

Exmouth Art Group Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday 29th July 2011

Present: May Neilson (Chair); Catherine Ager (Secretary); Dianne Broady; Wendy Flather; Angela Hall; Elizabeth Hardwick; Patricia Hough; David Matthews; Michael Norman; Elizabeth Swift

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| 1 | Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence NOTED from Paul Palin. |
| 2 | Minutes of the Previous Meeting Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 th May 2011 CONFIRMED as a correct record. |
| 3 | Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes Matters arising from the previous minutes not included as an agenda item were: NOTED under (3) the laminator had been added to the Assets list. NOTED under (8) a folio stand to a new design had been made by Colin Marshall and it was AGREED that he should be commissioned to produce a further four for the 2012 Exhibition. |
| 4 | Chair's Welcome The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and asked for thanks to be recorded to all involved with setting up the A la Ronde Exhibition and also the Programme Coordinators for arranging such an interesting schedule for the evening meetings. |
| 5 | Treasurer's Report The Treasurer advised that A la Ronde would be contacted to confirm when the cheque for sales at the Exhibition could be expected. Contributions collected at the Festival Exhibition had been passed to the Festival Organiser but a cheque for the promised £100 toward expenses had not yet been received and would be followed up. The Sales Form for use at all exhibitions had been circulated and was approved. In view of the closure of the cheque guarantee card scheme, sales stewards at exhibitions would be instructed to request cash in the first instance but still accept cheques if buyer's preference. The name and address of the purchaser should be recorded on the reverse of the cheque still with the bank card number. It would be useful to find out from other local groups how they were dealing with the situation. The possibility of attracting a better high interest account rate from, for example the Post Office or Nationwide, will be investigated. ACTION: Elizabeth Hardwick |
| 6 | Membership's Secretary Report The Membership Secretary reported that membership currently stood at 220 with twelve new members joining in the current year and seven recruited at the Festival Exhibition. The best price for the printing of membership cards had been agreed and an order would be placed as soon as possible. The sale of donated items at evening meetings had so far raised £43.50 for Hospiscare and members would be encouraged to continue to bring obsolete equipment or books. |

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| <p>7</p> | <p>Programme Co-ordinators' Report</p> <p>The Programme Coordinators hoped to finalise the new schedule to publish in the Autumn Newsletter. They would be looking at the format of competition evenings, possibly to encourage greater experimentation, and bring recommendations to the next meeting.</p> <p>The Committee agreed that in the case of joint winners, as had been the case with the Abstract Competition in July, the prize would be shared. It was considered inappropriate to put to a second vote, has had been the practice previously, or for a full amount to be given to each winner.</p> |
| <p>8</p> | <p>Exhibition Secretary's Report</p> <p>The Exhibition Secretary reported that twenty eight members had entered sixty three pieces for the Exmouth Festival Exhibition at the Town Hall and all had been hung. The Mayor had viewed the Exhibition on the first day and selected '<i>Bystock Pools</i>' by Jan Nettelton for the Mayor's Best in Show Trophy and awarded Commendations to Deborah Green, Beryl Leader, Colin Marshall, May Neilson, William Neilson and Chloe Skinner. There had been good coverage of the event in the <i>Exmouth Journal</i>.</p> <p>Thirty six members had submitted fifty nine pieces to the A la Ronde Exhibition and room to display all had been found including the eleven reserves. Feedback from A la Ronde confirmed that the show had been very well received by visitors.</p> <p>Although sales were minimal at both, the events were clearly excellent profiles for the Art Group and proven opportunities to recruit new members.</p> <p>A screen plan for the Elizabeth Hall Exhibition had been drafted and it was agreed that a meeting should be arranged at the venue when access was available. From the Committee to include Catherine Ager, Dianne Broady, Elizabeth Hardwick, David Matthews and to be invited Ernest Ager and Gillian Mitchell who had agreed to manage the hanging team.</p> <p>Elizabeth Swift and David Matthews had agreed responsibility for purchasing the wine for the Private View.</p> |
| <p>9</p> | <p>Publicity Coordinators' Report</p> <p>The Publicity Coordinators gave an update on publicity for the Annual Exhibition.</p> <p>The banners were being updated commercially as agreed. Permission had been given to display a banner at Lee Ford.</p> <p>The Private View invitations had been sent only to those on the revised, very much reduced list and members had been advised that it would not be possible to bring a guest to the evening.</p> <p>250 A4 posters had been printed, using an image provided by Michael Norman, and nineteen members had submitted images for the postcards. The posters, press releases and exhibition information had been sent out electronically and by mail to media outlets, tourist information centres and libraries.</p> <p>The raffle in aid of Devon Air Ambulance would be run in conjunction with the BBC Radio Devon Appeal and the station had agreed to publicise the event. A suggestion that the Art Group take 20% of donations was agreed informally. Currently only expenses were deducted.</p> <p>The Publicity Coordinators asked the Committee to consider a proposal not to produce a catalogue. It was felt that it had become unnecessary, as captions were now displayed with each exhibit giving all the details included in the catalogue. It was not environmentally</p> |

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| | <p>friendly, even with requests to recycle, it was relatively expensive to produce and it was becoming increasingly difficult and time consuming to attract advertising. It was never easy to correctly estimate numbers and because it was more economical to have larger print re-runs this had resulted in many unused copies being disposed at the end of exhibitions. The limited time for production imposed extra stress and relied on the printers being able to offer a quick turnaround.</p> <p>The recommendation was to have several A4 booklets available for visitors viewing the Exhibition, but for these not to be taken away, in place of a supply of catalogues.</p> <p>The Committee AGREED that as a trial catalogues would not be issued this year and any implications considered at the next meeting under a review of the Exhibition.</p> |
| <p>10</p> | <p>Committee Member Issues</p> <p>Glyn Cowles, the previous webmaster but now retired from the Committee, had agreed to oversee the website until a replacement could be found. An appeal in the Newsletter had failed to attract a successor and it was AGREED that Paul Palin should be asked to take on the management.</p> |
| <p>11</p> | <p>Any Other Business</p> <p>It was NOTED that Tamar Security had provided free security for previous annual exhibitions in exchange for an advertisement in the catalogue. However, in view of the decision not to publish one this year (see under 9) it was AGREED that the company should be invited to sponsor the event and be given space at the Elizabeth Hall to promote their services. It was also AGREED that Stuart Line Cruises should be asked if they would be willing to offer a voucher as a raffle prize again this year.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: Catherine Ager</p> |
| <p>12</p> | <p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>AGREED date of next meeting would be Friday 14th October 2011 at 7:00pm.</p> |