

**Minutes of the Sheffield Culture Consortium**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2015, Sheffield City Hall, Vincent Harris Suite.**

Attending: Dan Bates (Sheffield Theatres - Chair); Vanessa Toulmin (UoS); John Hamshere (SIMT); Kate Dore (Yorkshire Artspace); Paul Billington (SCC); Andrew Snelling (SCT/SIV); Judith Harry (Site Gallery); Mary Heyler (Sheffield Music Hub); Lu Golob (Sheffield Creative Guild); Kim Streets (Museums Sheffield); Tracey Lancaster (SHU); Rebecca Maddox (SCC – Minutes).

Visitor/attending: Rebecca Staden, Rebecca Holdsworth (Sheffield Children’s Hospital)

Apologies: Ian Wild (Showroom/Workstation); Neil Jones (Urban Design); Brendan Moffett (Marketing Sheffield); Sally Wade (SHU).

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>By</b>
1.	<p><b>The Herd – Sheffield Children’s Hospital – Rebecca Staden and Rebecca Holdsworth</b></p> <p>‘Herd of Sheffield’ is a planned public art trail consisting of at least 40 decorated elephant sculptures, based on the idea of Lizzie, the elephant who worked in Sheffield during WW1. Elephants can be sponsored by schools, businesses and others, and local artists will be commissioned to design them. The trail will be in place from July – September 2016, with the aims of attracting visitors, uniting the city, investing in the future, showcasing the city, stimulating the local economy and generating media coverage. Similar art trails have been successful in Birmingham, Bristol, Liverpool, Norwich and Chester, but there has not been one within 70 miles of Sheffield within the past 10 years. At the end of September, all the elephants will be brought together for a ‘Bye Bye Elephant’ event and auction. It is hoped the project will raise £250,000 for the Children’s Hospital.</p> <p>Consortium members offered support including space to paint the models, contacts for artists, and ideas to link with Doc/Fest, Sheffield Fayre and returning students.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Minutes and matters arising</b></p> <p>The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.</p> <p>Copies of the Park Hill Economic Impact study were circulated at the meeting.</p> <p>A Business Improvement District Manager has been appointed, with an assistant being recruited. Levy payers should have received a letter inviting them to join the company.</p> <p>Vanessa has successfully received ACE funding for an evaluation of the Music, Beer and Artists reports she commissioned.</p>	
3.	<p><b>2016 Year of Making</b></p> <p>Vanessa, Kim and Rebecca are part way through recruiting an Events Manager for the Year of Making, funded by the University of Sheffield. The first high level Advisory</p>	

	<p>Group takes place on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Steering Group (Kim, Vanessa, Judith, Kate, Mary and Rebecca) has been joined by Dave Healy and Mark Atkin. An Ambition for Excellence expression of interest has been submitted to ACE, and we await their invitation to submit a full bid.</p> <p>Yorkshire Artspace is planning 3 metal work commissions linked to the Year of Making. Having this context for the commissions has proved really useful.</p> <p>Rebecca reported that a group is meeting to create an Arab Arts Festival in Sheffield, linked to the well-established Liverpool festival. This could fit in well with the Year of Making.</p>	<p>RM to circ Sara Unwin's event list</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Park Hill Art Project</b></p> <p>S1 Artspace has submitted a Major Capital bid to ACE for the development of the Duke Street wing of Park Hill into a major gallery, studio complex, archive, café and office resource, with a sculpture park. Funding will also be sought from other funders. This is an ambitious project with a range of partners.</p> <p>The Culture Consortium is very keen to support S1 Artspace, and endorses their ambition to find a new home at Park Hill, based on a robust business plan.</p> <p>The Consortium also pressed SCC for progress on resolving the future of the Central Library building.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Access Good Practice Audit</b></p> <p>The audit has demonstrated a range of good practice among Consortium members, some of it transferable. There are areas in which Consortium members could develop good practice together, including for older people, and those with dementia and mental health issues.</p> <p>Discussion to be continued.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>Activity Updates</b></p> <p><i>Creative Guild</i></p> <p>A Spring 16 launch is planned. Membership fees are being set, with a reduced rate for students.</p> <p>It was agreed that Kim will remain as the Consortium rep on the Creative Guild Board until the launch takes place.</p> <p>There will be a fuller item on the next agenda.</p> <p><i>Cultural Destinations Project</i></p> <p>The three elements of the project are continuing to develop, with the next report to ACE due in October, which will be circulated to the Consortium.</p> <p><i>SNAP</i></p> <p>SNAP is developing links with the Children's University. Funding has been obtained from Paul Hamlyn Foundation for creative discussion sessions between artists and commissioners, and some mini-commissions. SNAP will be well-placed to develop a young people's strand for Year of Making.</p>	

	<p><i>What Next? Sheffield</i> An excellent meeting took place on September 1<sup>st</sup> at Theatre Delicatessen, where a varied group of participants reflected on the value they derived from art. The role of the Culture Consortium in helping to join up the sector was noted.</p> <p><i>Sheffield Arts and Wellbeing Network</i> This is a very valuable network – further discussion needed to create better links.</p> <p><i>Yorkshire Festival</i> The Yorkshire Festival is being launched on October 1<sup>st</sup>. We will invite Matt Burman, Festival Director, to a future Consortium meeting.</p>	
7.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Liz offered to present Doc/Fest’s future plans at the November meeting.</p> <p>‘Going Public’, the private collectors exhibition at the Millennium Gallery, Graves Gallery, SIA, Site Gallery and the Cathedral, is an amazing exhibition which had a successful launch and is generating high levels of media coverage. A summit takes place on 12<sup>th</sup> October, with all the collectors present. The use of an external PR agency has been crucial in creating maximum profile.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Change of Chair</b></p> <p>Dan Bates was warmly thanked for his year as Culture Consortium Chair, and Vanessa Toulmin was welcomed to the role. Kate Dore was welcomed as vice chair for the coming year.</p> <p>Nominations for the 16/17 vice chair will be sought next summer.</p> <p>Dan reflected on the Consortium’s successes in the past year, including the inception of the Creative Guild, support for classical music and the Sheffield Dance Network, the Access Audit and closer working between festivals through Cultural Destinations.</p> <p>Vanessa noted that her priorities as Chair would include the Central Library building, response to the Spending Review, campaigning and the Year of Making.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Dates of next meetings:</b></p> <p><b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 9.30 – 11.30 in the Creative Sheffield Board Room, 2nd Floor, 11 Broad St West, Sheffield S1 2BQ</b> (map will be provided !)</p> <p><b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November, 9.30 – 11.30, Committee Room 3, Sheffield Town Hall</b>– joint meeting with the Chairs of the Consortium member organisations.</p> <p><b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 9.30 – 3.30</b> – Consortium Away Day – Halifax Hall. Pete Massey (ACE) attending for the afternoon.</p>	

