

## **Minutes of Cultural Consortium Executive Meeting**

Monday 3 December 2007 5pm

Room 2.25, School of Art, Design and Media, Eldon Building

### **Welcome, introduction and apologies**

Present: Stephen Morgan (SM) (Chair), Peter Wainwright (PW), John Phillipson (JP), Steve Pitt (SP), Peter Moutray (PM), Barbara Milligan (BM), Jonathan Fost (Secretary) (JF) & Sharon Watling (SW)

Apologies: Martin Chalk (MC), Brandon Prince (BP) & Mary Vallely.

### **Minutes from the last meeting and matters arising**

Two alterations were required; Steve Pitt's introduction and the presentation at the Culture Matters session was called City Forensic Art project.

### **Matters Arising**

A letter of thanks has been sent to Sean Bowman, copy in the correspondence file.

### **City Vision Centre Proposals / Exchange with Bologna, Italy – PW**

Peter was asked at late notice to take part in this trip to Italy 22<sup>nd</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> November, funding for this trip came from an EU funded programme for developing and sharing best practise on brown-field site development. This group is made up of 5 European High Growth regions from Italy, Spain, Netherlands, Poland and South-East England. Representatives from England were Peter, Carl Leroy-Smith – South Coast Design Forum, Tony Swindells – English Partnerships and Gordon Harris – SEEDA.

This was an important visit as Portsmouth could lead the way in this field.

In Italy the council is obliged by law to respond on residents' opinions, this is not necessarily the case in the UK although new legislation is to be brought in to change this.

The Italian authorities do not understand the UK's obsession with CRB checks, as they feel that this need restricts community interaction by volunteers.

It was felt that we need to

- Strengthen the Portsmouth – Bologna link, whilst still involving the other countries.
- Develop proposals for a physical community forum for planning and development built from the ideas learnt from Bologna.
- Develop a strategy for consulting communities on city vision centres include this in the EU approach.
- Develop our experiences with neighbouring towns and cities.
- Ensure that the role of the third sector, CC and SCDF is vital in providing a voice for the community.
- Portsmouth City Council could benefit from allowing Comune Di Bologna planners to review their Core Strategy from a completely unbiased perspective and vice versa.

BM has just joined InterArts group, this is part of her role at University of Portsmouth. BM will be visiting Amsterdam in January 2008; this is a similar format to the Bologna groups, people from different countries meeting up to discuss Art.

### **Performance Review Report**

The report has only just been made available. A decision was made that there should be the main agenda item at the January meeting to allow everyone to read the report fully, invite Stephen Browning associates to attend.

Initial thoughts were that further education and the Eastney Cellars, who have taken on the role of the Arts Centre, are not mentioned anywhere in the report.

When is the report going to the Executive? SW to confirm.

### **Cultural Consortium Action Plan 2007/8**

We need to think about the way we communicate with our members. If we are to use newsletters then decide if they are to be monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly and stick to it. Items for the newsletter should be collected all the time and be relevant to the date of the next one. Everyone should be able to contribute something to the newsletter it shouldn't be left to one person all the time. Members should also be able to write articles too.

Website – we could aim for our website to be the one-stop-shop for all information about culture, or it could be a signpost to other websites where the information required could be found. The CC website should have a link to the Visit Portsmouth website and encourage people to add details of their events into this website too.

What do we want to happen is the website development a paid role or a voluntary role. If blogs, reviews or suggestions are encouraged onto the CC website then there will be a need for a holding page for comments and someone will need to police this for suitability.

The group should get together again once the new Visit Portsmouth website is up and running. SW to find out when this will be.

We could make suggestions to PCC if we feel that anything is missing from our wish list that would benefit Visit Portsmouth website.

JF and SM to look at the communications template.

### **Information and Hot Topics**

#### **Creative Thinkers**

SM was invited as Chair of CC Executive, BM was invited in her work role too.

Each person has had a 1-2-1 with the person commissioned with this project, the first question was, 'If funds were unlimited what would you like to see in Portsmouth?'

There is a seminar taking place 12<sup>th</sup> December and there should be another seminar in January to widen the consultation to the public and other memberships or groups.

There could be a possibility that the CC Executive could be commissioned to take on consultation for PCC, once we have set ourselves up correctly.

Stephen Baily has been appointed Head of Cultural Services; this role starts in February.

Action: letter of congratulations to be sent to Stephen Baily from the Executive.

Read a Million Words – this is a new initiative on the back of the National Year of Reading. The organising group need some help to set up a website, they are meeting up next week. BM has offered to talk to some students at the University of Portsmouth to see if they can help. The CC Executive supports this and would like to see the CC logo used if possible.

Once we have been told that things are progressing and release is given we could advertise the project in our newsletter.

Portsmouth Music Festival 2008 – SP is organising a music festival to take place 9<sup>th</sup> October 2008 to 12<sup>th</sup> October 2008 at Castle Field undercover with a 7,500 daily capacity. A lot of work has already taken place to set this event up, SP to complete an application form and SW to help with this if needed.

The overview is as follows:

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October – Civic opening followed by an event for school children which will be FREE. In the evening there will be a high profile headline band with local and regional support.

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October – Dance music all day with headline DJ's of national profile.

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October – Indie / Rock day with local bands and national headliners.

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October – Family day with different genres and eras to appeal to all.  
Local and national artists a big Bandstand type event.

Costings for each day in the region of £25 - £35, except Thursday daytime, which will be free.

Comedy will to be featured sometime during the weekend.

Local arts and crafts groups will be given the opportunity to trade their goods at very reasonable rates.

LSP – very good, but Culture seems to have been left out of the document, following the discussions during the day we seem to have put it back on the agenda. A letter was received from Paddy May stating that there is scope to make our views known at the Economic Wellbeing Partnership meeting that PW is due to attend 4<sup>th</sup> December. Culture needs to be mentioned and included more and PW will push for this.

CC to write a letter to LSP requesting Culture to be included in the Vision and all the objectives.

#### **Report from Exec representations**

*Community Involvement Partnership Board – JP (12/09/07)*

| No update, as JP was unable to attend.

*Economic Wellbeing Partnership Board – PW (11/09/06)*

| -No update PW to attend the meeting 4<sup>th</sup> December

*City Growth – PW (04/07/07)*

No update.

*Cross Sectoral Seafront Strategy Group – BM*

No update. SW to check when the next meeting is.

*Portsmouth Festivities – SM*

No update.

*CIBAS - JF*

Their first Café Artistique event has taken place, approx. 30 people attended, Ben Cook from Lux presented to the group in not a particularly good venue, other factors, which were out of the control of the organisers, made it this way.

*City of Festivals*

SP attends this group, the next meeting is 6<sup>th</sup> December and SP will report back to CC Exec.

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### **Cultural Matters - Culture in the City Centre**

24 people attended this discussion group, lots of ideas were put forward, SW to finish writing up the paperwork and forward to the Exec for comments.

A discussion took place as to what happens with the information now. We could write to The News, Emily Pykett, stating that we would not like the same thing to happen to the Culture offer of the Northern Quarter that happened to Gunwharf Quays. Ask our members to let us know what they want us to do using the website or newsletter. We could write to Cllrs with our views too also asking for their vision for the Northern Quarter.

### **Any other business**

What is happening with the Cultural Blueprint? No further news.

Meeting closed at 7.20pm

### **Agenda setting and dates of future meetings**

Next meeting Monday 7 January 2008 and Monday 4 February 2008 all at 5pm in room 2.25, Eldon Building, Winston Churchill Avenue.

Please email all agenda items to [JF\\_secretary@cultural-consortium.co.uk](mailto:JF_secretary@cultural-consortium.co.uk)