

Scottish Printing Archival Trust

Minutes of the meeting of the Scottish Printing Archival Trust held on Tuesday 27th June 2017 at 10am, Merchiston Campus, Edinburgh Napier University.

Present: P Mark (Chair), P Laidlaw, B Clegg, T Honnor, G Richmond and H Williams

Minutes: H Williams

1. Apologies

B Hodgson, A McCleery, D Allan

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 7th February 2017

The minutes were approved, with one correction. The final sentence under item 4 should read 'The balance in the bank on 31 January 2017 stood at £15,197.42, and there was one outstanding bill yet to be paid, of around £600.'

3 Financial update

PL circulated a report on the up-to-date financial position of the Trust. They included a further generous donation from the John Watson Foundation. There had been very few outgoings, mainly travel expenses. There have been few book sales in the current financial year.

The current balance in the TSB account is £24,412 which includes both this recent donation and money transferred from the PayPal account. The net assets of the Trust, including the petty cash, currently stand at £24,436.

4 Secretary's report

HW circulated a report on her activities since the last meeting. She had met with Professor Kirstie Blair of the University of Strathclyde, and with the local archivists in Dumfries with reference to possible co-operation on future projects.

On 18 March 2017, HW attended the University of Stirling's 50th anniversary open day to assist with the presentation of sessions on the history of the Columbian press, now brought back into use with the support of the Trust, and known as the 'Pathfoot Press. The event was well attended by members of the public, including a large number of children who were able to print souvenir bookmarks on the Adana press renovated by Tim Honnor.

On 19 May 2017, HW met with John Watson in Glasgow to discuss the progress of the Glasgow print trail in particular and SPPrAT's work in general. The Trust has subsequently received a further generous donation of £10,000 from the John Watson Trust, as noted in the financial statement.

5 SPPrAT thirtieth anniversary 2018

PM said that the launch of a 'Glasgow Print Trail' should be part of the story for 2018. GR said that as the Lighthouse is included in the trail, it should be approached, as there was a variety of

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differing spaces within the gallery. It is operated by the city's Glasgow Life organisation, which also runs the museums: HW will follow up contacts with the organisation.

It was agreed that professional assistance would be needed to design and plan any exhibition. Working in co-operation with another institution means that some aspects such as security and some other overheads would be taken care of.

6 Other plans / projects

- Print trail walks

HW will again be doing guided walks for Edinburgh's Doors Open Day. This year's theme is the 250th anniversary of the New Town, so the walk will be based around St Andrew's Square and George Street. She will also propose an event, either a walk, or an illustrated talk based on one of the walks, to the organiser of 'Previously' - Scotland's History Festival, which takes place in November.

- Letterpress workshops

TH had expressed his willingness to return to Stirling University if more training is required. HW will be meeting Sarah Bromage shortly to discuss what their needs are. The aim is for SPrAT to assist the staff at the University to train a large enough pool of trained individuals to keep the press operating.

- Publications

HW explained the progress she had made with this, and distributed sample leaflets. She said that John Watson had provided some documents and helpful information about the Glasgow printing industry during their meeting in May. The general size and style of the Glasgow leaflet were discussed, and it was agreed that estimates for design costs, and a photographer should be obtained. It was noted that there might be copyright fees payable depending on the detail of the mapping. BC mentioned that 10,000 copies of the Edinburgh print trail had been produced, and HW said that we are now down to our last 500.

7 AOCB

BC reported on the activities of the Cossar Club.

GR reported that Graphic Enterprise Scotland is shortly changing its name to Print Scotland, with a new logo. The membership has increased in the last few months, and the current President is Kevin Creechan.

8 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th September 2017. Details will be confirmed nearer the time.