**Minutes of the Sheffield Culture Consortium Zoom**

**Friday 29 October 2021**

**Attending**: – Jo Towler (Music in the Round) - Chair; Janet Jennings (Sheffield Museums); Jane Shields (Sheffield Creative Guild), Andrew Snelling (Sheffield City Trust); Charles Mundye (SHU);); Dan Bates (Sheffield Theatres); Kim Streets (Sheffield Museums) Laura Clarke (Art Catalyst); Nick Partridge (Sheffield Libraries), Wendy Ulyett (Marketing Sheffield); Rebecca Maddox (SCC).

**Apologies:** Judith Harry (Site Gallery); Rose Wilcox (The Leadmill); Sara Unwin (UoS); Vanessa Toulmin (UoS), Sylvia Bednarz (Doc/Fest), , Kirstie Hamilton (Sheffield Museums), Georgina Kettlewell (YAS), Ian Wild (Showroom/ Workstation),

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|  | **Notes** | **Action** |
| **1.** | **Minutes and Matters arising**  The minutes of the September meeting were agreed.  Actions carried forward:   * Invite Karen Durham back to the Consortium, and to arrange a visit to Sheffield, is carried forward for November or January * Set up a joint session on Mental Health First Aid with a course provider. There will be a modest charge for this. * Set up joint meeting with Doc/Fest and Consortium to share learning on outreach programme – initial discussions with Sylvia, to be picked up in New Year * Further Culture Consortium Plan session to be set up – Away Day to consider role and membership of Consortium, and Plan will grow out of this.   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.   * Invite Climate Change Alliance to a future meeting | **RM**  **RM**  **RM**  **RM**  **RM** |
| **2.** | **Visual Art Panel and Freelancer Fund – Janet Jennings**  This will be Janet’s last Culture Consortium meeting. Having managed the Making Ways programme 2016-2019, Janet’s role was amended to provide support for the Visual Art Panel and Visual Art Statement *Making our Way* which was part of the programme legacy. The post was funded from the SCC Culture budget, and latterly through Sheffield Museums’ CRF.  The Visual Art Panel, which includes a wide range of galleries, arts organisations and individual artists, was delayed by the pandemic but has met regularly from August 2020. Specific priorities were identified from the very detailed *Making our Way* document, including the creation of a Code of Conduct for arts organisations and artists, based on a model developed by Site Gallery, which is to be launched shortly. There is also a sub-group looking at a visual arts festival for Sheffield, learning from the experience of Art Sheffield in the past, with a strong emphasis on participation and non-hierarchical principles. Yorkshire Artspace are leading on bringing artists studios together to support each other. Janet has also produced a monthly newsletter for Visual Artists, with a widening circulation.  Janet has played an amazing support role for artists in the city. She will be taking on a different role within Sheffield Museums, but will be funded to continue producing the newsletter for the time being.  Using experience from Making Ways grant programmes, Janet has designed and administered two rounds of the Freelancer Fund which was initiated by the Consortium, bringing together an adjudication panel and working with Site Gallery to make payments. Round 1 of £77,000 came from the City Council, University of Sheffield, Site, Sheffield Theatres, Sheffield Museums and ARG from central government via the City Region and SCC; and Round 2 has had a total of £220,000 of ARG. 158 individual awards were made across the two rounds, plus 13 to organisations for equipment; plus a training programme is being delivered by the Creative Guild based on needs identified through the application process.  Janet was warmly thanked for all her work and wished very well for the future. |  |
| **3.** | **Levelling Up Fund**  Sheffield has been successful with two Levelling Up bids: £17m for regeneration in Attercliffe, and £20m for Castlegate, including £1.6m for Harmony Works and £2.6m for S1 at Park Hill. | RM to ask for an update from Louise re Park Hill |
| **4.** | **Refreshing the Culture Consortium and Away Day December 2021**  The Culture Consortium is now almost 10 years old, and there have been huge changes in that time, especially recently, through Covid, BLM and climate emergency. We need to think openly and creatively about the Consortium’s role, purpose and future shape.  Where do we want the city and the Consortium to be in 2025? How do we get there and who can help shape this? We will seek an external facilitator to craft the day.  We have invited Theatre Deli and SADACCA to the Away Day to bring more voices into the room, to help shape the way forward, and with a view to them becoming members. The Consortium must become more representative – including of disability, as well as race – or its effectiveness will be reduced. However, this must be about function, effectiveness and mandate, not ‘box-ticking’.  Dan and Kim noted that some senior leaders could step away to allow others to participate. |  |
| **5.** | **Organisational Updates**  Many organisations are experiencing audiences returning enthusiastically but in variable number.  There are still issues in staff recruitment, especially for Food and Beverage roles.  The visit of Little Amal, which was enabled by Sheffield Theatres, went very well.  Sheffield Museums have recently been recruiting new Board Members and Associate Board Members. It is hoped that the Associate Members, after a year of training and development, will join the main Board or other city boards. Kim asked if the Associates could sit in on other organisation’s meetings as part of their development.  Arts Catalyst are also recruiting trustees.  Sheffield Hallam have been awarded University of the Year for social mobility.  Hotel occupancy in Sheffield is recovering more quickly than in other Core Cities.  The mural in Orchard Square, commissioned through the Creative Guild, has won an award. |  |
| **6.** | **AOB**  **Sheffield Culture Collective** is looking at how to set up a Cultural Investment Fund for the city, and is linking with New Philanthropy for Arts and Culture.  **Mayor Dan Jarvis** has secured £1m of regional funding for creative/cultural industries, which is being divided between the 4 boroughs, with local variation. Funds have to be spent by the end of March. Part of the Sheffield allocation is being used to support more freelancers through the Freelancer Fund. The balance will be allocated to themed pots for live music, independent publishing, film and performing arts. |  |
| **8.** | **Next meeting:**  Friday 26 November, 9.30 – 11.30 via Zoom |  |