



**Arts and Cultural Advisory Group
Breviate of Draft Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday
28th June 2017, 9.30 a.m., Members Room, City Hall**

1. Minutes of previous meeting held on 5th April 2017

The minutes were approved, proposed by Shane de Blacam, seconded by Ruairí Ó Cuív

2. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

3. Luke Kelly Working Group Report

The City Arts Officer presented a summary of the findings of the Luke Kelly Working Group. The Group met with Vera Klute, Gerry Hunt, John Coll, Patrick and John Kelly along with Des Geraghty. A public consultation meeting was also held on the 13th June, 2017.

The recommendations of the Luke Kelly Working Group are that Dublin City Council commission the Luke Kelly Sculpture by Vera Klute as designed and proposed by her, to go along Royal Canal in the North Inner City Docklands and that the gift from Gerry Hunt of the statue of Luke Kelly by artist John Coll be accepted and placed in a suitable location in the south city centre.

While there will likely be sensitivities around having two statues of the same person in the city, it was emphasised that this should not establish precedence, this was found to be the best outcome in order to honour both DCC's Public Art Policies and Procedures and the wishes of the Kelly family.

4. City Arts Officer Report

The City Arts Officer presented the report on the Arts Office activities. In addition, he outlined that The Treeline Project is underway with artists Oonagh Young and Mary Cremin. They received a grant from the Arts Council for €150,000 for the project which includes planting 18 trees in the Foley Street area and having a digital ticker tape of the text of Ulysses. The City Arts Officer has been providing support for the project and is also liaising with other sections within Dublin City Council to endeavour to achieve as much as possible of the ambitions and intentions of the artist curators. However the entirety of the project proposed to the Arts Council is unlikely to be achieved due to underestimation of the costs involved.

There are ongoing meetings of the Working Group with the Department of Arts, The Arts Council DCC Planning and Development and the City arts office to attempt to address the deficit in artists workspaces in Dublin. Sites are being considered and feasibility studies of these sites will be required.

Other events include *International Literature Festival Dublin*, which saw an increase of 83% in box office sales, running from 20-29 May; an application to *Music Generation*, a collaborative music education partnership with DIT, the NCH and RIAM which would provide funding up to €200,000 for a three-year period and aims to bridge the existing gaps in music education; *MusicTown 2017*, an initiative of Dublin City Arts Office, programmed through a curated open call process and by Aiken Promotions, running from 7-17 April; and the *Arts, Education and Learning Policy* which was passed in November 2016, the framework for which was presented at the Mansion House on 16th May 2017.

The LAB exhibition *Trying To Behave*, a solo show by artist Theresa Nanigian, ran from the 6th April to 28th May 2017. The exhibition consisted of photographs taken at the Royal Opera House, a short video projection of dancers from the Macushla Dance Club at DanceHouse, Dublin, as well as responses to the Twenty Statements self-concept survey. The exhibition was partially funded by the Arts Council as part of the Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme award. There was also an accompanying panel discussion and advertisements were placed on JCDecaux boards in the city.

5. Public Art Report

Nomination for a new External Public Art Expert

Visual Artists Ireland has nominated curator Maolíosa Boyle to the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group. Maolíosa Boyle studied art and has had a noteworthy career in the visual arts. She was appointed director of Rua Red in 2016 and previously was the Director of Void Contemporary Art Gallery in Derry. The Group unanimously recommended her appointment as one of the three public art specialists on the Group.

Talking Statues Dublin

Fáilte Ireland has been working with Sing London, the developers of the Talking Statues projects in London, Manchester, Leeds and Chicago on a pilot scheme for Dublin, after approval by the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group and SPC for Arts, Culture and Recreation. Fáilte Ireland has liaised with the Arts Office in Dublin City Council regarding the development and rollout of the project. The idea is that well known figures in the arts write an imaginary script of what a statue might say and that these are then voiced by well known actors. These are then made accessible to the public on their mobile telephones, who after scanning a QR code or inputting a code will 'receive a call back from the statue'. A sign at each statue indicates the Talking Statues throughout the city. The following is the list of statues, scriptwriters and actors. These include statues owned by Dublin City Council, National Gallery of Ireland, Trinity College Dublin, OPW, SIPTU and An Post.

| Statue | Writer | Actor |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| George Bernard Shaw | Arthur Matthews | TBC |
| <i>Meeting Point</i> | Rachel Kilfeather | Brenda Fricker |
| James Joyce | Roddy Doyle | Gabriel Byrne |
| Daniel O'Connell | Paula Meehan | Ruth Negga |
| James Connolly | Brendan O'Carroll | Brendan O'Carroll |
| Oscar Wilde | John Banville | Andrew Scott |
| Wolf Tone | Patrick McCabe | Brendan Gleeson |
| James Larkin | Enda Walsh | Stephen Rea |
| Cú Chulainn | Eoin Colfer | TBC |
| Oliver Goldsmith | Competition Statue | TBC |
| Molly Malone | Competition Statue | TBC |

One of the features of the Talking Statues projects in other cities has been to organise public competitions for a script. Fáilte Ireland and Sing London propose that the statue of Molly Malone is the subject for one of two competitions in Dublin. Fáilte Ireland will run the Talking Statues pilot project in Dublin for a year. They intend to launch the project in August.

The Arts and Cultural Advisory Group endorsed the Pilot Project and the idea of Molly Malone being one of the competition statues.

Statue of Kevin Heffernan

A staff member in Parks and Landscape Services who is working on the development of a garden at the start of Clonliffe Road proposed to include a statue of Kevin Heffernan.

Recommendation

The Group recommended not to commission the statue as under the Public Art Policy (2009) and the Commemorative Naming Policy (renewed 2017) individuals have to have been dead for more than 20 years before a statue of them is installed on Dublin City Council property.

Care and Maintenance of Public Artworks

Trace by Grace Weir

The Public Art Manager presented a report on the history and issues relating to the dismantling of the sculpture *Trace* by Grace Weir from the corner of St Stephens Green / Merrion Row and placement in storage. It was agreed that in respect of the views of the artist, the sculpture should not be placed in the new proposed location at the corner of St Stephens Green and Kildare Street. However, the Group recommended that the elements of the sculpture which remain, be placed in safe storage until a final decision is made on a decommissioning process.

6. Dublin Culture Connects Report

Iseult Byrne presented a report on Dublin Culture Connects 2017. It covered the many projects that are being carried out, including The National Neighbourhood, The Fundraising Fellowship Dublin, The Cultural Audit and Map, The EU Lab and the Culture Club.

It was noted that Iseult and the next Introduction to Marketing seminar will take place in the Wood Quay venue on 14th November from 6-9pm. This was found to be extremely useful to all who attended the May event. The finishing touches are being put to the forthcoming Guide to Marketing video, which will have a voiceover by Cllr. Rebecca Moynihan.

7. Dublin City Gallery the Hugh Lane

Report noted.

8. Dublin City libraries report

Deputy City Librarian reported on a number of events and initiatives being delivered by Dublin City Libraries, including the Summer Stars programme, the Historians in Residence programme and the Readers in Residence & Coder Dojo under the Dublin North East Inner City Project.

It was noted that a revised *Policy for Commemorative Naming of Infrastructure and the Provision of Monuments, Memorials and Plaques* was adopted by the Council at its meeting of 12th June. Two sections related to the role of the Arts & Culture Advisory Committee:

5. Public Art

5.1 Dublin City Council values the contribution which permanent art can bring to enhancing the public realm.

5.2 Proposals for statues and other permanent visual artworks are considered by the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group.

17. Monuments

A Monument is deemed to be a three-dimensional structure or a high and low relief, of architectural or sculptural design, erected to commemorate a person or event.

17.1 All proposals for monuments recommended by the Commemorative Naming Committee will be referred to the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group for consideration and recommendation on their artistic merit and technical feasibility.

17.2 A proposal for a monument will be referred to the Arts and Cultural Advisory Group if it is considered to be purely public art and therefore more appropriate to that Committee.

The Deputy City Librarian recently attended a conference by the NCBI and the efforts of the Libraries to integrate more resources for the visually impaired were noted, as was the usefulness of the Borrowbox app. It is planned to invest in more digital books and Braille resources for the Libraries.

9. A.O.B.

- Next meeting – date T.B.C.

Attendance:

- **Present:** Cllr Áine Clancy (Chair), Ray Yeates, Hugh Fahey, Róisín Kennedy, Shane de Blacam, Ruairí Ó Cuív, Gerry Kerr, Brendan Teeling, Elaina Ryan, Iseult Byrne
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- **Apologies:** Cllr Claire Byrne, Willie White, Simon O'Connor, Barbara Dawson
- **In Attendance:** Dolores Fogarty