**Minutes of the Sheffield Culture Consortium Zoom**

**Friday 30 July 2021**

**Attending**: – Jo Towler (Music in the Round) – Chair; Janet Jennings (Sheffield Museums); Kirstie Hamilton (Sheffield Museums), Yvonne Battle-Felton (SHU), Dan Bates (Sheffield Theatres); Vanessa Toulmin (UoS); Sara Unwin (UoS); Andrew Snelling (Sheffield City Trust), Ian Wild (Showroom/ Workstation); Wendy Ulyett (Marketing Sheffield); Laura Clarke (Art Catalyst); Sylvia Bednarz (Doc/Fest); Rebecca Maddox (SCC).

**Apologies:** Judith Harry (Site Gallery), Kim Streets (Sheffield Museums), Cintia Gil (Sheffield Doc/Fest), Corrigan Lowe (Doc/Fest), Georgina Kettlewell (YAS), Jane Shields (Sheffield Creative Guild), Rose Wilcox (The Leadmill), Nick Partridge (Sheffield Libraries).

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|  | **Notes** | **Action** |
| **1.** | **Welcome and intros**Kim (Consortium Chair) is at the Lord Mayor’s Feast, and will be giving a short update on culture, so Jo (Vice Chair) is stepping in.This meeting took place on Teams rather than Zoom, with a unanimous agreement that Zoom is preferable!Warmest wishes to Cintia who is unwell.It was agreed that the August meeting will be cancelled; and we will aim to hold the September meeting in person in a large meeting space. | **Rebecca/Kim/Jo to arrange** |
| **2.** | **Report on Doc/Fest 2021 – Sylvia Bednarz**Doc/Fest took place in June using a hybrid model of events in Sheffield; online; and in 16 cinemas across the country. 191 films and 42 artworks were exhibited, plus talks and events. Three bespoke online platforms were created, which saw 41,500 views from around the world. 3814 people attended live events in Sheffield or elsewhere; there were 2056 delegates from 70 countries. Of the public audience, 32% were under 30; 56% female; 18% POC; 24% LGBTQ+ and 48% first time participants. There was strong international press coverage.With the support of the Wellcome Trust, the former ‘Door to Docs’ community engagement programme was broadened through co-curated community workshops, performances and screenings.Sylvia and all the Doc/Fest team were commended for a fantastic festival in challenging circumstances. | **Rebecca to set up joint meeting to share learning** |
| **3.** | **Minutes and Matters Arising**Many thanks to Judith for chairing last time!The Minutes from the June meeting were accepted.The action to invite Karen Durham back to the Consortium, and to arrange a visit to Sheffield, is carried forward.Rebecca to set up a joint session on Mental Health First Aid with a course provider. There will be a modest charge for this. All other actions were completed. | **Rebecca to arrange****Rebecca to arrange** |
| **4.** | **Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion**We had a really excellent session on July 2nd on improving Board diversity, with Roger Wilson of Black Lives in Music, and he is happy to work further with the Consortium to provide external challenge. Warm thanks Roger for picking this up at short notice, and for Jo and Music in the Round for putting us in touch. Sheffield Museums are building on the learning from a recent VAS Diversity in Leadership event by recruiting Associate Trustees, to help widen the pool of Board members in the city.Dan, Kim, Kirstie, Vanessa and Rebecca fed back from the Race Equality Commission sessions they had attended. There is clearly much to work on, plus understandable challenge about why the Consortium does not regularly have Black membership. Members need to have the capacity to work beyond their own organisations for city-wide benefit. It was recognised that as organisations and collectively we are not doing enough; we are insufficiently representing the communities we serve; and despite ongoing resource issues it must be our priority to forge links, find ways to support Black creatives, and have better data to measure impact. Vanessa and Sara agreed to summarise all the culture submissions to the Race Equality Commission, to provide additional feedback to the REC. | **Continue to review membership and ways to diversify** |
| **5.** | **Culture Consortium Plan 2022 - 2027**The new Consortium Plan needs to be short and readable; to show what we would want Sheffield to look like in 5 years (reflecting the context of climate emergency, Black Lives Matter and Covid recovery); and what the Consortium can specifically do, with objectives, action points and KPIs. | **Rebecca to set up Plan session in September** |
| **6.** | **Sheffield Culture Collective and Sheffield Culture Consortium**We ran out of time to discuss this item. | **Separate session to be set up** |
| **7.** | **Updates**Ian reported that there will be a red-carpet premiere of the new film ‘Everybody’s Talking about Jamie’ at the Crucible on 17th September. To tie in with this, the Showroom is working with Kate Brindley from Sheffield City Region to hold a Creative Summit to showcase Sheffield’s creative industries. This event will kick off a series of monthly networking meetings for the creative industries in Rotherham, Barnsley, Doncaster and Sheffield.The Freelancer Fund Round 2 is now open, building on learning from Round 1.The Festivals Mentoring Group has brought together a Festivals Showcase weekend, 2nd-5th September, with support from the University of Sheffield and SCC.The Showcase Weekend forms part of a wider ‘Summer in the Outdoor City’ initiative being promoted by the City Council, to improve vibrancy and footfall in district centres and the city centre. |  |
| **8.** | **Next meeting:** Friday 24 September, 11.30-13.30 in a city centre venue. |  |