

## UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

### Minutes of the meeting of the Arts Centre Board held on 17th December 2007

- Present: Professor S Bassnett (in the Chair), Mr A Ainsworth, Professor O Bennett, Ms L Holmes, Dr I Nussey, Ms K Organ, Mr R Perkins, Mr A Rivett
- Apologies: Mr J Baldwin, Ms J Bradfield, Mr N Darlison, Mr N Matthews, Mr C Shaw, Professor M Waterson
- In attendance: Mr B Bishop and Ms C Mee (for item 14/07-08), Mr R Leonard, Ms A Pulford, Mrs J Shaw

#### 11/07-08 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

##### RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 October 2007 be approved.

#### 12/07-08 Matters Arising

- (a) Arts Council England (minute 3(c)/07-08 refers)

##### REPORTED:

That the funding allocation from Arts Council England to Warwick Arts Centre had been better than expected, and that more information would follow.

- (b) Lighting scheme (minute 3(a)/07-08 refers)

##### REPORTED:

That an order had been placed for the first module of the exterior lighting scheme, and that installation was expected in early February.

- (c) Schedule of business (minute 5/07-08 refers)

##### RECEIVED:

Updated schedule of business, paper ACB 2/07-08 (revised).

#### 13/07-08 Chair's Business

##### REPORTED:

That the Chair had received a letter from the Vice-Chancellor requesting an update on funding for the redevelopment of the Butterworth Hall.

14/07-08 Learning and Education Programme

CONSIDERED:

A presentation from Mr Brian Bishop, Education Director, and Ms Carly Mee, Education Officer, Warwick Arts Centre, on the Arts Centre's Learning and Education Programme, including the Mead Gallery, noting in particular that:

- (a) In 2006/07, the Education team worked with over 28,000 people, and made over 93,000 contacts;
- (b) The three main strands of the education programme are:
  - (i) Family programming;
  - (ii) Learning opportunities attached to the programme (including pre-concert talks, post-show talks, engagement with Warwick students and local schools, and education trails around the University's Art Collection;
  - (iii) Education projects with local schools, including Cov Cool Kids and Boys2Dance;
- (c) Subject to sufficient funds being raised, future projects for the Learning and Education Programme include a film-making project with primary schools, a Key Stage 2 touring exhibition looking at the body - *Skin, Blood and Bone*, and a dance and technology project - *Move It*;
- (d) Long term, the programme aims to run a Coventry Children's Film Festival, and an International Children's Theatre Festival.

15/07-08 Annual Report and Accounts

RESOLVED:

That Warwick Arts Centre's draft Annual Report for 2006-07, paper ACB 6/07-08, be approved and put forward to Council.

16/07-08 Director's Report

CONSIDERED:

A report from the Director of Warwick Arts Centre on developments since the last Board meeting and matters of strategic substance, paper ACB 7/07-08, noting in particular that:

- (a) Box office results for the last two months have been disappointingly below target, reflecting a wider trend across the sector, and marketing activity is being maintained to maximise potential income;

- (b) The Summer programme includes a strong showing of international theatre including the English premiere of the National Theatre of Scotland's *Black Watch* and the return of Cheek by Jowl's *Boris Godunov*;
- (c) The co-production of *Beauty and the Beast* with the Lyric Theatre Hammersmith opened in early December to critical acclaim, with the production due to come to Warwick in December 2008;
- (d) The £5 Student ticket offer has been a success in its first three months;
- (e) The Café Bar project will be slightly delayed in order to secure a higher quality, better designed outlet;
- (f) Negotiations are progressing to establish an outlet for sales of CD's and DVD's in the vacant retail unit.

17/07-08 Butterworth Hall (minute 7/07-08 refers)

(a) CONSIDERED:

A report from the Operations Director, Warwick Arts Centre, concerning progress on the re-development of the Butterworth Hall, paper ACB 8/07-08, noting in particular that:

- (i) The dates for the redevelopment of the Butterworth Hall have been agreed as 1 August 2008 - 14 March 2009;
- (ii) The basic outline for the redevelopment is in place, and external architecture, finishes and landscaping are being discussed;

RESOLVED:

- (iii) That the Operations Director would arrange for a presentation of the architect's plans at the February meeting of the Board.

(b) CONSIDERED:

A report from the Director of Warwick Arts Centre on fundraising in relation to the Butterworth Hall, paper ACB 9/07-08, noting in particular that:

- (i) A number of potential sources of funds had been identified and were being pursued;
- (ii) Helen Burgun will be returning in a freelance capacity to assist with developing the fundraising strategy for individual donors;

RESOLVED:

- (iii) That the Director of Warwick Arts Centre and colleagues would work to establish the key story and selling points to be communicated to potential donors;
- (iv) That members of the Board would consider whether there were potential new Board members who could help with the fundraising strategy;
- (v) That members of the Board would give further thought to becoming donors to make the fundraising case more compelling to potential donors.

18/07-08 Date of Next Meeting

REPORTED:

- (a) That the next meeting will be at 4.00pm on Thursday 14 February 2008 in the National Grid Room, Warwick Arts Centre.
- (b) That the dates of the following meetings have been confirmed:

Thursday 24 April 2008, 4pm  
Thursday 26 June 2008, 4pm