

Minutes of Cultural Consortium Executive Meeting

Monday 7 July 2008 5pm

King Street Tavern, King Street, Southsea

Welcome, introduction and apologies

Present: Stephen Morgan (SM), Peter Wainwright (PW), Steve Pitt (SP), John Phillipson (JP), Peter Moutray (PM), Jonathan Fost (JF), Zene Bray (ZB), Steve Bomford (SB), Mary Tunnell (MT), Jess Pemberton-James (JPJ) & Sharon Watling (SW).

Apologies: Martin Chalk (MC) & Mary Vallely (MV).

These apologies were accepted.

SW handed out the draft minutes from the AGM, a copy of the report from Steve Baily and the report that went to Culture & Leisure Cabinet holder meeting regarding funding for CC.

Minutes and matters arising from the last Executive Group Meeting

The minutes were checked for accuracy and then signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Noir et Blanc – Steve Bomford is still talking to potential advertisers, Peter Emery of Gunwharf Quays management has sent a letter to all their tenants about advertising in the magazine, waiting for the replies.

Bank Account – SM has been reassured by the Co-operative Bank that the account will be sorted out by Wednesday 9th July following several chases to the company.

Evaluation of Annual General Meeting

A discussion took place on the Annual General Meeting. Overwhelming majority of attendees enjoyed the event with one of the highest number of members attending. An e-mail had been received from one member of the Consortium blind copied to a number of other people too, feeding back re the e-mail sent out telling people that we had reached our capacity for attendees. It was felt that we should not be closing a public meeting as members have a right to attend. It was felt unfortunate that due to the requirements of the venue, restrictions needed to be

made. The member attended the event anyway and the need for flexibility on bookings was recognised on the night as well. It was felt that this was a helpful email which the Executive should consider in planning future events.

The general feeling was very good and that we are moving in the right direction, we have been more influential than we have been in the past. 50 people were in attendance.

Mark Waldron was good but very little comment on culture.

SM was surprised at the small number of questions being asked.

Alex Forsyth from The News has subsequently contacted the city council re the cost of the original Cultural Strategy and what effect it had had on the city. Steve Baily was keen for the Consortium to speak to The News, whilst it was recognised that the strategy is a city council document, not one owned or for delivery by, the Cultural Consortium.

There has been a recent library report about the stock levels and Portsmouth libraries were not very good in book stocks compared with national averages. This was something the Consortium had previously raised concerns on through the council's budget setting process.

SB to contact Portsmouth Rugby Club for someone to join us as we do not have any sports representation on the group.

AGM minutes can you all please read them and come back to SW before 11/7 so we can issue them to all attendees as soon as possible.

Nominations and election of officer positions 2008/9

Chair Stephen Morgan, no other nominations, proposed JP and seconded PM – all agreed.

Vice Chair (new position) John Phillipson, no other nominations, proposed SM seconded PW – all agreed.

Treasurer Steve Pitt, no other nominations, proposed JP seconded JF – all agreed.

Secretary Jonathan Fost, no other nominations, proposed JP seconded SP – all agreed.

Reminder of representation guidelines and feedback form

A copy of the representation guidelines and feedback forms were issued with the minutes and agenda for this meeting. Those Executive Group members who attend partnership meetings or other meetings on behalf of the Cultural

Consortium must complete the feedback form and return to SW as soon after the meeting as possible so they may be issued with the notice of the next meeting.

Nominations and elections of representatives to partnership boards and groups

Portsmouth Festivities – this is a weeklong arts programme led by Portsmouth Grammar School with the funding secure until 2012. They meet twice-yearly one meeting looks at the proposals for the programme and the other reviews the programme once the week is over. SM has attended these meetings and had encouraged the group to create a varied programme of events. The Cultural Consortium promoted the programme through the website.

SM to continue to attend with JPJ as the deputy no other nominations proposed ZB and seconded SP – all agreed.

City Growth – this is an ad-hoc meeting chaired by Deborah Owen Ellis Clark linked to the Economic Well Being Partnership Board, with a Culture and Leisure sub group. PW has previously supported this. This group suggested that taxi drivers should become ambassadors for the City and they created the City Toolkit. JPJ to attend these meetings in future and PW as the deputy proposed SM seconded ZB.

CIBAS – this group is funded by the University and Arts Council, which supports graduates to find work in the industry as well as support the creative industries in the city. The CC have supported the Café Artistique programme by including the events on our website, they also bring out a monthly newsletter.

ZB to be the link to this organisation in future and JF as the deputy, proposed SP seconded PW.

CIPB – Community Involvement Partnership Board, attended by JP. This group has Nick Ralph as chair and is a bi-monthly meeting this is a big group and is responsible for volunteering in the city, community cohesion and community involvement. It has been useful for us to attend. The next meeting is 27 July. PM to attend in the future and JP as the deputy proposed JF seconded JPJ. PM or JP are not able to attend the next meeting could someone else attend.

EWPB – Economic Well-being Partnership Board, attended by PW, there are theme boards attached to the Local Strategic Partnership, LSP, it has culture as a main theme and we are the link between Economy and Culture.

Since the 10 visions have been agreed the LSP board needs to create groups to fit the visions. We would benefit from having someone on the main board. Bi monthly meetings, Caroline Collings as chair.

PW to continue to attend and SP as deputy proposed PM seconded JP.

These representations will be reviewed when the LSP have reorganised.

Research & Strategy Adviser – new position to co-ordinate and communicate to all the work of the different groups.

ZB nominated proposed PW seconded JPJ.

City of Festivals – SP attends this group which is made up of people who run venues, such as Kings Theatre, 3rd Floor Arts centre etc.

SP to continue to attend.

Outcome of Culture and Leisure Cabinet Meeting – 3 July 2008

The report on the Cultural Blueprint – the Cultural Strategy review, went to Culture & Leisure Cabinet meeting on 3 July, JP attended this meeting to answer any questions that may have arisen. Claire Looney presented the report and said that the CC have been helpful but could at times be ‘a thorn in their side’.

SM is in discussion with Steve Baily to discuss what we need to do to satisfy the £7,000 funding from Cultural Services.

Action SM to invite Steve Baily to attend the next Executive meeting to inform us of expectations to ensure that we focus correctly.

Are we in a position to look for sponsorship? The Cultural Consortium could be used as a gateway to other avenues we could use marketing agencies to help with this.

Early priorities and next steps for 2008/9

Need to take a look at the action plan, using last year’s document as a base for 2008/9 improve the website, post AGM info to the attendees and website and ask for feedback. Work to be explored at future meeting.

Meeting closed at 7.40pm

Any other business

Vision for Portsmouth event – notes to go out to all attendees with a covering letter from PW and SP, also to be put on the website to contact SW if they require a paper copy. The short-term opportunities need to be lobbied.

SW to provide the list of attendees for PW

Agenda setting and dates of future meetings

Next meeting Monday 1st September 2008 5pm at the King Street Tavern, King Street, Southsea.

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