

## Minutes of the Sheffield Culture Consortium

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015, Sheffield City Hall, Vincent Harris Suite.**

Attending: Dan Bates (Chair - Sheffield Theatres); Ian Wild (Showroom/Workstation); Vanessa Toulmin (UoS); Kate Dore (Yorkshire Artspace); Judith Harry (Site Gallery); Paul Billington (SCC); Kim Streets (Museums Sheffield); Sally Wade (SHU); Rebecca Maddox (SCC – Minutes).

Visitor/attending: Jane Dawson (Sheffield Creative Guild).

Apologies: Andrew Snelling (SCT/SIV); John Hamshere (SIMT); Mary Heyler (Sheffield Music Hub); Mary Nash (SY Dance Hub); Jo Lettin (SY Dance Hub); Neil Jones (Urban Design); Tracey Lancaster (SHU); Brendan Moffett (Marketing Sheffield).

	<b>Actions</b>	<b>By</b>
1.	<p><b>Sheffield Creative Guild - Jane Dawson</b></p> <p>Jane has been the Creative Guild Development Officer since the end of April. The Guild is now a registered Limited Company and Co-op, has its own bank account, and is based at the Workstation. Lu Golob is the Chair; James Lock - Vice Chair; Nisha Lall - Treasurer; and Lizzy Alageswaran - Secretary. The Board of 13 trustees has formed themed sub groups to work on aspects of the Guild's development. The Branding Sub Group has recruited Heather Ditch and Jon Cannon to develop the branding and identity for the Guild. The web development process has proved more complex than expected, but it is hoped to appoint a web developer in the next few weeks, with a 3-4 month build timescale. Therefore, the formal launch of the Guild will now take place in early 2016, with extensive marketing and recruitment through the latter part of 2015. This will fit in really well with the Year of Making.</p> <p>The Guild is developing supportive links with the Digital Media Exchange. The Consortium advised that it would be worthwhile to appoint the first Creative Ambassador to help with recruitment.</p> <p>It had always been planned for the Ambassador to have a place on the Culture Consortium. It was agreed that either the Ambassador, Chair or Development Officer can represent the Guild at Consortium meetings. Jane stayed for the rest of the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Surrey St Central update – Paul Billington</b></p> <p>The Central Library and Graves Gallery building is a much loved, listed civic structure, which was the subject of a thorough feasibility report by DCA in 2013. The building has needed repair and improvement for 20 years. The Council has other city centre buildings also in need of repair and reimagining, at a time when capital funding is extremely scarce. ACE and HLF could contribute modest sums, but it seems likely that SCC would need to find the majority.</p> <p>The Park Hill arts project should have no direct conflict with Surrey Street in content, timing or funding. It has strong momentum from other partners but needs to prove its economic value to the city.</p>	<p>RM to circulate DCA Study to CC members</p> <p>RM to circulate Econ Study to CC members</p>

	<p>Kim and Vanessa emphasized the vital importance of Surrey St Central to the city centre, and its potential as game changing project, with a strong vision to underpin a redevelopment.</p> <p>Both universities are interested in having more space in the city centre.</p> <p>Ian suggested including Surrey St Central in the City SmartLab process.</p> <p>Paul is setting up a workshop in September with Urban Splash and other partners, to consider solutions.</p>	PB to arrange
3.	<p><b>2016 Year of Making</b></p> <p>Vanessa has successfully secured substantial funding for the Year of Making, to include a commissioning pot, heritage strand, marketing/events, pop-up venue and a post. An expression of interest for the ACE Ambition for Excellence fund is being prepared by the Steering Group. Hallam will be opening their new Institute of Arts / Post Office building in 2016 and are considering how best to support YOM. A high-level Advisory Group is being set up.</p> <p>2016 YOM will be launched in Autumn 2015, linking to Open Studios and signposting the Creative Guild.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Minutes and matters arising</b></p> <p>The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.</p> <p>The accessibility audit has been circulated and returned by several partners.</p> <p>Outdoor poster contract – update at September meeting.</p> <p>Bills for the BID have been sent out, and elections to the Board will take place in September. Unfortunately, a BID Manager has not yet been appointed. There will be an item on the BID Board at the August meeting.</p> <p>Rebecca is meeting Mary and Jo to discuss dance membership on 4<sup>th</sup> August.</p>	<p>RM to circ again</p> <p>RM</p>
5.	<p><b>Review of Membership</b></p> <p>Dan will meet up with Liz McIntyre, and invite her to join the Consortium as a Doc/Fest rep.</p> <p>At a future date, it would be good to consider how the Consortium links to Libraries and Health.</p>	Dan
6.	<p><b>Activity Updates</b></p> <p><i>Cultural Destinations Project</i></p> <p>The next tranche of ACE funding has been successfully drawn down. &amp;Co has been doing fieldwork at festivals; a hotel bookers survey; and a perceptions survey of Sheffield. Our Favourite Places has started a marketing campaign. Rebecca is discussing the next phase of Festivals Mentoring with Mark Atkin in early August. ACE is undertaking an overall evaluation process of the scheme, with a meeting in September.</p>	

	<p><i>Yorkshire Festival</i> A Festival Director will be in post from mid August. Sheffield hopes to hold an event on the opening weekend of the Festival in June 16.</p>	
7.	<p><b>AOB</b> Vanessa reported that Theatre Delicatessen is being given support by SCC to resolve a dispute over charitable rate relief.</p> <p>There will be a Going Public Summit on 12<sup>th</sup> October, linking to the international collectors' exhibition. Ed Vaizey MP will be giving the keynote speech.</p> <p>The report on Sheffield as a music city commissioned by Vanessa will be launched at Sensoria in October. The reports on art studios and brewing will follow.</p> <p>Yorkshire Art Space is applying for ACE Small Capital to buy Exchange Place.</p> <p>Ian proposed that the North East's 15 Year Arts Strategy should be discussed at a future meeting.</p> <p>The Sheffield Arts and Wellbeing Network would like to develop closer links with the Consortium. Rebecca to circulate more details.</p> <p>Ed Vaizey visited Museums Sheffield and Park Hill in June, in a visit organised by ACE. He was interested to hear about the Consortium's work.</p> <p>Darren Henley, Chief Executive of ACE, also visited in June to attend a performance of Camelot. This led to a very positive article in the Sheffield Telegraph this week. Paul Blomfield MP is also meeting with Darren and has asked partners for input.</p> <p>Dan attended a recent Pecha Kucha evening, and spoke about Sheffield Theatres and the Year of Making.</p>	RM
8.	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p><b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August, 9.30 – 11.30, Vincent Harris Suite, City Hall</b></p> <p>NB The October Culture Consortium meeting will now be on <b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October</b> (moved from 30<sup>th</sup> October), in the Creative Sheffield Board Room, 2nd Floor, 11 Broad St West, Sheffield S1 2BQ (map will be provided nearer the time!)</p>	