

## **Art Galleries Committee**

### **Minutes of a meeting held on 10 February 2010**

Present: Councillor Amesbury – In the Chair

Councillors Leese, Battle, Evans, S Murphy, Priest, S Newman, Shannon, Commons and Wheale

#### **AG/10/01 Appointment of Chair**

##### **Decision**

To appoint Councillor Amesbury as Chair.

#### **AG/10/2 Urgent Business**

The Head of Manchester City Galleries gave the members an oral update on the continuing growth of the Gallery, and highlighted a number of developments as follows:

- Leadership of Manchester Museums Consortium in partnership with museum colleagues in the City and Manchester Education staff has enabled the Gallery to deliver a nationally acclaimed education programme which has had proven impact on attainment in literacy at key stage 2.
- Renaissance in the Regions, also led by City Galleries, has enabled the Gallery to lever NWDA funding to develop the tourism product and marketing. This has delivered a step change in the quality and profile of the City's cultural offer across museums and galleries in partnership with Marketing Manchester. The hugely successful exhibition Angels of Anarchy – Women Artists and Surrealism exceeded national and international media targets and met the targets for growth in national and international visitors to the Gallery.
- Collaboration with the International Festival in July saw the Gallery hosting the Bach/Zaha Hadid installation and performances, and attracted over 2,000 residents to free lunch-time concerts by music students studying in the City.
- The newly refurbished Gallery of Costume in Platt Hall will reopen in mid March offering greater opportunities and engagement with the community schools and higher education.
- In the Autumn, the Gallery has an installation by major international digital artist Rafael Luzano Hemmer who's work will open the Winter Olympics in February 2010.
- In October the Gallery will host the Museums Association Annual Conference attracting over 600 delegates to the City for 3 days and providing a platform to celebrate the quality and innovation of the City's Museums and Galleries.

## **Decision**

To note the report and thank officers for their continued hard work to make the Galleries such a success.

### **AG/10/03 Revenue Budget Strategy and Business Plan Summary for 2010/11**

A report of the Director of Culture and the City Treasurer was submitted presenting the Manchester City Galleries Business Plan for approval and to report to members of the Committee the proposed budget strategy for Manchester City Galleries for 2010/11 and indicative figures for 2011/12 and 2012/13.

## **Decision**

1. To approve the contents of the report and the Business Plan, including the proposed cash limit budget for 2010/11 of £3.436M
2. To recommend the budget to Executive for approval as part of the Council's budget setting process
3. To delegate authority to the Chief Executive and City Treasurer to make any technical adjustments required to take account of the impact of changes in 2009/10 budgets