NOTE OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT ART ADVISORY GROUP MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 8 DECEMBER 2009

Present: Robin Harper MSP, Chair
Jeremy Purvis MSP
Ian McKee MSP

In attendance: Fiona McDougall, Art Curator/ Exhibitions Manager
Alan Rennie (Minutes)

Apologies: Ted Brocklebank MSP
Patricia Ferguson MSP
Liz Lochhead

Minutes of last meeting

1. The Group approved the minutes of the previous meeting.

SPCB and AAG protocols

2. The Group discussed the future respective roles of the SPCB and of the Art Advisory Group, within the context of a proposed constitution, with the Group reiterating a strong desire to have the delegated ability to decide how any budget is spent, for instance the power to bid at auction for future art works. The Group agreed some amendments to the wording of the proposed draft constitution to more accurately reflect their desired remit and added a note detailing the comparative budget of another institution.

The Group noted that the review of the Acquisitions and Disposal Policy had to be completed before June 2010.

ACTION: Revised protocol to be forwarded to all members for final agreement

Short listed artists for recommendation to the SPCB

3. The Group discussed the list of artist recommendations and agreed the list that would be presented to the SPCB, with specific acquisitions to be progressed subsequent to provision of a budget and through further conversations with the SPCB.

Portrait of Her Majesty The Queen

4. The Group were asked to consider the commissioning of a photographic portrait of Her Majesty The Queen for the Scottish Parliament. The Group discussed the possibility that a student or recent graduate/ postgraduate artist may be found by way of submission of nominees by the main art colleges and institutions, with the Group making the final selection decision on the candidate who will undertake the commission.

ACTION: Art Curator to draw up a proposal for circulation to Group prior to consideration by the SPCB and communication with the Royal Household.
Loans

5. The Group agreed that further consideration of Eduard Bersudsky’s pieces was required, including consideration of potential difficulties in accommodating what are commonly large scale works by this artist involving sound and mechanical elements.

**ACTION: Art Curator to arrange a research visit to the gallery**

The Group agreed to research the possibility of a loan of works by Bernat Klein for display in the Members’ Restaurant.

**ACTION: Art Curator to discuss with Shelley Klein in first instance and follow up with a visit by members of the Group.**

The Group agreed to the loan of the contemporary craft piece from the National Museums of Scotland.

**ACTION: Art Curator to contact NMS**

Conversion of existing loans to acquisitions

6. The Group reviewed three of the current artists whose works are on loan to the Parliament, with the unanimous recommendation by the Group that the Parliament pursue the purchase of the Mark Neville photographic works, and convert the existing loan of *Travelling the Distance* by Shauna McMullan to a permanent acquisition.

**ACTION: Recommendation to be made to the SPCB to purchase Mark Neville works if budget becomes available and to convert Travelling the Distance to a permanent acquisition**

Any other business

7. None

Date of next meeting

8. To be confirmed