**Larkin Exhibition Meeting – Minutes**

**Thursday 19 May**

**Present: Henrietta Duckworth, Sam Hunt, James Trowsdale, Hannah Williams Walton, Simon Wilson, James Booth, Philip Pullen, Graham Chesters, Marianne Lewsley-Stier, Lara Goodband**

Simon presented a document called Larkin Exhibition wish list costings. Lara suggested changes to the figures in this document.

Action: Simon to update the document.

It was suggested that the Project Director would also have a curatorial role. The Larkin society members were keen that this person had expertise in Larkin as well. It was suggested by Lara that this person might not necessarily need this knowledge as long as they worked closely with the Larkin society who have this expertise.

The Larkin society said that they have photos of the collection which could be used in the first instance to help curate the exhibition.

In terms of the position of Project Director this role needs to be advertised in the normal way. The artist role doesn’t need to be advertised as it’s an artistic decision.

The group discussed if there was anyone else that should join the steering group for the Larkin Exhibition and it was agreed that the group should consist of:

Larkin Society

University of Hull/History Centre

Hull 2017

The Larkin Society confirmed they were happy to be named as the Lead organisation on the ACE bid.

The Larkin Society said they would like time reflected in the budget.

It was raised that the group needed to have a clear idea of what they wanted to achieve with the exhibition before they approached the artists. The Larkin Society are keen for the exhibition to make people more familiar with Larkin as a person and with his work. They feel the best way to do this is to approach a celebrity who has a link to Larkin – they suggested in the first instance Grayson Perry. The group agreed they would be happy for Grayson Perry to be approached as the artist for the project.

Action: Graham is going to draft something to approach Grayson Perry to be the exhibition artist.

It was agreed that if Grayson Perry was unavailable the group would meet again and propose a shortlist of artists to approach. The Larkin society also suggested David Walliams and Alan Bennett.

Simon suggested approaching the BBC as a partner on the project as well. They might be able to give us access to their archives and unseen footage.

Marianne is waiting for confirmation on dates from the NPG. At the moment May and June are definitely held for the Larkin exhibition. The group felt that if possible it would be better to run the exhibition from June to September. September is key because of the BBC spoken word festival.

Action: Marianne to confirm dates after she has spoken to NPG.

Simon also said the History Centre could host some of the exhibition – if the university gallery isn’t available in June then they could do a precursor exhibition in June.

Action: Put the learning programme on the agenda for next meeting.

Graham from the Larkin Society said they didn’t want to approach the Josephine Hart Foundation again this year as they have just agreed to support another project but it’s possible they could be approached in 2017.

It was decided that an Arts Council bid needs to go in by the end of June as it will take three months to find out the outcome.

Action: Simon and Henri to have a conversation about capacity to put in an Arts Council Bid.

It was also decided that Henri and Sam will work with Simon on the project plan.

The next meeting was proposed for the week beginning the 6th of June.

Action: Hannah WW to organise.