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee note the donation of a collection by Warwick Arts Trust had been offered instead to Gonville and Caius College.
- (b) That the Committee would accept the donation of work by Alan Davie.
- (c) That the Committee would decline the donation of work by Julian Broadhurst, and pay for the work to be returned.

9/03-04 Commissions

RECEIVED:

An oral report on the progress of commissioned works of art from the Curator.

- (a) Progress of the commission of a wall painting by Ian Davenport for the Institute of Mathematics.
- (b) Progress of the commission of a work by David Batchelor for University House.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee note:

- (a) Work on the wall painting by Ian Davenport in the Institute of Mathematics would begin shortly and be completed by Easter 2004.

- (b) The acoustic tiles in University House presented a problem to the commission of a work by David Batchelor. The Curator was consulting the architects on the issue.

10/03-04 Displays

RECEIVED:

An oral report on the development of displays from the Curator.

- (a) Development of display for University House.
- (b) Development of display for the Institute of Mathematics.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee note:

- (a) The development of displays in University House would take place in four phases, with the fourth phase taking place after the staff have settled in.
- (b) A display of abstract works would be curated in the Institute of Mathematics, and included in the Colour Trail.

11/03-04 Loans

REPORTED:

Five prints have been loaned to an exhibition at Bury St Edmunds.

12/03-04 Interpretation

RECEIVED:

An oral report on interpretation from the Curator.

- (a) Progress of the Virtual Gallery.
- (b) Development of the Colour Trail.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee note the Curator would be meeting with e-lab to secure editing rights for the Virtual Gallery.

- (b) That the Teacher's Resource Pack for the Colour Trail be enthusiastically recognised by the Committee.
- (c) That the Curator would investigate the possibility of distributing the Teacher's Resource Pack for the Colour Trail more widely amongst key senior staff and Council members.

13/03-04 Conservation

RECEIVED:

An oral report on conservation from the Curator.

- (a) Conservation of work by Langlands and Bell.
- (b) Progress on the Annual Survey.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee note the conservation of work by Langlands and Bell, and that the Annual Survey had been commissioned.

15/03-04 Date of Next Meeting

REPORTED:

That the next meeting of the Art Collection Committee would be in October 2004, at a date and time to be confirmed.