

## Draft Minutes – RPS CG meeting 2023-10-12

Present : Tom Owens, Mike Kitson, Paul Ashley, Duncan Unsworth, Patricia Ruddle, Christine Pinnington, Nick Linnett, Steven Whittaker, Steff Hutchinson, Tim Hancock (reporting).

Apologies : Alan Cameron, Sean Goodhart, Suzi Darsa.

<b>Previous minutes</b>
Approved as accurate. Alan Cameron had emailed since the last meeting : “There are expenses of £1968 for postage of the two editions of the journal to come out plus £1500 for the bursary, leaving us with a balance £9802.”
<b>Finances</b>
AC was not present at the meeting but sent the following report.  Income The accounting situation vis-a-vis payment of subscriptions appears to have settled down and Jackie Rumble tell me everything is up to date. That does not mean that predicting cash flows is straightforward, but I have managed to collate an analysis, with predicted annual income at £7259. Expenditure Our major expenditure has come from • the Fens at Risk meeting • the Bursary and • the Journal. The Fens at risk actually produced a small surplus. The Bursary has been paid and accounted for but I expect that Adrian will have some expenditure for his mentoring visits. For the latest edition of the Journal I have had the small invoice for proofs, but not the final invoice for the main run. I have also had Paul’s expense claim. With one more edition of the Journal to come and some travel expenses, I forecast that expected future expenditure will be around £3500. Financial position by year-end. Taking into account predicted income and expenses, our cash loss in the year is predicted to be in the region of £3450, though this includes expenses from last year for the Journal and postage included here as we are using cash accounting and amounting to approximately £900. Leaving the bursary aside as it was a known reduction in reserves, our operating loss will be in the region of £1950 though £900 comes from the previous year. On a

simpler basis if I add predicted income and subtract predicted expenditure from our current bank balance. I expect us to have reserves in excess of £10,000 - see my analyses. Future expenditure and Fees On balance I think that we can afford one more bursary before we have to pull our horns in and take stock. We may have to raise annual fees too £25.00 to steady the ship, but I'm happy to discuss at the next committee meeting. Alan Cameron ARPS Treasurer

AC had also provided a spreadsheet of the accounts, attached in the email.

The decision on whether to run the Bursary again in the future will be discussed when the Treasurer is present, hopefully at the next meeting on 11 December 2023.

## **Journals**

### Concept

Nick Linnett has accepted the role of Concept Editor and is welcomed to the committee. Nick will provide a short Bio as to be used in Concept for use in a broadcast announcement. The next Concept will go out in the next few days. The meeting thanked Suzi Darsa for her work as editor and wished her well with her new projects. The website still describes Concept as being quarterly rather than being three times a year. If possible this should be corrected if SG can make it happen. ACTION SG

### Journal

PA and CP were congratulated on the latest edition and layout of the Journal. PR reported that hers had not arrived, raising concerns once again about the quality of the membership database held by RPS Bristol.

### Zine

PR articulated the zine project being developed by landscape SIG where zines are sent in for review and asked if this is something Contemporary could take on. MK said that he was working on something similar in the form of a themed image challenge for 2024 and was discussing how this could work best with SG.

RPS Photobook – MK offered to help get involved with this along with AC/SG/PA

## Web / SM

SG was not present but had sent a report :

Salesforce events system: It's continuing to be frustrating with

- a. Broken feature that means I (and other group webmasters) cannot upload banner images to the Salesforce events we create, hence always having to beg Zac Evans (the new Digital Platform Manager) at HQ to do this.
- b. Random whether the booking system actually works, some events I create work and tickets are available immediately, some I have to get Zac to fix... and some he can't fix so I have to delete the event and re-do a new one in the hope it actually works...
- c. Random whether a Salesforce created event shows up in the event system for customers. This is another known feature which Zac is trying to get resolved.

Also frustrating is the need to duplicate stuff in the Umbraco system to be sure we at least have links for every event created on our homepage. Nevertheless I wouldn't hand this over to anyone, it's far too ugly, so I'll keep on with the job given I know how the workarounds.

We've had a flurry of events added for both the core group and the regional groups – note the events calendar on Teams where I've been updating with the event links as I create the listings.

<image001.png>

Calendar Template v2.xlsx Our homepage will be looking very good with events going forward – once the HQ folk have fixed the problems on 5 that our outstanding this morning. I'm creating duplicate events in Facebook too, signposting people to our event listings; again tedious, but it generates interest.

The meeting noted the huge progress that had been made with the website and thanked SG for his considerable efforts.

TH undertook to send out a broadcast asking for help with SM.

## Events

MK reported that the recent zoom meeting by Corinne Greta-West had gone ahead with 26 attendees. A total of 6/7 events were planned for the period up to 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and were now on the website, and will be included in Concept. Publicising these events is critical and is a key activity for social media. MK reported difficulty in co-ordinating event dates with other SIGs and had contacted them to see if a methodology could be designed to share dates on a calendar to ease planning. SW suggested that Regional events could be included in this also. The next event is In Conversation with Olga Karlovac on November 9<sup>th</sup>.

MK asked for thoughts on having some sort of panel discussion on a topic in the future.

## Regions

NORTH (PR) – back with monthly meetings after a two month lay-off. Face to face meetings and an outing to the Yorkshire Sculpture park. One member will make a publication of the images of the day.

SCOTLAND (SW) – Events organised along with documentary. At the Scottish conference next year ( 6/7 March Stirling ) SW asked if it was possible to have a Contemporary assessor to lead an Advisory day. Members of the panel were on the RPS website.

CENTRAL (SH) – Also starting again after a two month break. A publication “On Reflection” was planned and a themed meeting “Why we take photographs” and “ What influences our photography” New members were coming forward and may join SIG hopefully.

EA (TO) – “ No words” exhibition and “We are here because you were there” event planned for next Easter.

NW (AC) and SW (AH) – no report

AOB

TO reported back on the recent Volunteers meeting. Redundancies at Bristol were mentioned at the meeting and it was announced that “L” Distinctions were planned to be pdi only (no prints). Salesforce was still causing major headaches with Events disappearing for example.

**Future Meetings**

Committee meetings on rotating M/Tu/Wed/Thu every two months, second week. 19.00hrs for one hour.

Monday 11th December 2023

Tuesday 13th February 2024

Wednesday 10th April 2024 and AGM

Thursday 13th June 2024

Monday 12th August 2024

Tuesday 8th October 2024

Wednesday 11th December 2024