

North East Open Studios

Opening doors to creativity



NEOS
north east open studios

NEOS Steering Committee Meeting: 19th January 2009

Meeting opened 19.45

Attendees

Niall Paton	Chair
Gabrielle Reith	Coordinator
Rod Scott	Treasurer
Susie Hunt	Publicity
Jacky Niven	Fundraising
Emma Pattullo	Gallery Coordinator
Frances Crawford	Exhibition coordinator
Phil Thompson	Graphic Design
Alan Florence	Logistics
Jacqui Grant	Jewellery from Gray's School of Art
Alex Kay	Area rep

Apologies for absence

Sherrri Donaldson

1. NEOS 2009 appointments
 - a. Chair: GORDON WATT has agreed to take up this position with 2009 transitioning with Niall
 - b. All other positions agreed to stay as 2008
2. Rod & Niall to visit Duff Hs to discuss Aberdeenshire funding ; also consider approaching Ab City (on % NEOS members)
3. Treasurers report (attachment)
 - a. Final £1000 from Events Scotland now banked
 - b. Total income ca. £24k, predominantly from subscriptions

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- c. £100 owed to photographer (GAIA)
 - d. At 12th Dec 2008 balance + £3.8k
4. SSW Lumsden interested in becoming involved in NEOS; several committee members visiting 29 Jan; ideas discussed including timing public iron casting for NEOS week and/or other demos/activities; use as exhibition space; Jacqui suggested coordinating short courses on casting with Grays.
5. Deveron Arts called – want to be involved; several members have been contacted by potential new members and new exhibiting sites. Also Sue Ryder interested in mutual support opportunity.
6. Monthly e-bulletins
 - a. ACTION Gabi: send out financial figures from last year, success stories e.g. Blairs and results of raffle, announcement of upcoming AGM & deadlines
 - b. ACTION Gabi send out all info for AGM
7. Phil has started on website
 - a. Website payment unlikely to be possible this year, so payment by cheques.
 - b. Phil has logos from Homecoming
 - c. Decisions on costs and 'extras' will be needed
8. Homecoming Scotland
 - a. ACTION Jacqui: knows contacts will pursue; distribute contact details
9. AGM Saturday 28th February 10am-noon Gordon Highlanders
 - a. All on track;
 - b. Jacky has arranged talks from Pam Hamilton & Kate Mackenzie;
 - c. account summaries available but don't need to print off many
10. NEOS 2009 LAUNCH (12th –21st Sept 2009)
 - a. Funding: Jacky considers to be in good position to obtain funding BUT need to be focussed and have reasons set up e.g. AB City for reduced rates for <24 year old artists; very near deadlines for submissions for funding. Other ideas for funding: buses, Homecoming Scotland, Grays?, linkage between Ab City & Shire;???

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- b. Discussion of routes & maps
- c. Support for more isolated/solo artists? Discussion about group entrants/ various ideas suggested with graduated membership fees – no decision? Reduced rate of £50 for members 24 and under
- d. ACTION: Jacqui to talk with Libby at Grays and also AB College re poster competition.
- e. Discussion re buses; either funding for transport or exhibitions: ACTION Frances to talk with Strathdon red bus owners to see if want to be involved.
- f. Café Coast/ Inspire charity may have exhibition space: ACTION Jacqui
- g. Frances may have 'spare' exhibition space
- h. Consider Gray's for exhibition space; freshers' week
- i. Consider empty shops for exhibition space and/or launch venues; Jacqui to approach Academy owner/manager
- j. NEOS launch event – maybe time week on Youth Festival – make special opportunity for NEOS Friends – connect with charity/raffle/silent auction

11. 2009 budget:

- a. SUBSCRIPTION DECISION £97/ordinary member, £50/young member
- b. Will still need similar level of funding support
- c. ACTION Rod?: Printing estimate to be requested
- d. Signage – Ab Council offered to pay costs but signs need to be reusable and collected afterwards; logistically complex; signs cost >£1.5ea; consider additional costs on registration (no decision made?); make more clear that signs need to be reused and returned.
- e. 24,000 brochures to be printed
- f. On line postcard proforma to be developed (Phil); unit cost may be reduced?
- g. ACTION Emma: compile time line from now to final cut-off to aid understanding of logistics behind deadlines
- h. FINAL DEADLINE to ensure timely printing: Monday 13th April 2009 (for brochures, maps, leaflets, poster)

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- i. **Publicity:** vari free newspapers e.g. Ab'shire Extra (Gabbi?);
 - j. **ACTION Frances** email press release contact details to Susie
12. **Friends of NEOS:** currently only 13; hard to see what they benefit; how to increase profile; all committee members attempt to recruit one Friend before next meeting (£12/ea).
- a. **Royal Highland Show:** discounted access for up to 8? NEOS members 25th June nr Edinburgh; £135/m2; too early for brochures but could take contact details; recruit 'Friends' (Gabi, Jacqui, Susie interested already)
 - b. **Business Network lunches:** make brief address at July & Sept – Corporate Friends? Also advertising for Bridgeview exhibition to include plea for Friends (Frances)

Meeting closed 21.30

Minutes AK20/1/09