Lunar Sculpture for St Martin's

Design and Access Statement

Background

Artist Luke Jerram was appointed to work with COSMOS to design an artwork responding to Scilly's dark skies and the opening of the new community observatory. The Artist's Brief included a requirement to develop an artwork which would be in keeping with the principles now set out in the Isles of Scilly Manifesto for Culture:

- Sense of place – exploring and celebrating what's distinctive about Scilly and its past, present and future, and being sensitive to its particular environmental qualities
- Quality – presenting work, activity and experiences which are imaginative and well-executed
- Accessibility – enabling a wide range of people, residents and visitors, to easily engage with and enjoy what's on offer
- New perspectives – presenting work, activity and experiences which invite people to discover, explore and see things differently
- Collaboration – encouraging creative partnerships and new connections

In 2018 Luke Jerram undertook a residency on St Martin's when he spent time consulting with COSMOS, Five Islands Academy (St Martin's base) and other local residents, and researching site options. This informed the development of his proposal for *Lunar*, a small-scale public artwork to be sited outside the Community Hall on St Martin's.

Design

Luke Jerram is a highly experienced public artist with an international reputation. His work is site specific and a response to a particular context. For *Lunar* it has been important to ensure that the size of the work is appropriate to the context of the Community Hall entrance. It is designed to be explored close-up in a visual and tactile way and is therefore human in scale. While visible to passers-by it is aesthetically sensitive to its surroundings and siting in an Area of Natural Beauty. *Lunar* provides an attractive and accessible 'signpost' to the Community Observatory.

Fabrication

The use of materials detailed in the Planning Application has been carefully considered to ensure durability, low maintenance and an attractive finish. Depicting the exact detail of the moon's surface involves the use of high resolution NASA imagery, and the choice of materials therefore has to be compatible with the CNC-router process used to obtain this effect.