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**SABEF Executive Directors Meeting**

**23rd January 2019**

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| Dan James (Chair) | Eden Project |
| Nichola Andersen | SABEF team |
| Nikita Brown | Wheal Martin |
| Dr Katie Bunnell | SABEF team |
| Anne Chapman | SABEF Director |
| Mike Hawes | SABEF team |
| Darren Hawkes | SABEF team |
| Nikki Hotchin | SABEF team |
| Richard Hurst | White River Place |
| Paul Jackson | Ceramicist |
| Gary King | St Austell Town Council |
| Chang Li | Pinetum |
| Gail Matthias | Plymouth University |
| Peter Moody | St Austell Print |
| Alex Murdin | SABEF team |
| Helen Nicholson | Cornwall Council |
| Steve Skinner | St Austell Town Council |
| Paul Stone | Eden Project |
| Lorna Tremayne | Heligan |

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| **Apologies** | | |
| Robin Andrew | | Cornwall Council |
| Jenny Beavan | | Ceramacist |
| Stephen Felmingham | | Plymouth College of Art |
| Sue Hill | | Eden Project |
| Richard Pears | | Cornwall Councillor for Mount Charles |
| Duana Pearson | SABEF team | |
| Annette Miller | | St Austell BID |
| David Pooley | | St Austell Town Council |
| Cat Radford | SABEF team | |
| Victoria Reece-Romain | | Culture Officer, Cornwall Council |
| Cookie Scottorn | | Ceramacist |
| Paul Stone | | Eden Project |
| Graham Walker | | St Austell Town Councillor |
| Amanda Wood | | Cornwall College |

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| 1. | **Welcome and Introductions**  D James welcomed everyone; he will be chairing this meeting instead of James Staughton going forward. |  |
| 2. | **Notes of the last meeting**  These were agreed. Matters arising were:   * Pinetum design is being picked up with D Hawkes |  |
| 3. | **Masterplan**  M Hawes reported that proposals and masterplanning are moving forward; technical issues are being reviewed and resolved. The focus is what is deliverable and achievable.  The Design group made up of key individuals of the SABEF team will produce recommendations for schemes by the end of April which will be presented to SABEF Directors for approval. Nothing has been agreed yet – there will be opportunity to shape the schemes once agreed in principal. The budget can also be changed to reflect the outcomes of the masterplan. |  |
| 4. | **Garden Update**  D Hawkes has produced provisional planting plans for each roundabout so this can be costed. They are proposals to share and are not finalised. A meeting has been held with Pictorial Meadows who were responsible for Olympic Park planting. They have produced initial ideas and costs for the A390 which includes 10,000 sq m of perennial planting and 1000m of annual seed planting. However, the costs are high and are being reviewed.  The Design team were invited to present to Prince Charles at the Brewery last month. This was very successful and support was offered from the Duchy of Cornwall, in particular Geraint Richards, Head Forester from Duchy offered free consultancy to look at tree health; this is a long term commitment to the project. Geraint Richards has been invited to a SABEF Directors meeting in the future.  D Hawkes also outlined a plan for the junction to Porthpean to have some perennial planting. A meeting was held with Pinetum last week and a scheme will be drawn up using the china clay landform as an initial design.  Any schemes will have a finite life and maintenance is really important for the success of this project. There is an inkind contribution from Cornwall Council of maintenance from Cormac. The detail of this is to be worked out.  H Nicholson reported that the Porthpean junction is being redesigned and so any planting would need to take that into account. It was agreed to liaise with Mike Hawes.  There are opportunities in the Garden town work to work together with the A30 link road which has now been approved and also West Carclaze. | HN |
| 5. | **Ceramic update and Whitegold Festival 2019**  A Murdin reported that The Hive went well with visits from Emma Bridgewater and Prince Charles who made tiles. It was also taken to Eden so hopefully the target of 10,000 tiles will be achieved.  Another recent event was the Creative Front workshop which was attended by 20-30 people. This was to provide training and discussion about how to encourage businesses to incorporate ceramics in their shop fronts and was run in partnership with the Town Heritage Initiative.  Clay Exchange and the Brickfield project are progressing. There was a good meeting with John Hodkin and Rosanne Martin who did the Pit to Port tour. Key points discussed include providing waste products to make the bricks , finding a site to have the kiln from the bricks which are made. The aspiration is for this to be in Clay Country. Community workshops are planned at Wheal Martyn to make bricks. Bricks could also be used in the West Carclaze development.  Whitegold festival planning continues with activities such as hands on workshops, pottery firing, partners stands. Jim Causely will perform (folk singer). There will be a performance from a music project with Wheal Martyn. A dance project, films and 4 performances from Kneehigh are being discussed. Leach Pottery will hopefully come along. It is likely that the events will stretch into the evenings either side of the Saturday. Cat Radford is the festival organiser and will be meeting White River Place to discuss plans soon.  Ceramic Prize – following the feedback from the last meeting, there has been engagement with ceramicists locally. People, culture, place and clay are all attractive to artists; this can be encompassed in a theme “Celebrate the uniqueness of this place”. Prizes would be £10k with £5k to make an installation. Emerging artists prize would be £5k and £2500 to make something. It will include a programme of visits for artists to this area. In 2020 the theme will be “Conviaviality” – celebrating food and ceramics. Discussions have taken place with Matthew Thomson from Cornwall Food Foundation. Matthew is also coming to SABEF to present as they have a programme to focus on working in St Austell for the next 5 years.  Clay Connections – This links to the Masterplan and focuses on artists working in communities, and with landscape design. Proposals are for this to be focussed on Linnear Park and Clay villages. An Arts Council application is being put together for this. Augmented reality could be used which could overcome the shortage of space for exhibitions.  There has been a recent meeting with Plymouth Collage of Art to ensure there is a link to high education training. G Matthais reported that students are already working with ceramics and there is a project in Mount Edgcumbe for large scale pieces of work. Students could be volunteers, particularly if there were opportunities to assist artists. A leaflet for students is being produced to encourage involvement in the Brickfields project. Practical facilities are also available if needed. In 2020 there is a celebration of the anniversary of the Mayflower in Plymouth, including an international conference with makers and academics; discussions are underway as to how they could be brought to this area. Plymouth Collage of Arts could be involved in providing animation for the Whitegold festival. C Ratford to contact Tim Pattinson, programme leader for digital arts.  There was discussion about the availability of two kilns from Falmouth University. Funding is needed to pay for transport and donation to a local community project. The smaller kiln will go to Eden. Provision of a kiln is important as part of an aspiration to create a permanent place for international artists to come. Wheal Martyn is interested in having the kiln as long as it can be accommodated.  It was reported that the Town Heritage Initiative is looking to produce a website with augmented reality for interpretation in the town centre. This needs to be linked together. NH to meet with THI.  A number of sites have been identified for ceramic and art installations as part of the masterplan – see attached presentation.  Gary King highlighted the opportunity of the 2020 Tour of Britain; the route needs to be agreed through the town. This could showcase the area.  A Chapman asked if there were discussions are taking place about having a significant piece of work which will create attention. E.g. Theatre Royal artwork. Large art has an impact. | CR  NH |
| 6. | **Garden festival**  Duana Pearson is the Garden Festival organiser. N Andersen gave a report on her behalf. There will be a new website for the Garden Festival. Planted suitcases will be a feature again; Suez are donating suitcases from household recycling centres. These are being delivered today using the St Austell Brewery Tribute van.  The Garden Festival will be promoted at the Royal Cornwall Show on the St Austell Brewery stand and also at Heligan and Pinetum. Promotion using social media platforms is being prepared and will be circulated.  There will producer stands and Whitegold will be there. A full programme of entertainment is planned. Photos of activity are important for marketing and promotion and should be sent to N Andersen who is creating a library of photos. H Nicholson highlighted the library of photos available in the Thinkingplace photo directory.  A Chapman asked about the idea of producing a suitcase of plants for sale and working with local garden centres. D Hawkes has considered this idea but felt it wasn’t a viable project; it would be difficult to agree the plants and Garden centres have been invited to the festival but they haven’t agreed to come along. There are other plant stalls. An important lesson is that the planning of the next festival should take place earlier next year.  Another activity for the Garden Festival will be to plant once of two trees given to Prince Charles by the Brewery on his recent visit. Geraint Richards will be asked to plant it somewhere in the town centre. In the future it is hoped that another Royal visit would include the town centre which could feature this new tree. | All |
| 7. | **Any Other Business**  N Hotchin reported that the new SABEF website is about to be launched in May.  P Jackson asked for an update about the Market House and whether this was a potential location for a kiln. N Hotchin agreed to take this back to Market House Directors. Many of the Directors are new since the submission to the Heritage Lottery was not successful. The Town Heritage Initiative will be starting in June/July. The Market House is available for pop up displays and is involved as a venue for festivals. | NH |
| 13. | **Dates for future meetings**  All 9.30 – 11.30 am at St. Austell Printing Company   * 19th June 2019 * 28th August 2019 * 23rd October 2019 * 4th December 2019 |  |