

## Final Minutes – RPS CG meeting 2023-08-09

Present : Tom Owens, Alan Cameron, Sean Goodhart, Mike Kitson, Steven Whittaker, Adrian Hough, Paul Ashley, Tim Hancock (reporting).

Apologies : Christine Pinnington, Duncan Unsworth, Suzi Darsa, Patricia Ruddle

		Who	By When
<b>Previous minutes</b>	Approved as accurate		
	<p><b>Finances</b></p> <p>Current balance stands at £13,270 with £1,500 to come out for Bursary and expenses leaving £9,800. Although still healthy the mailing costs of the Journal are now similar to production costs due to increases from Royal Mail. It was suggested that Bristol advise if they have any buying power on postal services which could be passed on to SIGs. TH has mailed the Volunteers to ask accepting that this will not be a priority for Bristol at the moment. Journal cost is about £2K per issue against income from membership of about £7-7.5K. Good decision to move to three per year. Maybe two bigger issues will need to be considered in the future. May membership was 370. Postage costs breakdown is £600 to UK, £100 Europe, £50 USA, £45 ROW. Proofing online could save a small amount.</p> <p><b>Bursary</b></p> <p>This was featured in the RPS Newsletter and hopefully will be in the Journal at some point. SG will ask once more. Liz Williams has obtained a 15% discount on photo hardware from MPB. AH is discussing equipment with the school and an exhibition is planned for May 2024.</p>		

	<p><b>Journals</b></p> <p>Concept</p> <p>No meaningful replies to advert for a new Concept aditor. TH has one name who may take this one and will follow up in due course ( person is busy at the moment ). At the recent Volunteers meeting, Bristol mentioning giving Sigs assistance on recruitment. TH will follow up ( done ). CP suggested by email moving the publication date forward one month to allow for AGM material to be included – all agreed.</p> <p>Journal</p> <p>PA asked for feedback having received one criticism. TO and all stated that the publication was well received as best everyone knew, and the extra content and quality was much appreciated.</p>		
	<p><b>Web / SM</b></p> <p>SG reported that more events had been published on the web, which still remains hard to use. Central regions are sending Event emails copied to SG, who requested ongoing notification of future events which he will try to upload to the RPS site. PR has sent a note regarding other SIGs :-</p> <p><i>“Recently the Yorkshire Region has obtained a webmaster. I’ve introduced myself to him. I’ve asked him to advertise our North meetings. Also, he’s coming to our Zoom meeting in October. And, I hope that our group can participate more on the website. Which brings me to the Landscape Group. (Did I hear that they are now the largest SIG?) When looking at the new Yorkshire webpage I was amazed to see their presence. Very impressive. This led me to look at their SIG webpage. Wow! In particular I was interested in this project: <a href="https://rps.org/groups/landscape/projects/zines/">https://rps.org/groups/landscape/projects/zines/</a> I’m wondering whether we could do some kind of a “zine” project especially since our members are keen bookmakers. Just a thought. Patricia (PR)”</i></p>		

	<p>This was discussed – SW stated that other SIGs are often not as well organised as it may appear from the outside! SG agreed that Landscape had done some good work – it all comes down to resources. This can be discussed again when PR is present. Scotland are producing a zine.</p> <p>Regarding SM it was noted that Facebook pages are open to non-members of SIGs in order to try to promote membership.</p>		
	<p><b>Portfolio</b></p> <p>By email from DU.</p> <p>“Postal portfolio has two sets of 5 boxes circulating round two circuits of members. There are 8 to 10 members in each circuit (4 members participate in both groups). As each member receives a box they put new work into the box and critique all the work of other. Work often includes books, sometimes hand-made, as well as prints. The work is left in for two complete rotations so everyone can read what other wrote. Whereas it is asked to try to pass a box on in 3 week it often goes slower to the frustration of some and means it can take a year to round a circuit.</p> <p>Since the start of Covid also most months we have an online meeting usually with 7 to 11 members. This has allowed us to get to know each other in a way just using the posting of boxes hasn't. Alternatively we have a general meeting where images are shown and exhibitions discussed and book meetings.</p> <p>Books are limited to under £20 and have proved very popular with the group. I am very aware the age profile of the group which now has quite a few in their 80s and even 90s. It will become an issue at some point”</p>		

	<p><b>Events</b></p> <p>MK reported that the first two events were posted ( August and November ) and discussed a few ideas for the future. Anyone with names / ideas please send them to him. New names rather than established ones like Marc Wilson and Ian Howorth maybe. Also Olga Karlovac who was recently in B&amp;W magazine, Mandy Simpson. It would be good to get a precis / report of speakers in the Journal after the talk. No fees have been offered or asked for as yet.</p> <p>MK then showed a promo video for the PK 10x30 event in January which was well received and will be posted on the website / Fb page etc. Images (10) to be sent to MK. RO's please communicate also to their Regions, and the event can be included in October Concept.</p> <p>The Contemporary Challenge is planned for next year – ideas for themes to MK.</p>		
	<p><b>Regions</b></p> <p>Scotland held its first f2f in Edinburgh last week which will go in the local newsletter and zine</p> <p>South are still meeting every four months with 10 in attendance last ime</p> <p>EA have just launched their latest exhibition and will nclude a guided tour. About 12 people generally.</p>		
	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>None</p>		

	<b>Future Meetings</b>  Committee meetings on rotating M/Tu/Wed/Thu every two months, second week.  Thursday 12th October 19.00 Monday 11th December 19.00		