

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRISH MUSEUM OF MODERN ART HELD BY
CONFERENCE CALL, DUBLIN ON 15 NOVEMBER 2022 AT 13.00 PM**

Present: David Harvey, Mary Apied, Dermod Dwyer, John Cunningham, Margot Lyons, Gerard Byrne

Apologies: Eva Kenny, Emma Goltz

In attendance: Annie Fletcher, Fintan McDonald (Company Secretary)

1 Conflict of Interest

All Directors confirmed that they had no conflict of interest in relation to the matters to be dealt with at this meeting.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Board Meeting held on 13th September 2022 were taken as read.

One matter outstanding – ML & JC to arrange a visit to the off-site art storage facility.

Minutes were proposed for approval by JC, seconded by ML and approved.

3 Matters arising

No matters arising.

4 Director's Report

- a) The 30th Anniversary Director's dinner will take place 23rd November on site at IMMA. All former Directors have been invited and each will give a short speech about their tenure. DH and AF will also speak and chart the future vision for IMMA.
- b) The Eco Fair, Earth Rising, took place over the weekend of 19th to 21st October. It was a great success with attendances of over 3,000 per day, which is large for IMMA. It was an energetic event with many workshops and performances. The 71 artist interventions, often involving a collective, were very proactive in engaging with the public. The architectural structure in the courtyard, Eirigh, designed and built by architects, Reddys, and sponsored by Lioncor, was a focal point. It is intended that Earth Rising will be an annual event and discussions will take place shortly with Lioncor about on-going sponsorship of the architectural intervention.
- c) The IMMA Commemoration Conference took place 9th – 12th November. The main presentations were in the Lighthouse Cinema with live online broadcast. The quality of the contributions and discussion was excellent, and the production of the online event was very professional. The broad theme was Irish cultural history set in the context of parallel self-determination events in Europe and its hinterland during the interwar years. There has been very good feedback that the themes have stimulated debate and conversations. These subjects will be recalled in the

exhibition that will open in Quarter 4, 2023. The tone of this conference sets IMMA as a catalyst for discussion and has engaged a well-connected international audience.

- d) Sanction has been received for the two senior management vacancies. The roles have been reconfigured with additional responsibility and will be advertised at Assistant Principal level.
- e) The works on the sprinkler system at the off-site storage facility have been completed. The last step is for the OPW to sign off on the commissioning.
- f) The MSPI audit is taking place this week, w/c 21st November. Progress with improving systems has been very satisfactory.
- g) AF presented the exhibition programme for 2023:
 - i. Commemorations Exhibition – Q4 2023 – There is much research going into loans for the exhibition. The central theme is to explain how artists enunciated the newly emergent states in the interwar years.
 - ii. Kevin Mooney – Revenants – Opens 30th November 2022.
 - iii. Patricia Hurl – Irish Gothic. This is a major exhibition of an imaginative painter who has not had sufficient public exposure. Open February 2023.
 - iv. Sarah Pierce – Scenes of a Myth. This is a very active, innovative show. Opens March 2023. Sarah's first show of this scale. The intention is for this show to tour internationally. IMMA is working with other galleries that have expressed an interest.
 - v. Howardena Pindell – This is a large-scale show from someone who worked as a registrar and curator at MOMA before becoming a full-time painter. She is well renowned internationally. Opens Summer 2023.
 - vi. Jo Baer- US artist who lived in Ireland around the 1970's. She produced a lot of work based on her Irish experience. She was a famous abstract artist in the 1960's and 1970's before she changed her style. The show will open in Q3 2023.

5 Finance, Audit & Risk Committee update – ML

1. ML reminded the Board that all Board members are equally responsible for risk management. The committee is still depleted and asks for two new appointees when the new Board members are approved.
2. The management accounts were reviewed and are satisfactory. There are a couple of areas of uncertainty. It is expected that additional subvention for the new pay deal will be granted but that is not yet confirmed. The increases in utility costs are substantial. The Department has indicated that additional support will be forthcoming. Confirmation is awaited. The committee is satisfied with the quality of reporting but has asked that deviations from budget, where monies are reallocated, be reported.
3. The committee reviewed the proposed budget for 2023 and forecasts for 2024 and are satisfied with the plans.
4. The Risk Register was reviewed by the Committee.

5. The committee looked at outstanding audit recommendations. They have asked the Internal Auditors to review these in January with a view to clearing the very old audit observations.
6. The FARC Charter remains under review.

6 Board Appointments

A shortlist was sent to the Minister in late October and appointments are expected shortly.

The competition for a new Chair is being prepared. The Department has written to DH to acknowledge his contribution as Chair and has asked him to remain as Chair until a new appointment is made.

7 Finance

Management Accounts – These were reviewed and are satisfactory. IMMA is still on target to deliver its full year forecast of a small surplus. Awaiting confirmation from the Department for support for the recent back-dated pay deal and the excessive utility costs.

DD suggested that the executive needed to look at where renewables could be installed on site and consult with the Department and OPW.

8 Budget 2023

The Board discussed the proposed budget for 2023, with projections for an increase in commercial income and the uncertainties around energy costs and inflation. The budget was approved.

9 Risk Register and Risk Statements

The Risk Register and Risk Statements were circulated with the meeting papers. The inflationary risks of energy costs were highlighted.

10 Capital Development Plan

The progress of the Strategic Assessment Report was discussed by the sub-committee of the Board last week. A presentation to the Board was made by the Director.

A draft SAR was submitted to the Department to address new building requirements. This included elements for an artworks transitional storage facility, meeting and research areas, gallery environmental control, and a new exhibition space. These elements of the plan can be approached independently of one another, and guidance is being sought from the Department as to how to proceed. A meeting will be convened shortly between the Director and representatives of the Department and OPW.

11 IMMA Satellite

A letter was sent to the potential partners and replies received. The proposal of using IIP funds to develop a facility introduces certain constraints as investment funds cannot go to a state entity. This means that a new CLG would need to be formed that is independent of IMMA's control. IMMA would be the lessee of a new building and would require funds for running costs.

IMMA does not have funds to support this. A long-term commitment to funding would have to come from the Department.

The Board asked IMMA to revert to the potential satellite partners and to discuss this matter further with the Department.

The matter can be brought back to the Board when there are material developments.

12 Board Dates

A proposal was circulated. The Board asked that the dates be reviewed and a refreshed list of dates circulated.

13 AOB

None.

14 Close

The next meeting is scheduled for 10th January 2023.

Chair