

Notice of meeting and agenda

Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest

2pm Friday 25 October 2013

Diamond Jubilee Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

This is a public meeting and members of the public are welcome to attend

Contacts

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1. Appointment of a Convener

- 1.1 To appoint a Convener

2. Order of business

- 2.1 Including any notices of motion and any other items of business submitted as urgent for consideration at the meeting.

3. Declaration of interests

- 3.1 Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.

4. Deputations

If any

5. Minutes

- 5.1 Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest 12 October 2011 – submitted for approval as a correct record (circulated)

6. Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest Business

- 6.1 Background to the Jean F Watson Bequest – Presentation by Ian O’riordan
- 6.2 Financial Statement 2013/14 – report by the Director of Corporate Governance (circulated)
- 6.3 Remit amendment and valuation of the collection – report by the Director of Corporate Governance (circulated)
- 6.4 Update on proposed acquisitions – report by the Director of Corporate Governance (circulated)

7. Motions

- 7.1 If any

Carol Campbell

Head of Legal, Risk and Compliance

Committee Members

Councillors, Aitken, Burgess, Doran, Fullerton, Keil, Lewis, Paterson, Redpath

Organisational Representatives and Specialists

Amanda Catto, Portfolio Manager Creative Scotland

Information about the Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest Transport and Environment Committee

In 1962 Miss Jean F Watson set up a trust to acquire works of art by Scottish artists. The bequest states that works purchased or commissioned shall be by artists born, practising in, or otherwise associated with Scotland and in particular Edinburgh. These shall include paintings, sculpture, prints and drawings and items of applied art such as tapestries, stained glass, glass, ceramics, silver and jewellery. It shall be a requirement that works by local artists selected for purchase should be of sufficient high quality to achieve national standing. The Watson Bequest allows the City to continue collecting important and significant works strengthening an already important and nationally significant collection.

Further information

If you have any questions about the agenda or meeting arrangements, please contact Stuart McLean, Committee Services, City of Edinburgh Council, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1YJ, Tel 0131 529 4106, email: stuart.mclean@edinburgh.gov.uk

A copy of the agenda and papers for this meeting will be available for inspection prior to the meeting at the main reception office, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh.

The agenda, minutes and public reports for this meeting and all the main Council committees can be viewed online by going to www.edinburgh.gov.uk/cpol.

Committee Minutes

Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest

Edinburgh, 12 October 2011

Present:- Councillors Brock, Buchan, Dawe, Munro, McIvor and Bill Scott (Royal Scottish Academy).

Apologies:- Councillors Elaine Aitken, Thomas and Wilson; Amanda Catto (Scottish Arts Council).

1 Appointment of Convener

Decision

To appoint Councillor Brock as Convener of the Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest.

2 Minute

Decision

The minute of the meeting of the Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest of 9 March 2010 was approved as a correct record.

3 Financial Statement 2011/12

The balance of funds available on the Jean F Watson Bequest for 2011/12 was estimated at £61,596.72.

Decision

To note the financial statement.

(Reference – financial statement by the Director of Corporate Governance, submitted.)

Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest
12 October 2011

4 Acquisitions for the City's Fine Art Collection

The Committee gave consideration to purchasing the undernoted works and agreed as follows:

Description	Price	Decision
<p>4.1 Painting by William Kidd (1790-1863)</p> <p>Craigleith Quarry Oil on canvas 31.8cm x 42cm</p>	<p>£4,500</p>	<p>1) To approve the purchase.</p> <p>2) To apply for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions.</p>
<p>4.2 Paintings by Arthur Melville (1858-1904)</p> <p>(i) The Rialto Watercolour on paper (1894) 58.5cm x 84cm</p> <p>(ii) The Procession of Corpus Christi Watercolour on paper (1890) 78cm x 55cm</p>	<p>£120,000</p> <p>£220,000</p>	<p>1) To approve the purchase, subject to successful applications for grant aid from the National Fund for Acquisitions, the Art Fund, the Friends of the City Art Centre and Museums and the Heritage Lottery Fund.</p> <p>2) To note that progress would be reported to the next meeting of the Committee.</p> <p>Not to proceed with the purchase.</p>

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12 October 2011

Description	Price	Decision
<p>4.3 Artwork by Charles Avery (b 1973)</p> <p>Untitled (One Armed Snake) 2009 Taxidermy Unique</p>	<p>£12,000</p>	<p>1) To approve the purchase.</p> <p>2) To note that Creative Scotland had granted £8,000 towards the purchase of this work and that the balance of the purchase (£4,000) would be met from the Jean F Watson Bequest.</p>
<p>4.4 Works by David Mach (b 1956)</p> <p>(i) Die Harder Coathanger sculpture Approximately 3m x 2.5m</p>	<p>£250,000</p>	<p>1) To note that the Committee's preferred option was to purchase Noah's Ark 1 and, failing that, to purchase both Heaven (Winter) and Hell (Disneyland), subject to successful applications for grant aid.</p> <p>2) That grant aid be sought from the National Fund for Acquisitions, the Art Fund, and the Friends of the City Art Centre and Museums.</p>

Committee on the Jean F Watson Bequest
12 October 2011

Description	Price	Decision
<p>(ii) Noah's Ark 1 Collage 244cm x 424.5cm</p> <p>(iii) Jacob's Ladder Collage 234.8cm x 271cm</p> <p>(iv) Jesus Walking on Water Collage 166cm x 259.1cm</p> <p>(v) Heaven Collage 172cm diameter</p> <p>(vi) Hell Collage 172cm diameter</p>	<p>£112,000</p> <p>£56,000</p> <p>£46,000</p> <p>£32,000</p> <p>£32,000</p>	<p>3) That progress on grant funding be reported to the next meeting of the Committee.</p> <p>4) Not to proceed with the purchase of any of the other works.</p>
<p>4.5 Works by Karla Black (b 1972)</p> <p>(i) Nature Equals Meaning Minus Choice (2011) Sawdust 95cm x 155cm x 168cm</p> <p>(ii) Division Is (2011) Sugar paper, chalk, lipstick, concealer stick, spray tan, thread 30cm x 40cm</p>	<p>The price for the two works together is £13,000.</p>	<p>1) Not to proceed with the purchase of either work.</p> <p>2) To indicate that the Committee would be minded to purchase an alternative piece of work from the artist.</p>

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12 October 2011

Description	Price	Decision
		3) That a further report be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

5 Date of Next Meeting

Decision

That the Clerk liaise with the Convener with a view to arranging a meeting in March 2012.

JEAN F. WATSON BEQUESTFUNDS AVAILABLE FOR 2013/2014

	£	£
Accumulated Surplus as at 1st April 2012		35,182.69
Revenue surplus for 2012/13		19,602.15
		<u>54,784.84</u>
Deduct: Purchases	0.00	
Commitments	<u>0.00</u>	
	<u>0.00</u>	
Less: Grants receivable	<u>0.00</u>	
Sub-total		<u>0.00</u>
Accumulated Surplus as at 1st April 2013		<u>54,784.84</u>
Add: estimated income for 2013-14		<u>22,000.00</u>
Sub-total		<u>76,784.84</u>
Less: estimated central support charges for 2013-14	<u>-1,000.00</u>	<u>-1,000.00</u>
Estimated funds available for 2013/14		<u>75,784.84</u>

Jean F Watson Bequest Committee

2pm, Friday, 25 October 2013

Remit amendment and valuation of the collection

Item number	6.3
Report number	
Wards	All

Links

Coalition pledges	P31
Council outcomes	CO20 and C025
Single Outcome Agreement	

Alastair D Maclean

Director of Corporate Governance

Contact: Frank Little, Museums and Galleries Manager

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Executive summary

Remit amendment and valuation of the collection

Summary

An internal audit of heritable assets held by the Council was carried out in October 2012. The Jean F Watson (JFW) Bequest Trust and the Catherine E Cowper Trust (CC Trust) were included in this audit. The Watson Bequest dates from the early 1960s and was established by Miss Watson to enable an Edinburgh municipal collection to be developed. In 1996 Mrs Catherine E Cowper established a bequest to be used by the Museum of Childhood to acquire items for its collection which has subsequently been recognised as nationally significant.

The audit made several recommendations about these Trusts to ensure that full details of their value are available each year for the Council's audited accounts.

The recommendations which are relevant to this Committee are as follows:

- exhibits, artworks and artefacts valued over £5,000 should be re-valued once every five years; and
- the Jean F Watson collection inventory should be clearly separated from the inventory of other artworks owned by the Council.

As the JFW collection was last valued in 2008, it is now time to revalue the collection. In the past this has been undertaken by curatorial staff based at the City Art Centre and it is suggested that this practice continues. A modest subscription to an appropriate online valuation tool, as used by other museums and galleries, would help to ensure the accuracy of this work.

The Museums and Galleries service is in the process of purchasing a new collections management system, called Ke Emu, which will provide curators with the facility to generate more effective reports on any aspect of collection items. Up to date separate inventory reports on the Jean F Watson collection will be able to be produced to order.

The auditor also suggested that it would improve internal governance and accountability for this Committee's remit to be expanded to cover proposed purchases by the more modest Catherine E Cowper (CC) Trust. The current balance of the CC Trust is £47,360.

The majority of items acquired by the Museum of Childhood are generally donated and usually date from the late 20th century or earlier. It is proposed that the CC Trust could be used to buy contemporary items on a regular basis to keep the collection up to date.

It is anticipated that these toys, games and other childhood items would range in price from a few pounds to a few hundred pounds, and would be acquired through the Council's normal purchasing process for goods. In addition, there may occasionally be opportunities to acquire an historic item to fill a gap in the Museum's collection.

It is recommended that the above purchases be reported retrospectively to this Committee once a year. Any item that would cost more than £1,000 will be reported in advance for Committee approval or agreed in consultation with the Convener if the opportunity would otherwise be lost because of a tight purchase deadline.

As the above proposals in relation to the Catherine E Cowper Trust would alter the Jean F Watson Bequest Committee's remit, and add an entry in the Council's Scheme of Delegation, it is recommended that they should be referred to the Council for its consideration and approval, if the Committee agrees these changes in principle.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. notes that JFW Bequest collection items worth over £5,000 each will be revalued by the curatorial team by March 2014;
2. approves in principle the extension of the Committee's remit to include the Catherine E Cowper Trust;
3. approves in principal the reporting and approval mechanism outlined above for purchases funded by the Catherine E Cowper Trust; and
4. refers these remit and Scheme of Delegation changes to the Council for its consideration and approval.

Measures of success

Completed valuation of the JFW Bequest collection items worth over £5,000 each by end of March 2014

Improved governance of the Catherine E Cowper Trust

Enhanced Museum of Childhood collection

Financial impact

The subscription cost of an appropriate online valuation tool can be contained within the Culture and Sport revenue budget.

Equalities impact

The actions detailed in this report are not relevant to the Equality Act 2010 general duties or human rights duties.

Sustainability impact

The actions outlined above will improve the management of the two collections discussed.

Consultation and engagement

Not applicable.

Background reading / external references

Report entitled [Consultation on Edinburgh Museums and Galleries Service Plan 2013 – 18](#) to the Culture and Sport Committee of 20 August 2013

Report entitled [Edinburgh Museums and Galleries: Collection Development Policy 2013 – 2017](#) to the Culture and Sport Committee of 28 May 2013

Links

Coalition pledges P31 Maintain our City's reputation as the cultural capital of the world by continuing to support and invest in our cultural infrastructure

Council outcomes CO20 - Culture, sport and major events – Edinburgh continues to be a leading cultural city where culture and sport play a central part in the lives and futures of citizens

C025 The Council has efficient and effective services that deliver on objectives

Single Outcome Agreement Appendices

Jean F Watson Bequest Committee

2pm, Friday, 25 October 2013

Update on Possible Acquisitions

Item number	6.4
Report number	
Wards	All

Links

Coalition pledges	P31
Council outcomes	CO20 and C025
Single Outcome Agreement	

Alastair D Maclean

Director of Corporate Governance

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Executive summary

Update on proposed acquisitions

Summary

At its last meeting on 12 October 2011, the Committee gave consideration to purchasing a number of works. This report details progress in pursuing these acquisitions.

The purchase of the painting *Craighleith Quarry* by William Kidd for £4,500 has been completed with the assistance of a grant of £2,250 from the National Fund for Acquisitions.

The purchase of the object *Untitled (One Armed Snake)* by Charles Avery for £12,000 has been completed with a grant of £8,000 from Creative Scotland.

The purchase of the watercolour *The Rialto* by Arthur Melville for £120,000 has not been completed. Following applications, two offers of grants were made towards this work: £18,000 from the National Fund for Acquisitions and £6,000 from the Friends of the City Art Centre and Museums.

Also, a donation of £6,500 was made towards a significant purchase for the City Art Centre's collection following a lecture given by the Curator of Fine Art to the Edinburgh Decorative and Fine Art Society and potentially earmarked for the Melville acquisition. This makes a total raised so far of £30,500, leaving a shortfall of £89,500.

More recently an application for a grant of £36,000 was submitted to the Art Fund and considered at their meeting on 3 October 2013. This application was unsuccessful.

In the light of the above, it is suggested that an application for a grant is now made to the Heritage Lottery Fund. Simultaneously any other appropriate trusts and foundations will be approached and the Committee advised in due course of the level of shortfall.

The purchase of works by David Mach has not yet been pursued as the intention is to complete the Melville purchase first, so that multiple grant applications are not submitted in competition with each other.

At its last meeting, the Committee had decided not to purchase the recommended artwork by Karla Black, but had instructed officers to bring forward alternative works by the artist. It was considered prudent to resolve the Melville and Mach purchases before presenting alternative works to the Committee.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. notes the progress made to date and approves the above course of action.

Measures of success

Completed purchase of *The Rialto* by Arthur Melville.

Financial impact

The funds for the purchase of *The Rialto* will come from the Jean F Watson Bequest Fund, supplemented by grant aid already committed and other external funding to be sought from other sources.

Equalities impact

The actions detailed in this report are not relevant to the Equality Act 2010 general duties or human rights duties.

Sustainability impact

Not applicable.

Consultation and engagement

Not applicable.

Background reading / external references

Report entitled Edinburgh Museums and Galleries: Collections Development Policy 2013-201 to the [Culture and Sport Committee on 28 May 2013](#)

Reports to the [12 October 2011 meeting](#) of the Jean F Watson Bequest Committee

Links

Coalition pledges	P31 Maintain our City's reputation as the cultural capital of the world by continuing to support and invest in our cultural infrastructure
Council outcomes	CO20 - Culture, sport and major events – Edinburgh continues to be a leading cultural city where culture and sport play a central part in the lives and futures of citizens C025 The Council has efficient and effective services that

deliver on objectives

**Single Outcome
Agreement
Appendices**