

Minutes of Cultural Consortium Executive Meeting

Monday 1 September 2008 5pm
King Street Tavern, King Street, Southsea

Welcome, introduction and apologies

Present: Stephen Morgan (SM), Peter Wainwright (PW), John Phillipson (JP), Jonathan Fost (JF), Zene Bray (ZB), Steve Bomford (SB), Martin Chalk (MC), Anna Potten (AP), Caroline Sharman & Sharon Watling (SW).

Apologies: Steve Pitt (SP), Mary Tunnell (MT), Jess Pemberton-James (JPJ), Peter Moutray (PM), Carolyn Barber & Mary Vallely (MV).

These apologies were accepted.

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 waiting for the sponsorship to come through, so the magazine has not yet been printed.

SB has not yet made contact with the Rugby Club person due to holidays, but will do soon.

Minutes of the Vision for Portsmouth Culture Matters session will be going out soon, waiting for signatures on the letter. These minutes will need to be added to the website.

Welcome to Caroline Sharman, New Theatre Royal

Caroline introduced herself, the new Director of the New Theatre Royal. Caroline is new to Portsmouth, has worked at Chichester Theatre with her background being an opera director.

There are plans to improve the 'back lot' of the theatre, Caroline has had some conversations with University of Portsmouth to produce work and provide facilities. The theatre still needs a community aspect to enable the theatre to

apply for other community based funding that will enable the provision of facilities for the community too.

Caroline has already been working with the Kings Theatre on other ideas, such as using the same supplier for bar stock and the same driver for delivering leaflets and programmes.

The Executive then introduced themselves to Caroline.

A discussion took place about information points, flyers and poster sites.

Caroline stated that the Arts Council is keen for the New Theatre Royal to become the 'hub' for the south-east.

SM stated that if there is anything that the Consortium can do to help Caroline and the New Theatre Royal, please ask.

Consultation on the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) restructuring

A letter from Paul Edmondson-Jones has been received, a copy of which was circulated prior to this meeting.

PW went through the 10 vision statements and where they fit with the restructure proposal.

Culture Partnerships, this is where the Cultural Consortium will fit, with a suggestion that we link up with the Sports Alliance. Contact for the Sports Alliance to be found. This group will be chaired by an external person, non PCC, as is the case on all the other groups.

What do we need to do now? We need to maintain our independence.

AP – Culture was seen previously to be across all themes, but it is very important to have the separate group.

PW – The questionnaire has gone out to all members of the LSP and we need to respond to it by 12th September. Meeting organised for Monday 8th September at 6pm in King Street Tavern. There is also an open meeting for members of the public to attend at the Haven on Monday 8th September at 10am we should send out a note to our members to let them know about the event along with the questionnaire.

MC – Culture comes under Economic Wellbeing.

AP – We have to measure the economic effect culture has, this has not been done before.

SB – Photographic grant recently received for a course SB is running, one of the measurements needed relates to Economic Wellbeing and beyond.

SM – Do we know how many people are employed in the arts and creative industries sector? How can this be measured?

PW – e-mailed Paul Edmondson-Jones recently asking why the questionnaire and recent minutes of the LSP are not on the City Council Website.

Information sharing and hot topics

Portsmouth Festivities – no update

City Growth – no update, Mark Courtice used to run this group.

CIBAS – ZB has not yet made contact with Steve Fisher, but now that the holidays are over she will arrange to meet.

CIPB – JP attended the last meeting. There was an update on the Community Legal Advice Centre, CLAC, which has opened up in North End.

EWPB – PW attended, the group has created a sub group to look into a debt and financial strategy, PW and Caroline Collings are part of this group. There was also a report on the Climate Change Strategy. The next meeting is Wednesday 3rd September.

Research & Strategy Adviser – no update

City of Festivals/Cultural Olympiad – no update, the next meeting date is not known, but will probably take place early October.

Insert text from H Todd re programming contact.

Treasurers Report

The report is deferred.

We have received a letter from Claire Looney re funding from PCC, this has now been agreed. SM, JP & SP to meet with SB Wednesday 10th September to discuss the requirements of the funding allocation. Following this meeting we can make plans for future events.

Main agenda item for the next meeting is to discuss the way forward, any suggestions?

MC – Cultural Contribution award from Cultural Consortium, a bit like the Portsmouth Society awards.

JF – Membership development should be a priority.

Any other business

MC – Screen 3, third floor Arts Centre opens 2nd September.

MC – would like to say thank you for the free events over the summer, such as Opera in the Park, the Bandstand, Inspired, Kite Festival, Veterans Day, Funday Fridays and the Community Improvement Partnership events across the City. The Summer Activities brochure, or the parents' bible as it became known by some, was a great publication that was easy to use.

AP – Community Improvement Partnership Boards, both North and South, have money available the contacts are Helen Corkery and Julian Wright.

JP – Was disappointed that there was no reference to the involvement of PW or SP in the Vision for Portsmouth document sent out recently. SM said that a letter of appreciation was expected but still has not been received.

SW – The PCC Corporate Plan document is available for those who would like to read it.

SM – PCC has been awarded £2.2 million Play Pathfinder grant to provide an additional playground in the City, this could be a future Culture Matters session.

Meeting closed at 7.00pm

Agenda setting and dates of future meetings

Next Executive meeting Monday 6th October 2008 5pm at the King Street Tavern, King Street, Southsea.

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