

Minutes of the meeting of the Toscaireacht, 1.00pm 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at the Arts Council, 70 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

**Present:** Mary FitzGerald (Chair), Seóirse Bodley, Paddy Bushe, Rhona Clarke, Shane de Blacam, Michael Holohan, Brian Lynch, Tom McCarthy, Geraldine O'Reilly.

**Apologies:** Christine Dwyer Hickey

**In attendance:** Audrey Keane, Registrar

**Previous minutes and matters arising**

The minutes of the meeting of 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 were proposed by RC and seconded by TMcC as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

**Condolences**

It was noted with sadness that three members had passed away since the previous meeting. Letters of condolence will be sent by the Chair on behalf of members to the next of kin of Brian King, Stephen McKenna and Barbara Warren.

**Co-option of member to the Toscaireacht**

MF extended a welcome to Paddy Bushe, Shane de Blacam and Geraldine O'Reilly who have recently been co-opted to the Toscaireacht and also to Christine Dwyer Hickey who was unavailable to attend due to prior commitments.

**Toscaireacht election process for new term**

Given the situation that arose during the previous election process whereby there were only ten candidates for ten places some discussion took place about ways that members could be encouraged to go forward for election for the upcoming new term. It was agreed that the current Toscaireacht will work within their own discipline with the aim of encouraging more nominations.

**New member election process**

The Registrar informed the meeting that it was decided to have the Toscaireacht and the new member nominations concurrently with the same closing date to avoid any potential confusion between two different dates.

**General Assembly**

Unanimous motions passed at the General Assembly have been addressed and signed off. A process of building a good relationship with the Arts Council as per a majority motion passed at the General Assembly 2017 is in train.

**A.O.B.**

MF informed the meeting that it is incumbent on Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara to raise €2.5m for the Venice Architecture Biennale 2018 as part of their duties as the curators. It was acknowledged that this is an onerous amount of money to fundraise. It was agreed that MF would write to SMcN to ask how the Toscaireacht might assist them. MF will draft a letter to Minister Humphreys to raise the issue and to encourage support from the Department.

**Date of next meeting**

An invite will be circulated for Weds 8<sup>th</sup> and Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> Nov being the preferred dates for the next meeting. The final date will be subject to rsmps.