

# Scottish Printing Archival Trust

Minutes of the meeting of the Scottish Printing Archival Trust held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 10.15am, Merchiston Campus, Edinburgh Napier University.

Present: B Hodgson (Chair), P Laidlaw, P Mark, B Clegg, A McCleery, D Allan and H Williams

Minutes: H Williams

1. Apologies

T Honnor, G Richmond

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016

The minutes were approved.

3 Matters arising

BH remarked that in order to celebrate SPraT's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary successfully in 2018, there would need to be more involvement all the Trustees, particularly the subgroup members.

4 Financial update

PL reported that following from the guided tour led by HW for John Watson and a group of Master Printers, the Trust had received a further donation of £5000 from the John Watson Foundation. The Trustees expressed their appreciation of the support received from the Foundation.

Overall expenses were low, but there was an increased bill for the website maintenance responsibility for which had now been passed to Graphics Co-op who had designed the site in its current form. The balance in the bank on 31 January 2017 stood at £15,197.42, and there was once outstanding bill yet to be paid, of around £600.

5 Secretary's report

HW circulated a report on her activities since the last meeting. As well as attending a number of meetings, she had led two guided walks in Edinburgh's Old Town in association with the Cockburn Association as part of the programme for Edinburgh's Doors Open Days at the end of September. These had proved very popular, and 60 enquiries had been received for 40 places.

She had also led a similar walk in November 2016 for John Watson and a small group, which had included a visit to the printing exhibits in the National Museum of Scotland. One of those attending, John McGee had given a £20 cash donation to the Trust.

HW circulated TH's report on the letterpress training day which he had led at in Stirling University, organised by HW together with Sarah Bromage. It was expected that there would be another one or two days, in the near future, with the aim of putting the Columbian press in the university's Pathfoot building back into use.

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### 6 SPrAT thirtieth anniversary 2018

BH reported on the progress made with the plans. The sub group had met twice since the last Trustees meeting. GR had approached a number of suppliers to the printing industry who had expressed an interest in supporting an exhibition, but this could not be taken further until plans were more definite.

It was agreed that professional help would be needed with the exhibition design, AM mentioned that Studio SP had design exhibitions for the SAPPHIRE project. Film, images and audio were likely to be fairly readily obtainable. It was also noted that the equipment remained in the printing works at Blairgowrie, although the building had now been sold on.

PM commented that the site for an exhibition, and a sponsor and vision were needed first. Various possible venues in Glasgow were discussed.

BH asked HW to organise a meeting with John Watson and other possible interested parties in Glasgow, as well as to follow up previous contacts with Glasgow Life and Edinburgh Printmakers.

### 7 Other plans / projects

a Print trail walks. HW had not booked any dates, but hoped to lead more walks in 2017. She intends to repeat the Doors Open Day events, and will look for other opportunities.

b Letterpress workshops. As noted above, there will be more at Stirling University, and HW will pursue the possibility of helping arrange one in Dumfries on her next visit.

c Publications. Progress had been made on researching landmarks for a Glasgow print trail, and further work will be done shortly on the background and design for this. HW has identified which Scottish libraries have copies of *Mechanical to digital printing in Scotland*. It was suggested that the stocks of this title be retained until after 2018.

### 8 AOCB

DA mentioned that 2018 was the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first publishing course at Edinburgh Napier University, and it was agreed that there might be opportunities to work together.

### 9 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017. Details will be confirmed nearer the time.