

Minutes of the Sheffield Culture Consortium

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

Attending: Dan Bates (Chair - Sheffield Theatres); Kim Streets (Museums Sheffield); Mary Nash (SY Dance Hub); Jo Lettin (SY Dance Hub); Judith Harry (Site Gallery); Ian Wild (Showroom/Workstation); Neil Jones (Urban Design); Colette Dutot (Sheffield Music Hub); Paul Billington (SCC); Kate Dore (Yorkshire Artspace); John Hamshere (SIMT); Andrew Snelling (SCT/SIV); Rebecca Maddox (SCC – Minutes).

Visitor: Meabh O'Donovan

Apologies: Vanessa Toulmin (UoS); Sally Wade (SHU); Brendan Moffett (Marketing Sheffield); Tracey Lancaster (SHU); Mary Heyler (Sheffield Music Hub);

	Actions	By
1.	<p>Minutes / matters arising</p> <p>All to send suitable images to Kim for an updated presentation on 2016 Year of Making. Thanks to Tracey for supplying images</p> <p>Vanessa to circulate 2016 bid and branding she is developing.</p> <p>The Press Lunch yesterday went well – many thanks to Dan and Lisa Hawkins from Sheffield Theatres for organizing the event. We will arrange a business leader breakfast with the Consortium at a future date.</p> <p>Dan is meeting up with the new Chief Executive of ACE on 22nd April.</p> <p>The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>VT</p>
2.	<p>Into Film – Meabh O'Donovan</p> <p>Into Film is a national programme to engage 5-19s in film-based activity, learning and skills development. It includes a network of school Film Clubs, including CPD for staff. Leeds and Sheffield have been specifically targeted for activity, as they have strong film offers but low levels of engagement. A film-making course for 5-15 year olds is starting at Easter and running up to the summer. A schools film competition will culminate with an event on 11th July at the Showroom. Meabh is keen to find links with partners which may help to extend the project beyond an initial 6 months – Museums, the Music Hub and Theatres all expressed interest. There will also be a residential Film Academy for 50 students from across the country at the Showroom in August.</p>	
3.	<p>Access to Culture</p> <p>John Hamshere showed a film about the effects of the Access All Areas project which took place at SIMT with ACE funding. The project moved beyond physical access improvements to consider the needs of visitors with sensory impairments, autism and other needs, and the learning was applied to the Abbeydale Learning Centre project by creating a smooth way around the site, using 'pen friend'</p>	

	<p>technology, and an App which volunteers can use with visitors. An App is also being created for Shepherd Wheel, and TacMaps have been installed at Kelham Island.</p> <p>At the end of the project, John nominated two ‘champions’ among his staff, with a small budget, and has now been successful in gaining a 3-year ACE Resilience Grant for £85k to continue training on inclusive access, running special days for visitors with autism, and developing partnership practice with Green Estate at Manor Lodge.</p> <p>There was a discussion on a variety of good practice including work by Sheffield Theatres on dementia-friendly access, and ‘relaxed performances’ of the pantomime; the Showroom’s regular Subtitled Mondays films; and special early openings of Weston Park Museums for children with immune deficiencies.</p> <p>Dan circulated information on ‘Accessible Sheffield’, a new access card scheme which indicates the particular needs of visitors, including the need for a carer to attend. Sheffield Theatres are piloting the scheme, and the city council is funding 1000 free cards.</p> <p>London theatres produce an access guide to performances on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>It was agreed to carry out an audit of access and diversity practice by Consortium members, with a view to developing some common standards/collective action via a future funding bid.</p>	<p>Dan to research</p> <p>Rebecca</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>2016 Year of Making</p> <p>The Consortium sub group for 2016 YOM has met. In addition, there will be a city-level champions group including business, university and councilor reps. A range of funding bids is being developed.</p> <p>There will be an item on YOM at the May Nabarro Breakfast, to further build on links with the business sector.</p> <p>An updated version of the YOM presentation will be available for all consortium partners to use in promoting the project.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Activity Updates</p> <p><i>Creative Guild</i></p> <p>All developing well: the Board has now met 3 times, and will be having an away day in April to clarify the membership offer. A part-time staff member has been recruited, starting April 20th and based at the Workstation. The Articles of Association are almost complete.</p> <p><i>SNAP – Sheffield Network of Arts Providers for children and young people.</i></p> <p>SNAP held a successful open meeting on March 10th, hosted by Sheffield Theatres and themed around networking. The Steering Group has an away day in April to consider future development. CAPE UK has played a key role in developing and supporting SNAP so far, though this role is time limited.</p> <p><i>Economic Value of Culture Study</i></p> <p>We have put in a bid to the Arts Council Research Grant Fund, and are awaiting the outcome. If unsuccessful, we will seek alternative ways to fund a study.</p>	<p>Rebecca to circulate bid.</p>

	<p><i>Sheffield's Classical Music Offer</i> Classical audiences at the City Hall are increasing, with around 1300 per concert. The Music Hub held three concerts at the City Hall in March.</p> <p><i>Yorkshire Festival</i> Central government has pledged £1m for a Yorkshire Festival in 2016, with a first Yorkshire Festival Steering Group in April, which Dan will attend and report back from.</p>	
6.	<p>Financial Update Dan explained that all Culture Consortium funds are held in a separate account by Sheffield Theatres, and detailed management accounts are produced each month. Payments have to be authorised by Rebecca and countersigned by Dan. All funds are for specific projects: Game Changer (Tour de France Small commissions, website and networking activity) has now ended, with Cultural Destinations and Creative Guild ongoing. Sheffield Theatres were thanked for providing this service. STT have also agreed to provide payroll services for the Creative Guild staff member.</p>	
7.	<p>AOB <i>Creative Industries Federation</i> At the suggestion of the Creative Guild Board, there was a discussion on whether the Consortium should become members of the new CIF. Rebecca to contact; suggest Sheffield as a roadshow venue and clarify membership cost.</p> <p>As part of YOM 2016, the group was keen to have Makers Stickers which could be given to cultural and creative businesses/venues to display.</p> <p>The Workstation is holding a cultural industries networking event on April 16th.</p> <p>The City Centre Business Improvement District bid has been successful, with a 73% Yes vote. Businesses will contribute an additional 1% of business rates, with 40% of the pot to fund city centre vibrancy.</p>	<p>Rebecca</p> <p>Kate and Rebecca to progress</p>
8.	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>Friday 24th April, 9.30 – 11.30, Barbirolli Suite, City Hall</p>	