**Minutes of the Sheffield Culture Consortium**

**Sheffield Creative Guild, Orchard Square**

**Friday 24 June 2022**

**Attending**: –- Geff Green (SHU) – acting chair; Olivier Tsemo (SADACCA); Georgina Kettlewell (YAS); Kirstie Hamilton (Sheffield Museums); Sonia Gayle (African Heritage Culture Forum); Sara Unwin (UoS); Laura Clarke (Arts Catalyst); Susan Downer (Sheffield Creative Guild); Wendy Ulyett (SCC Marketing Sheffield); Rebecca Maddox (SCC).

**Apologies:** Jo Towler (Music in the Round); Judith Harry (Site Gallery); Rose Wilcox (The Leadmill); Dan Bates (Sheffield Theatres); Ian Wild (Showroom/ Workstation); Clare Stewart (Doc/Fest); Nick Partridge (Sheffield Libraries).

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|  | **Notes** | **Action** |
| **1.** | **Minutes and matters arising**  Jo is unwell, so Geff kindly agreed to chair the meeting.  The minutes of the April meeting were agreed.  The May Culture Consortium meeting, held at Site Gallery, was a mapping exercise of projects and partners in Sheffield’s communities, especially on the east side of the city. These links will be used to consult on needs and aspirations for culture/arts/creativity in communities.  The consultation/research will inform future funding bids, which must be openly and equitably developed, learning from the experience and good practice of Making Ways and the Freelancer Fund.  Mapping is a work in progress, and will identify gaps and inequalities.  **Matters arising:**  The Consortium’s new aims were supported by all present:   * **To help all cultures and communities in Sheffield to be visible** * **To tackle inequality in Sheffield through arts and culture** * By working to secure ACE funding and other opportunities for the city * By providing Business – to – Business support   …with the proviso that the recommendations of the Race Equality Commission (due 14th July) must be factored in and acted upon.  The Consortium can also have a role in restoring the connectivity of the sector post covid. Both universities could have a role in supporting networking / events.  The Rapid Improvement Plan will be drafted to reflect recommendations in the forthcoming REC Report.  National Videogames Museum are still in discussion regarding a new home for their archive collection.  ‘Out and About’ is a series of themed events on four weekends during the summer in the Cultural Industries Quarter, funded through last year’s ‘Summer in the Outdoor City’ ARG programme.  Oliver Coppard as become South Yorkshire Mayor, and has indicated support for culture by extending the SY Director of Culture, Arts and Heritage post. He will be attending the next South Yorkshire Cultural and Creative Industries Network meeting at the Showroom. | Geff and Sara to meet |
| **2.** | **Consortium Mapping Exercise at May CC meeting**  The May CC meeting carried out a mapping exercise of existing projects and partners in Sheffield communities, especially on the east side of the city. There are useful links and relationships, as well as gaps.  The intention is to use the networks which CC members have to carry out a survey among community organisations and their members.  There was recognition of barriers to participation:   * Travel affordability – could the SY Mayor introduce a Youth Travel pass? * Event affordability – a Culture Discount Pass for those on low incomes? * Venues which feel difficult to enter – consider Welcome areas in venues which are free to come into / picnic. * Online cultural activity can reduce and also create barriers to participation. * Libraries are located across the city and can be seen as safe, neutral venues.   There was discussion on wording for a short survey, to find out what communities would like to see in their own neighbourhoods, and how barriers to city centre activities could be reduced. Any survey would need to state clearly that:  ‘The Culture Consortium, a voluntary working group of Sheffield arts organisations, has no funding of its own, but is keen to find out what is needed in the city to help direct future funding bids. This is planning for the future, to get more resources into the city – we don’t have any funds yet!’   * What kinds of arts/culture/creativity are you interested in? (with broad examples) * Are there arts/culture activities that you would like to see/do in your neighbourhood? * Are there arts/culture activities you would go to in the city centre? What discourages you from doing this? (options) * If you are an organisation, what kind of support would help you with arts/creative activity? (options) * What community groups, buildings and activities are already in your area? * What is your postcode / neighbourhood? * What is your age?   Further discussion is needed on how best to get electronic or paper copies to community organisations and community members, perhaps through a media partner. | **Rebecca to work with YAS colleagues to create a Survey Monkey version** |
| **3.** | **Membership and Code of Conduct**  There will be an agenda item on membership, meeting format and a Code of Conduct at the next meeting.  Currently, Consortium members represent organisations, though membership and the structure of Consortium meetings may change in future, with more open structures being proposed. |  |
| **4.** | **Nathan Geering’s resignation from Theatre Deli.**  Nathan’s contribution to moving the Consortium forward was warmly acknowledged. The Culture Consortium has posted a supportive statement on the website, and hopes that some resolution can be found. |  |
| **4.** | **Feedback from Culture Collective meeting**   * NPO support   18 organisations have applied for City Pledge funding from the Culture Collective. SCC has pledged £10k per year towards this, with the balance to be raised from the private sector.   * Cultural Development Fund 3   There are discussions about potential Expressions of Interest for CDF3, which have to be submitted by the end of July.   * Clarifying roles?   Further discussions are needed, but the Consortium could play a role in identifying need, with the Collective helping to identify support. |  |
| **5.** | AOB   * Nominating a Vice Chair to become Chair from September   All are invited to consider becoming Vice Chair / Chair from September.   * African Heritage Culture Forum   Tyler from Yorkshire Artspace is helping to add AHCF pages to the Culture Consortium website. The AHCF will be sending out letters encouraging organisations to run events for Black History Month and beyond, to help create a cultural calendar. The AHCF needs a longer-term secretariat.   * WEUROS culture and heritage programme   Events start from 2nd July, matches from 9th July.  [https://www.welcometosheffield.co.uk/submit-your-event/](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.welcometosheffield.co.uk%2Fsubmit-your-event%2F&data=05%7C01%7Crebecca.maddox%40sheffield.gov.uk%7Cd62ff93971964ff7bfad08da633126f7%7Ca1ba59b9720448d8a3607770245ad4a9%7C0%7C0%7C637931359996463647%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=YLWri1RIBMSqQIgMa8vnqY5jrbfSPYYdBkmJoqzNpTQ%3D&reserved=0)   * Partner updates   The Visual Art Group Code of Conduct for artists and arts organisations has now been printed.  The New Beginnings Project next month sees a percussionist perform in one of the Monsal Trail tunnels. | Rebecca to circulate |
| **9.** | **Next meeting: Friday 22 July, 9.30-11.30, on Zoom** |  |