

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

**Minutes of the meeting of the Art Collection Committee  
held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2002**

Present: Professor S Bassnett (in the Chair), Ms G Hedley,  
Ms S Khanna, Dr J Nicholls, Ms V Nutt, Mr M Lloyd Smith

Apologies: Mr P Varney

In attendance: Ms S Shalgosky, Dr C Twine

8/01-02 Membership

REPORTED:

That Mr Paul Varney had been appointed to the Committee as a lay member of Council.

9/01-02 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2002 be approved.

10/01-02 Matters Arising

(a) Statement of strategic policy (Minute 2/01-02 (a) refers)

REPORTED:

That at its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2002 the Committee resolved that a statement of strategic policy be inserted, emphasising the role of the University and the Mead Gallery in promoting contemporary art.

CONSIDERED:

A draft statement of strategic policy (Paper WOA 4/01-02).

RESOLVED:

That the draft statement of strategic policy be approved.

- (b) Labelling and photographing project (Minutes 2/01-02 (b) and (c) refer)

REPORTED:

That at its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2002 the Committee resolved that detailed project plans be drawn up for the completion of labelling and photographing all items in the Collection by the end of Summer 2002, and that the proposed budget for this be passed to the Registrar who would consider making a special grant for the purpose.

RECEIVED:

An oral report on the progress of the project from Mr Lloyd Smith.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee welcome the progress made on the project, and that the following be noted:

- (i) Photographing of outstanding works and works from the Collection currently on display in the Mead Gallery is underway.
- (ii) Research and labelling is underway for 65 of the approximately 225 unlabelled items of painting and sculpture in the Collection.
- (iii) The majority of ceramics in the University collection already have studio pottery labels and are kept in store, and do not form part of the current labelling project.
- (iv) The labelling project will be aided by the recruitment of a further member of staff on a sessional basis in the near future, and that the project should be complete by the end of July 2002.

- (c) Mini-alarms (Minute 3/01-02 (b) refers)

REPORTED:

That at its meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2002 the Committee resolved that mini-alarms be installed behind valuable items in the Collection deemed by the University Security Officer to be most vulnerable.

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Curator on the progress of the installation.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That two alarms be purchased (one white model, one black model) for attachment to the artworks by Ono and Warhol.
  - (ii) That the Committee review the effectiveness of the alarms and other security issues for the Collection at their next meeting.
- (d) Revision of Acquisition Policy (Minute 4/01-02 refers)

REPORTED:

That at its meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2002 the Committee resolved that the acquisition policy be re-written to express the objective that works be collected from “predominantly living artists.”

RECEIVED:

A draft of the re-written policy (Paper WOA 5/01-02).

RESOLVED:

That the draft of the re-written policy be approved.

11/01-02 Collection finances

CONSIDERED:

A detailed breakdown on the financial position of the Collection (Paper WOA 6/01-02).

RESOLVED:

That future financial statements be presented in summary form.

12/01-02 Planning for Works of Art in new buildings

CONSIDERED:

A draft paper by the Curator detailing the case for a specific amount of funding to be set aside for works of art in future projects new buildings (Paper WOA 7/01-02).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the phrase “(at current prices)” be inserted at the end of the second sentence of the fourth paragraph.
- (b) That the paper be approved and recommended to the Strategy Committee.

13/01-02 Library Exhibition Room

CONSIDERED:

Information about exhibitions held in the Library Exhibition Room over the last two years.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Secretary of the Accommodation Committee be asked to provide precise information about the potential alternative uses of the room, particularly in regard to alleviating pressure in the Social Studies.
- (b) That the Art Collection Committee investigate possible alternative exhibition spaces in the University at its next meeting.

14/01-02 “Virtual Gallery” project

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Curator on a bid from the University to the Arts and Humanities Research Board Small Projects Scheme for £30,000 to implement a “Virtual Gallery” project.

15/01-02 Artwork for University entrance

RECEIVED:

A report from the Registrar on the redevelopment of the traffic island and area surrounding the main road entrance to the University central campus, and the availability of funds to install an artwork.

RESOLVED:

That the Curator investigate possible works of art to purchase or acquire by gift or loan, and make recommendations to the Landscape Working Group.

16/01-02 Departmental works of art

RECEIVED:

Reports about Departments using their own funds to purchase works of art that are subsequently excluded from the University collection.

RESOLVED:

That the Curator write to Chairs of Departments encouraging them to consult with her and to keep the Art Collection Committee informed of future purchases.

17/01-02 Contemporary Art Society

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Curator on the gifting of works of art from the Contemporary Art Society

18/01-02 Simon Patterson mural

RESOLVED:

That the Curator investigate the possibility of using images of the Simon Patterson mural in the Ramphal Building elsewhere in the University (for instance, as TV studio backdrop and screensaver).

19/01-02 Date of next meeting

REPORTED:

That the next meeting of the Art Collection Committee will be held during the Autumn Term 2002/03.

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29.05.02