

Minutes of the Sheffield Culture Consortium

Friday 27th February 2015, Sheffield City Hall, Vincent Harris Suite.

Attending: Dan Bates (Chair - Sheffield Theatres); Kim Streets (Museums Sheffield); Mary Nash (SY Dance Hub); Judith Harry (Site Gallery); Ian Wild (Showroom/Workstation); Mary Heyler (Sheffield Music Hub); Richard Hunter (SCT/SIV); Matthew Pateman (SHU); Rebecca Maddox (SCC – Minutes).

Apologies: Vanessa Toulmin (UoS); Sally Wade (SHU); Paul Billington (SCC); Brendan Moffett (Marketing Sheffield); Kate Dore (Yorkshire Artspace); John Hamshere (SIMT); Andrew Snelling (SCT/SIV); Tracey Lancaster (SHU); Neil Jones (Urban Design);

	Actions	By
1.	<p>Minutes / matters arising ACE seems not to have an organisational chart!</p> <p>All to send suitable images to Kim for an updated presentation on 2016 Year of Making.</p> <p>Vanessa to circulate 2016 bid and branding she is developing</p> <p>Consortium Steering Group for 2016 YoM to be arranged before next Consortium meeting.</p> <p>Heather Croall had a civic reception in the Lord Mayor’s Parlour, and then a smaller Consortium gathering in the Crucible, to wish her well on her return to Adelaide.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Vanessa via Rebecca</p> <p>Rebecca</p>
2.	<p>2016 Year of Making Sara Unwin from Vanessa’s team is mapping existing activity which could contribute to the Year of Making. Kim and Vanessa are in discussion with the Master Cutler, the Chamber of Commerce and both universities, and Vanessa will be pursuing additional funding bids. In addition to a Consortium sub-group for the YoM, there also needs to be a wider city steering group to ensure co-ordination and buy-in. This can be discussed at the first sub-group.</p>	
3.	<p>Activity Updates <i>Creative Guild</i> The Creative Guild Development Officer post attracted 53 applications, and 5 excellent candidates have been shortlisted. Interviews take place on March 4th. Alan Dootson from Sheffield Co-operative Development Group is advising the Board. A model Articles of Association is being adapted for the Guild, with a view to adopting it at the next Board meeting on March 12th. Directors are also working on the web brief for sign off.</p>	

	<p>The Arts Council has paid their contribution of £37,500 to Sheffield Theatres.</p> <p><i>Cultural Destinations</i> Representatives from six Festivals (Doc/Fest, Tramlines, Off the Shelf, Festival of the Mind, Sensoria, Art Sheffield) had a very successful Away Day on 26th February with Mark Atkin, the Festivals Mentor. A further joint session on PR is planned. Off the Shelf are having an individual mentoring session today. Mark Atkin is currently Acting Director of Doc/Fest, so is stepping back from the mentoring role until July. Rebecca, Claire Murray and Wendy Ulyett met with And Co this week. They will be working on further data collection, and focus groups to test out potential tourism products. Rebecca and Wendy will be meeting Claire Thornley to develop a marketing plan for Our Favourite Places. Mary N asked for a speaker on the Sheffield Cultural Destinations project to attend a future Arts Development UK meeting at Barnsley Civic. Rebecca is happy to attend.</p> <p><i>SNAP – Sheffield Network of Arts Providers for children and young people.</i> SNAP has a third open meeting on March 10th, themed around networking; a strong steering group; 95+ members; consultancy support from CAPE UK; and a developing role in advocating for the arts in schools as well as community settings.</p> <p><i>Economic Value of Culture Study</i> The Arts Council has a current grant round for research projects, which could fit well with our plans – but the deadline is March 12th. We will aim to put in a bid if possible, or seek alternative funding if not.</p> <p><i>Sheffield’s Classical Music Offer</i> Alongside Deborah Chadbourn and Fraser Wilson from Music in the Round, Mary and Rebecca have met with SIV colleagues regarding opportunities at the City Hall, and with representatives from the Halle orchestra. The Halle is keen to remind the city of their special relationship, and want to work more closely with the Music Hub. SIV would like to build an extension on top of the Memorial Hall to include rehearsal /education space.</p> <p><i>Yorkshire Festival</i> There will be a mini cultural festival this year connected to the Tour de Yorkshire cycling race, which does not go through Sheffield. However, Sheffield arts activities can apply to be included in the festival listings. A bigger festival is being planned for 2016, which we can fit in with the Year of Making. Dan has been invited to stay on the Welcome to Yorkshire Board and is on the Yorkshire Festival Steering Group.</p>	<p>Mary N to confirm date</p>
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4.	<p>Making the Case – Election May 15</p> <p>Dan highlighted that a great Festival of Debate has been organized by Opus, in the lead up to the General Election.</p> <p>The theatre industry is promoting the importance of theatres in advance of the election, and the national What Next? movement is providing information about the election and ways to get involved. Dan will circulate scans of the documents.</p> <p>Dan will write to all MPs and candidates asking for their position on the arts. There was also a hustings debate before a performance of The Absence of War at the Crucible.</p>	Dan
5.	<p>Communications/Lobbying Strategy for the Consortium</p> <p>Dan will invite the new Chief Executive of ACE, Darren Henley, to the city.</p> <p>Sheffield Theatres will arrange a press lunch to raise awareness of the Culture Consortium and our work, including the Chair of the Creative Guild.</p> <p>We will hold a similar lunch or breakfast meeting for business leaders in future.</p>	Dan Dan/all
6.	<p>Financial Update</p> <p>Postponed to next meeting.</p>	
7.	<p>Updates /AOB</p> <p>Ian – The Showroom has had a good year. They are shortly launching a refurbishment appeal for their auditoria, with a £250k target.</p> <p>Kim – The Weston Park £1m appeal is now open, with £850k already raised. The metalwork gallery in the Millennium Gallery is also being refurbished and reopens on June 2nd.</p> <p>The private collections exhibition takes place from 18th September to 16th December, with great scope for business link-ups.</p> <p>Mary H – The Music Hub has 4 upcoming concerts, 3 of them in the City Hall, including the Hub Concert on 22nd March and a Schools Prom on 24th March.</p> <p>Judith – Site Gallery has a new exhibition by Rory Pilgrim, in collaboration with a signwriter and 10 older people.</p> <p>Mary N - Sheffield Dance Network is submitting a G4A bid for a project called ‘Cityscapes’, which will be performed at several festivals. She proposed that SY Dance Hub representation on the Consortium should be shared by her, Jo Lettin and Wayne Sables, which was agreed.</p> <p>Dan - Music in the Round are intending to write to solicitors regarding legacies, and wondered if this should be a Consortium function. Several Consortium members have legacy arrangements with particular solicitors, so it was agreed that this should continue to be done by individual organisations.</p>	
8.	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>Friday 27th March, 9.30 – 11.30, Vincent Harris Suite, City Hall</p>	

