

<b>Committee:</b> Court of Aldermen ( <i>in respect of 'The Oyster Meal' only</i> ) Culture Heritage and Libraries Committee	<b>Date:</b> <b>17 October 2017</b> <b>18 December 2017</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Decisions taken under Delegated Authority or Urgency since the last meeting of the Committee	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Town Clerk	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Julie Mayer, Town Clerk's Department	

### Summary

This report advises Members of action taken by the Town Clerk since the last meeting of the Committee, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman, in accordance with Standing Order No. 41(A) in respect of :

- 1. Claim for Restitution of "The Oyster Meal" by Jacob Ochtervelt**
- 2. Paddington Pop Up Book: A proposal by Cake Media in partnership with STUDIOCANAL**

### Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

### Main report

- 1. Claim for Restitution of "The Oyster Meal" by Jacob Ochtervelt**

#### **Reason for Urgency:**

The City of London Corporation received a claim, together with extensive supporting documentation, from the Commission for Looted Art in Europe (as the legally authorised representative of the heirs of the late Dr J H Smidt van Gelder of Arnhem, the Netherlands) for the restitution of a painting entitled; 'The Oyster Meal' by Jacob Ochtervelt. The Smidt-van Gelder family were waiting for confirmation of the restitution before finalising their travel arrangements to a handover event, to be hosted by the Lord Mayor. The recipient of the above the painting, Mrs Smidt-van Gelder, is 96 years old and officers were keen to ensure the return of the painting to her as soon as possible before the winter.

## **Action Taken**

The Town Clerk, acting under urgency powers, in consultation with the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen and the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, authorised the restitution of The Oyster Meal, by Jacob Ochtervelt, to the heirs of Dr. J. H. Smidt van Gelder; Dr Smidt van Gelder's daughter, now being of 96 years of age, pursuant to:

(i) Standing Order 41(a) of the Standing Orders of the Court of Common Council, and

(ii) Standing Order 30 of the Standing Orders of the Court of Aldermen

(iii) The Terms of Reference of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee

## **2. Paddington Pop Up Book: A proposal by Cake Media in partnership with STUDIOCANAL**

### **Reason for Urgency:**

The City Arts Initiative (CAI) considered and agreed a proposal, via email correspondence, from Hope O'Sullivan of Cake Media Ltd in partnership with STUDIOCANAL, for a temporary artwork to be installed on St Peter's Hill. The CAI therefore recommended that it be approved, subject to planning permissions and licenses being obtained. Ratification of the proposal was sought under urgency because formal consideration of the proposal, at the December meeting, would be too late for the proposal to be realised.

### **Action Taken**

Given that the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee also serve on the City Arts Initiative; the Town Clerk, in consultation with the two most senior Members of the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, agreed to:

Ratify the City Arts Initiative's recommendation in relation to the Paddington Pop Up Book and a temporary artwork installation on St Peter's Hill, subject to planning permissions and licenses being obtained.

### **Contact:**

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