

Minutes of the joint Sheffield Culture Consortium Meeting with Chairs

Friday 28th November 2014, Sheffield Town Hall, Committee Room 2.

Attending: Dan Bates (Chair - Sheffield Theatres); Vanessa Toulmin (UoS); Heather Croall (Digital Media); Judith Harry (Site Gallery); Brendan Moffett (Marketing Sheffield); Ian Wild (Showroom/Workstation); Mary Heyler (Sheffield Music Hub); Kate Dore (Yorkshire Artspace); John Hamshere (SIMT) Rebecca Maddox (SCC – Minutes).

Visiting Chairs: John Cowling (Museums Sheffield, Music in the Round); Alex Pettifer (SIMT, SIV); Neil MacDonald (STT, YAS, Galvanize), Peter Brooks (SMEC).

Visitors: Rachael Dodd (YAS), Carolyn Butterworth (UoS)

Apologies: Kim Streets (Museums Sheffield); Paul Billington (SCC); Neil Jones (Urban Design); Andrew Snelling (SIV); Mary Nash (SY Dance Hub); Sally Wade (SHU); Tracey Lancaster (SHU).

Chair Apologies: Alex Graham (Doc/Fest), Paul Horton (YAS), Dina Martin (Music Hub), Gordon Bridge (MS), Angela Galvin (Site).

	Actions	By
1.	<p>After a welcome and introductions, Dan gave a presentation on the Culture Consortium's work.</p> <p>The Consortium has a new website – www.sheffieldculture.co.uk – which it was agreed should be highlighted as part of a communications strategy for the Consortium.</p>	
2.	<p>Remaking Castlegate – Rachael Dodd and Carolyn Butterworth</p> <p>As part of Festival of the Mind, and responding to the relocation of trading activity from Castle Market to the Moor, Yorkshire Artspace worked with the University of Sheffield to run creative consultation sessions at Exchange Place. 200 people took part over 11 days. Through creative modelling and conversation, strong themes emerged on what people wanted for the future of Castlegate – a creative, mixed, enterprising area which builds on what is already there and celebrates the castle. There is a need now for a Cultural Development and Engagement Plan which informs the overall masterplan for the area. Castlegate has a key role to play in city centre vibrancy, and is included as a theme for the proposed Business Improvement District.</p> <p>Carolyn noted that the Cabinet Office is currently looking to support major meanwhile uses, which may be significant for Castlegate.</p> <p>Carolyn and Rachael were thanked for their inspiring presentation.</p>	
3.	<p>Updates</p> <p><i>Cultural Destinations</i></p> <p>All three strands of the project are continuing well – data evaluation, Our Favourite Places website, and Mentoring support for the Festivals. There will be an afternoon</p>	

	<p>workshop event for all participants in the project on January 21st 2015.</p> <p><i>SNAP Network (Sheffield Network for Arts (and Cultural) Providers working with Children and Young People)</i></p> <p>The second open meeting takes place on 3rd December at the Music Hub offices at Stadia, Attercliffe, focusing on changes in education and links with schools. The Network was set up by the Consortium and Cape UK, and is run by a Steering Group drawn from a range of cultural providers.</p> <p><i>Sheffield's Classical Music Offer</i></p> <p>A small group including Mary Heyler, Deborah Chadbourn, Fraser Wilson and Sara Unwin will be meeting with City Hall colleagues to consider ways in which the venue could be further improved in the short/medium term. The same group will also be arranging to meet with colleagues from the Halle Orchestra, to encourage their maximum possible engagement in the city, including as part of the planned Classical Festival in October 2015. Music in the Round, the Classical Sheffield website, and the work of the Music Hub are recognized as key elements of the city's classical music infrastructure.</p> <p><i>2016 Year of Making</i></p> <p>Starting with an idea from Museums Sheffield, the University of Sheffield is strongly supporting the idea of 2016 being badged as a Year of Making, with all festivals and other activities linked into the theme of Sheffield as a City of Makers. All consortium members - and many other partners - will be asked how they can contribute, as part of a year-long curated festival, for which additional funds will be sought, but it will happen in some form even without additional resources. This can also link into the proposed Yorkshire Festival in 2016. John Cowling confirmed that Museums Sheffield is fully committed to 2016 Year of Making, and has gained endorsement from John Mothersole and Julie Dore.</p> <p><i>Economic Value of Culture study</i></p> <p>Brendan, Gary Clifton and Rebecca met to develop a draft brief for a study. This was circulated and prompted wide debate.</p> <p>1) it was agreed that Vanessa will seek out the Bristol and Newcastle models 2) there will be further discussion at the Away Day 3) those who do collect economic data will send examples of the questionnaire questions they use to Dan and Vanessa. It is likely that a small working group will be needed to progress this further.</p>	<p>Vanessa All All</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>How best can the Chairs Group work with the Consortium?</p> <p>Peter Brooks set out the background to the Chairs Group, which has agreed to meet twice a year, including once with the Culture Consortium. He felt that Chairs have issues and pressures in common, which would benefit from peer support; and was also keen that Chairs and their organisations could contribute to strategic debate, such as rebalancing arts funding to the provinces.</p> <p>Chairs reflected that they had different levels of knowledge about the Consortium's</p>	

	<p>work, but were pleased to see that genuine collaboration and partnership is taking place. Chairs meeting together themselves will have a different agenda including organizational funding, sustainability, recruiting trustees etc. The Consortium’s primary role is to work for the greater good of the sector and city.</p> <p>Chairs suggested that the Consortium should work further on its visibility, especially now that the website is in place.</p> <p>Heather suggested borrowing some methodology from Adelaide, to bring a large number of people together to work on a cultural strategy, which could work really well in Sheffield.</p> <p>Kate produced visual minutes for this agenda item, which are below.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>Vanessa reported that the University of Sheffield’s new Events and Arts post, which will have a key fundraising role, has been successfully filled by Sara Unwin.</p> <p>The agenda for the Away Day on 12th December will be sent out shortly.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>Culture Consortium Away Day: Friday, 12th December, 9.30 – 3.30, Halifax Hall, Endcliffe Vale Road</p> <p>Regular Culture Consortium meeting: Friday 30th January, 9.30 – 11.30, Vincent Harris Suite, City Hall Agenda to include Richard Jones, University of Sheffield.</p>	



→ ADDING WEIGHT TO THE CONSORTIUM

GETTING BEHIND ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS



NEED TO BE MORE INFORMED ABOUT KEY ISSUES TO SUPPORT THIS

WEBSITE WILL HELP BUT A COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY IS NEEDED

WHAT WOULD BE THE BEST WAY TO GET ALL THE CHAIRS TOGETHER?

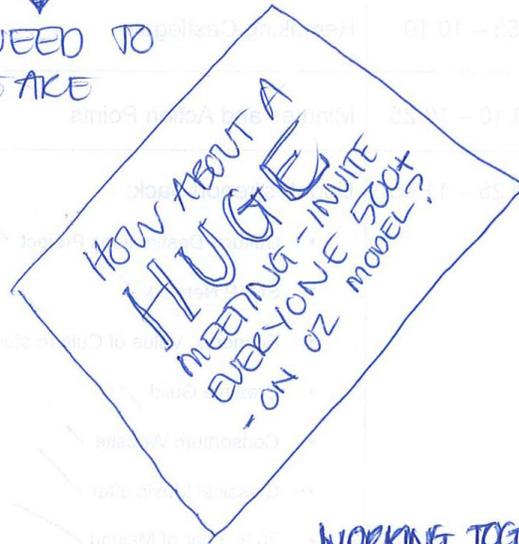
- AGENDA
- VENUE
- TIMING

IS THERE ENOUGH COMMON GROUND?
CAN WE AGREE ON OUR ^{STRATEGIC} ROLE?

AND THE PUBLIC NEED TO KNOW WHAT WE ARE DOING



→ A FRESH PERSPECTIVE FROM NON-ARTS BACKGROUNDS (SOMETIMES)



WORKING TOGETHER

WE ARE BIGGER + BETTER THAN THE SUM OF OUR PARTS

WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE GREATER GOOD - CONSORTIUM HAS HAD A HUGE IMPACT ON THIS

