

Minutes of the Sheffield Culture Consortium

Friday 26 April 2019, City Hall, Vincent Harris Suite

Attending: Andrew Snelling (SCT/SIV Ltd - Chair); Judith Harry (Site Gallery); Jo Towler (Music in the Round); Kate Dore (Yorkshire Artspace); Jane Shields (Creative Guild); Ian Wild (Showroom/ Workstation); Melanie Iredale (Doc/Fest); Sara Unwin (TUoS); Chris Harvey (Museums Sheffield); Alison Jobey (Libraries); Rebecca Maddox (SCC).

Observer: Miriam Schechter (The Cellar)

Apologies: Nick Partridge (Libraries); Vanessa Toulmin (TUoS); Neil Jones (SCC); Paul Billington (SCC); Cllr Mary Lea; Dan Bates (Sheffield Theatres); Sally Wade (SHU); Kim Streets (Museums Sheffield); Chris Keady (SIMT); Wendy Ulyett (Marketing Sheffield); Tamar Millen (SCC).

	Notes	Action
	Miriam Schechter from The Cellar, as a young cultural leader, attended as an observer.	
1.	<p>Presentation</p> <p><i>Max Cunningham – Bare Project and Into the Hinterlands</i></p> <p>The Sheffield and Tinsley Canal has its bicentenary this year. The Canal and River Trust ran a pilot project with local people and groups including SADACCA, the Dorothy Pax barge, Emmaus Trust and Grimm & Co, developing stories which culminated in an audio performance piece as part of Migration Matters.</p> <p>ACE funding is being sought for a second phase, building on the work with partners and including the Music Hub, considering the next 200 years of the canal and asking ‘How do we want to live?’</p> <p>There are clear links with the Tinsley Art Project and the Consortium’s developing project with Darnall Wellbeing, which we will discuss further.</p>	<p>RM to write letter of support. YAS can offer space at Exchange Place.</p>
2.	<p>Minutes and Matters Arising</p> <p>Minutes of 29/03/19 agreed.</p> <p>Date to be set for website improvement group, linked to incorporation.</p> <p>Tom Fleming can’t come to the June 28th Consortium meeting, but can meet on June 14th for a special session on the Cultural Assets Strategy.</p>	<p>Rebecca to set date</p>
3.	<p>Updates to ongoing projects and activities</p> <p>A) Making Ways</p> <p>An update report was circulated. A Soft Rebellion in Paradise has been accepted by Doc/Fest; seven participation projects will take place in May/June; a Making Ways celebration event takes place on 27th June when the Visual Art Statement will be launched.</p>	

	<p>B) Creative Guild</p> <p>Discussions are taking place with Sheffield Hallam on continuing their partnership arrangements. The first Guild What Next? Sheffield meeting on 21 May is already sold out! Jane will be taking maternity leave in the Autumn.</p> <p>C) City Region work</p> <p>No further progress at present, although the SY Music Board is planning to commission a report on music in the region. Mayor Dan Jarvis is still considering how to take forward the ideas which came out of the November SY event.</p> <p>D) Create Sheffield and SNAP</p> <p>Create Sheffield is meeting bi-monthly as a Board, with sub-groups in between. With Sophie Hunter the Programme Manager in post, there should be project activity by September.</p> <p>The role of the SNAP network, and how it links into Create Sheffield, is being reviewed. The next SNAP open meeting takes place on June 6th.</p> <p>E) Cultural Destinations 2</p> <p>Phlegm's Mausoleum of the Giants has been a huge success, with 12,000 visitors from local, national and international destinations. It became a 'happening' in its own right, with 80% people not knowing Phlegm's work previously. There may be some final marketing activity with an event, and definitely a book. A great partnership project. Brand Partnership members would like such an event every 2 years, and SCC match has been identified. A long lead-in time for the event allowed time for excellent publicity and PR.</p> <p>The final CD2 report to the Arts Council is due shortly.</p> <p>F) Surrey Street Central/ Central Library and Graves Gallery</p> <p>No update at present.</p> <p>G) City of Ideas / Site Gallery</p> <p>Popular monthly talks on Thursdays are exploring the crossover of technology and art. There will be a consultation event on May 8th for YAS's new commission for Persistence Works. Judith is keen to learn of other arts organisations who have taken over public realm.</p> <p>H) Tinsley Art Project</p> <p>Following a review with project funders and high-level discussions on mitigating City Council fees, the project is working swiftly to the end of its feasibility phase for Site 1.</p> <p>I) Governance</p> <p>The Company Articles are being worked up, and Sheffield Theatres, Sheffield Creative Guild, Museums Sheffield and Yorkshire Artspace have applied to become founder</p>	<p>Circ final report to CC</p> <p>All to share.</p>
--	--	---

	<p>Members. SIMT and Site Gallery will also be founder members, with others current members having co-opted directors or acting as observers. All Member organisations should inform their insurers.</p> <p>Rebecca will draft a Culture Statement for the City Council, setting out the role and remit of the Consortium, as well as the Council’s support for culture.</p> <p>Miriam is attending today as a young Sheffield cultural leader. We will set up a more formal scheme of regular observers, as well as collaborate with Create Sheffield on recruitment of younger, more diverse Board members for cultural organisations through e.g drinks and pizza events.</p> <p>At the previous meeting, Kim proposed building on the Diversity Workshop to come up with a joint plan to address representation and change practice together.</p>	<p>Rebecca to email all to set up sub-group</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Presentations</p> <p>Otis Mensah – Sheffield Poet Laureate</p> <p>Otis is a performance poet and hip hop artist, appointed for 2 years by Lord Mayor Magid Magid as Sheffield’s first Poet Laureate. His aim is to dissolve elitist ideas of poetry, make the art form more accessible, encourage honest expression and widen representation in cultural participation and leadership.</p> <p>He has represented the city in Europe, led schools workshops and is about to publish his first poetry collection on 17 May.</p> <p>The Culture Consortium is keen to support Otis and the Poet Laureate role into the future. The role is currently unfunded, and it would be good to put a process in place to select the next PL.</p> <p>Otis is really keen to work with partners, and potentially link with the Darnall Wellbeing project; Festivals Network; Off the Shelf; Youth Word Up.</p> <p>Otis gave a powerful performance of one of his poems.</p> <p>Melanie Iredale – Doc/Fest 2019 and festivals ant-harassment policy</p> <p>The 2019 Programme is being launched on May 9th, with the Opening Night film on 6th June being <i>Diego Maradona</i> by Asif Kapadia. 180 films and a wide range of film events will be hosted at venues across the city centre, including Alternate Realities at Site Gallery. The festival hub in Tudor Square is sponsored again by the Wellcome Trust; the Marketplace will bring together documentary commissioners and makers. Delegates will attend from 25 countries.</p> <p>Last year, Doc/Fest more openly communicated its Code of Conduct regarding harassment, especially at parties and evening events, using signs on doors and an online campaign. The aim is to create a safe environment and a culture of reporting. As a result, more reporting took place and training was required for staff in responding.</p>	<p>Rebecca to meet Otis to develop a brief and ACE application</p> <p>Contact details shared</p>

	<p>Melanie raised the idea of a broad City Code of Conduct for festivals at the recent Sheffield Festivals Network, and a small group including Melanie, Becki from SheFest and Nick from Hatch are working on it, to present to the next meeting in August.</p> <p>There was strong interest in the Code of Conduct from Consortium organisations and venues.</p>	
6.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Sheffield has been shortlisted for the 2020 Academy of Urbanism European City Award.</p> <p>Paul Billington, the City Council’s Director of Culture and Environment, is stepping down. He played a key role in supporting the development of the Culture Consortium and has worked hard to maintain City Council funding for cultural institutions in Sheffield.</p> <p>Sheffield Theatres are planning a training event Accessible Marketing – lots of interest in this.</p>	
7.	<p>Next meeting: Friday 24th May, 9.30 – 11.30, City Hall Vincent Harris Suite.</p>	