

MINUTES OF THE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING held in the St Piran's Room, Penlee Centre, Penlee Park, Penzance on Monday 16 June 2025 at 7:00pm.

PRESENT

Councillors:

JM How	JR Pugh
PA Law	SJ Reynolds
PM Hadley	D Smart Knight
PL Jameson	PC Trevail
PI Osborne	

Also present: Verity Anthony (Director (Maternity Cover), Penlee House) and Elliot Ridington (Democratic Services and Governance Officer).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Young.

Councillors Broadhurst, Marrington and Reed were absent without having provided apologies.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

It was proposed that Councillor Pugh be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Arts and Culture Committee.

In the absence of any other nominations, it was unanimously

RESOLVED that Councillor Pugh be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Arts and Culture Committee.

(Proposed: Councillor Law; seconded: Councillor Hadley)

Councillor Pugh thereupon took the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

3. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Two members of the public were in attendance and spoke regarding the recent announcement that Truro and Penwith College intended to sell the Penzance Art School building on Morrab Road. They went on to inform the Committee that they proposed to form a Community Interest Company in order to retain the building for the community and gave further information regarding how they intended to use the building in future, should their plans come to fruition.

Further reference was made to the various grants which might be available to fund the purchase of the building. However, of concern was the potential for the building to be declared an 'asset of community value' which would prevent its sale for a period of six months, as this would prevent the utilisation of a number of different grants as the respective funding windows would close during this time.

5. TO RESOLVE TO EXCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no confidential matters for consideration.

6. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 MARCH 2025

Having previously been circulated, it was

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 March 2025 be approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

(Proposed: Councillor Reynolds; seconded: Councillor How)

Vote; Three in favour. Six abstentions.

7. REPORTS FOR DECISION

(a) Sponsorship Agreement for Upcoming Exhibition

Penlee House Gallery and Museum planned to present an exhibition of the work of Lamorna Birch, featuring paintings from the collection of the late Austin Wormleighton, from 15 October 2025 – 10 January 2026. Following the conclusion of the exhibition, the works from the Wormleighton estate would be put up for sale at auction, independent of Penlee House Gallery and Museum.

It was expected that the auction house would pay to Penlee House a sponsorship fee of up to £3,000 plus any applicable VAT. The decision to provide sponsorship would be in acknowledgement of the benefits to the auctioneers of the works being part of a public exhibition in advance of their sale.

Following consideration, it was unanimously

RESOLVED that authority be delegated to the Town Clerk to complete and enter into the draft Sponsorship Agreement, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, for the upcoming 'Lamorna Birch: A Painter Laureate' exhibition at Penlee House Gallery & Museum with the auctioneers administering the Wormleighton estate, when confirmed.

(Proposed: Councillor Law; seconded: Councillor Trevail)

8. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

The following reports for information were noted:-

- a) Penlee House Director's Report
- b) Arts and Culture Committee Forward Plan – Progress Update



- c) Going Places Funding Bid Outcome
- d) Penlee Coach House Redevelopment – Progress Report
- e) Learning Centre Feasibility Study – Update Report
- f) Budget Comparison Report – 1 April – 31 May 2025

9. MATTERS ARISING FOR REPORT ONLY

There were no matters arising for report.

The meeting closed at 8:32 pm

Chair
4 August 2025