

Minutes of Cultural Consortium Executive Meeting

Monday 7 April 2008 5pm

King Street Tavern, King Street, Southsea

Welcome, introduction and apologies

Present: Stephen Morgan (SM) (Chair), Peter Wainwright (PW), Steve Pitt (SP), John Phillipson (JP), Martin Chalk (MC), Anna Potten (AP) & Sharon Watling (SW). Julia Holberry requested to attend for consultation on the forthcoming Cultural Centre Options.

Apologies: Barbara Milligan (BM), Jonathan Fost (Secretary) (JF), Peter Moutray (PM), Brandon Prince (BP) & Mary Vallely (MV).

These apologies were accepted.

Cultural Centre Options Consultation.

Julia Holberry of Julia Holberry Associates has been appointed to undertake an Options Appraisal study for a new Cultural Centre for Portsmouth. We are the first group to be consulted.

Julia's background - Museum Curator and Head of Cultural Services for a number of years in Swindon.

This options appraisal study is to prepare for Heritage Lottery funding. The current service has too many buildings and the recent Creative Thinker process has created some supportive thoughts. The City Museum and the Central Library need to be at the heart of the study, which also includes the visitor information service and the need for a touring performance space.

Julia's work will focus on the service although she is also working with an architect who will be looking at building options.

A discussion followed about the current service including a SWOT analysis, and thoughts about what Portsmouth needs.

In June there will be a stakeholder workshop to allow the stakeholders to comment on some of the conclusions before the report is due in July.

SM asked what the Cultural Consortium could do to help the process and offered to hold a Culture Matters session on this subject and report back to Julia. He said he was keen to ensure lessons were learnt from previous consultancies, such as encouraging a variety of stakeholders to feed in views and ideas so that the findings in the report would be more representative of the cultural sector. Julia agreed this would be helpful and would welcome this happening.

Minutes from the last meeting and matters arising

Two changes were required to the minutes of the last meeting, an apology from Martin Chalk needed to be added and a wording correction required in the text about Express FM, interview should read interviewed.

Matters Arising

Portsmouth Festivities and the World Heritage Bid – Celia Clark will be holding a lecture or a boat tour as part of the Portsmouth Festivities programme thanks to SM following this up with the Grammar School.

Bank Account – SW to print off the paperwork and give to SM/SP for completion.

Steve Baily will be submitting a report to the first Culture and Leisure portfolio meeting following the election for funding support to the Cultural Consortium to enable us to carry out our action plan and support Cultural Services action points as identified in the Cultural Brief Number 16.

South Parade Pier – The News have been in contact again about the repairs to the pier another article appeared in last Saturday's paper. Available in the Consortium's correspondence folder.

Express FM – following the interview JF reported that there seemed to be an increased number of 'hits' on the website. The Cultural Consortium could suggest to Express FM that they have a regular feature on Culture, inviting others from the Cultural sector to be interviewed and they could advertise forthcoming events.

Read a Million Words – Cllr Scott is taking this project on board a letter of support still needs to be sent. SW to action on SM's behalf.

Agreement on Representations Guidelines

These forms are to help the representatives who attend other meetings on behalf of the Cultural Consortium to report back on elements of these meetings that affect Culture. It will help to focus on the relevant points only when reporting back.

Guidelines – Line 3 needs to be clarified.

Page 3a – Decision making needs clarification. If it is known that the Executive have discussed the subject and have a view then the representative should say that ‘on behalf of the Cultural Consortium ...’ if the Executive have not previously discussed a subject then the view can only be that of the individual, but that you will feed back to the Executive at the next meeting and let them have a Consortium view when available.

Page 2 item 8 – we need to create an equal opportunities policy, or include some wording as an alteration to the constitution, this can be done in time for approval at the AGM.

These forms subject to the alterations were proposed by SP and seconded by JP.

SW to circulate the forms with the alterations to all of the Executive. All to use them in future Executive meetings.

Update on Vision for Portsmouth – Culture Matters

SP, Paddy May, Matt Gummerson have a meeting arranged next week with CS Peacock re the vision document.

The Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) are match funding a Culture Matters Session to take place Tuesday 15th April 6pm – 9pm in the Victory Suite at Fratton Park.

The event will start promptly at 6:15, there are 10 themes to the vision document we hope to have a table, of no more than 10 people, for each theme. There is a specific brief for the process and a facilitator and template for each vision will be available for each table. 8:15 will be a chance for feedback form each table and 8:45 PW will summarise the evening.

Could Executive members arrive about 5pm to help set up, SM to ask the LSP group if they could do the same.

A reminder of this event will be sent out, could be included in Arts Digest, Faye Bradley the contact and the CIBAS circulation, Steve Fisher the contact.

Portsmouth Family Show and Culture Corner

Portsmouth Family Show – Andy Young has sent us his proposal in writing it would require us to stage-manage the event. Unfortunately we have other priorities we need to concentrate on so Jonathan Fost will respond to Andy that we are unable to give the support required but will inform our members of the offer so they can approach him direct.

Any Other Business

SP – Comedy Festival in September an agenda item for next meeting.

MC – the shelters on the seafront have been very badly renovated, SM suggested that MC compiled a letter to this effect on behalf of the Consortium.

Report from Exec representations

This will be covered at the next meeting as we ran out of time tonight.

Meeting closed at 7.40pm

Agenda setting and dates of future meetings

Next meeting Monday 12th May 2008, Monday 2nd June 2008 all at the King Street Tavern, King Street, Southsea.

Please email all agenda items to JF secretary@cultural-consortium.co.uk