

Minutes
The Culture Partnership
6th October 2010, 2.00pm, 1st Floor Committee Room, Town Hall, Stockton
DRAFT- subject to approval

Chair:

Paul Burns (Tees Music Alliance)

Members:

Billingham International Folklore Festival, Tony Campbell (Creative Glass) **Judy Foulkes** (Stockton Riverside College) **June Kelly** (Cool Blue) **Annabel Turpin** (Arc) **Cllr Mary Womphrey** (Stockton Council – Billingham West) **Steven Chaytor** (Tees Active)

* Members are representing their nominating body.

Advisors:

Jan Doherty (Arts Development) **Laurayne Featherstone** (Libraries) **Haleem Ghafoor** (Policy, Performance & Communications) **Jane Hubbard** (Museums) **James Glancey** (Town Centre) **Reuben Kench** (Culture and Leisure) **Neil Russell** (Leisure & Sports Development) **Jane Russell** (Arts Development) **Sarah Upex** (Policy, Performance & Communications) **Claire Walsh** (CESC)

Attendees

Chair:

Paul Burns

Members:

Cllr Mary Womphrey (Stockton Council – Billingham West) **Tony Campbell** (Creative Glass) **Joe Maloney** (Billingham International Folklore Festival)

Advisors:

Jan Doherty (Arts Development) **Laurayne Featherstone** (Libraries) **Jane Russell** (Arts Development) **Neil Russell** (Leisure & Sports Development) ***Angela Brayshaw** (Town Centre)

Observers:

None

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Apologies

Members:
Judy Foulkes (Stockton Riverside College) **June Kelly** (Cool Blue) **Steven Chaytor** (Tees Active) **Annabel Turpin** (Arc)

Advisors/ Observers:
Haleem Ghafoor (Policy, Performance & Communications) **Sarah Upex** (Policy, Performance & Communications) **Jane Hubbard** (Museums) **Claire Walsh** (CESC) **Reuben Kench** (Culture and Leisure) **James Glancey** (Town Centre)

| ITEM/ISSUE | DOI | ACTION |
|---|-----|--------|
| 1. Welcome and Introductions Members were introduced and welcomed to the Culture Partnership. | | No |
| 2. Apologies Apologies were noted. | | No |
| 3. Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest. | | No |
| 4. Minutes of Last Meeting Minutes of the last meetings held on 28 th April 2010 were agreed as a true record. | | No |
| 5. Matters Arising There were no matters arising.. | | No |

DOI – Declaration of Interest

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| <p>6. Tees Valley Cultural Strategy Update</p> <p>JD informed that the Culture Strategy draft has been to consultation and has been signed off.</p> <p>JD explained that, due to the length of time it has taken to be signed off, parts of the document are out of date. The matter has been raised with RK and it was agreed to 'let the document stand' as not to delay the Strategy any further.</p> <p>JD advised that any comments regarding the Culture Strategy should be forwarded to RK, who will relay the comments back to other Authorities.</p> <p>The group referred to the Culture Strategy felt that the first two sections of the document appeared 'bland', however, recognised that Section 3 contains all the case studies, which gives a good insight into what is happening in the Tees Valley area.</p> <p>LF asked whether the Culture Strategy would be viewed by any other partnerships.</p> <p>PB suggested that, given the current circumstances, the Strategy would not be at the top of other partnership's agendas, however, confirmed that it would be presented to Renaissance.</p> <p>NR referred to Section 3 of the Culture Strategy and noted that it does not events, such as the Rat Race.</p> <p>JD re-iterated that the document is out of date and that RK suggested leaving it 'as it stands' as it has taken 2 years to progress to this stage.</p> <p>TC questioned whether funding had been granted to support the plans outlined within the Culture Strategy.</p> <p>PB suggested that the plans were examples of projects collated geographically to show subject matter across the region.</p> | | <p>Culture Strategy to be presented to the Renaissance Board.</p> |

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| <p>Culture Partnership suggested that the Culture Strategy go to the Renaissance Board.</p> <p>Does it need council/ Cabinet approval/ endorsement? No</p> <p>Are any other boards affected? No</p> <p>Contact: Jane Russell (01642) 526469</p> | | |
| <p>7. Reporting on Renaissance</p> <p>PB informed members that the last Renaissance meeting was on 5th October 2010, however, he was unable to attend.</p> <p>TC informed that ‘child poverty’ was the main topic of conversation. The Renaissance group discussed various companies, some of which had not been heard of, which offer people finance at a high interest rate. TC added that the marketing skills of these companies are amazing.</p> <p>MW confirmed TC’s comments and explained that she had attended a meeting where people were present who got into worse debt due to using said companies, which in some cases resulted in them losing their homes.</p> <p>TC explained that he had seen a leaflet regarding the Council putting together options to help people in financial crisis in order to prevent them from having to turn to companies with high interest rates. TC added that the Council are looking to involve Credit Unions and community based banks.</p> | | No |

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| <p>Comments and Decisions</p> <p>Does it need council/ Cabinet approval/ endorsement? No</p> <p>8. Reports from Other Thematic Groups</p> <p>There was nothing to report.</p> | | |
| <p>9. Town Centre Vibrancy</p> <p>AB highlighted a number of planned events, which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers Market on 31.10.10. • Christmas lights switch on 28.11.10. • A special market programme, consideration is being given to using Parish Gardens for some events. <p>AB informed that they are looking to create a big 'push' for the Christmas Saturday market, which will involve street shows and dancing.</p> <p>AB added that they are costing up 3D window vinyls for 3 vacant shops.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding the redevelopment of Thornaby, Stockton and Billingham.</p> <p><u>Empty Shops</u></p> <p>JD informed that he project has been extremely successful with an anticipated 8,000 visitors and lots of positive comments. The units host a mixture of exhibitions from artists and community projects. It is hoped that more funding will be granted to continue the project for a further couple of months.</p> | | No |

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| <p><u>Libraries</u></p> <p>LF informed that notices have been displayed informing the public of the temporary closure of Stockton Library, which is anticipated to be January 2011 (It is the plan to approach Town Centre for the use of a unit whilst the library is closed); the refurbished library with include a Customer Service Centre.</p> <p>LF referred to the storage of the books and explained that consideration is being given to holding an event where the public can take out books for a long period of time</p> <p>Comments and Decisions</p> <p>Does it need council/ Cabinet approval/ endorsement? No</p> <p>Are any other boards affected? No</p> <p>Contact: James Glancey, Stockton Council James.glancey@stockton.gov.uk</p> | | |
| <p>10. Strategic Sports Network within Stockton-on-Tees</p> <p>NR informed that the capital development of the Forum and Tees Barage is ongoing.</p> <p>NR advised that Sports are facing financial strain, however, due to this organisations are having to 'pull together' to work out the best way forward, which will be an advantageous by way of joining of abilities.</p> <p>PB advised that major funding trusts still appear to have some funding, however, there seems to be a trend towards collaborative bids.</p> | | No |

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| <p>Comments and Decisions</p> <p>Does it need council/ Cabinet approval/ endorsement? No</p> <p>Are any other boards affected? No</p> <p>Contact: Neil Russell, Stockton Council neil.russell@stockton.gov.uk</p> | | |
| <p>11. Member's Significant News.</p> <p><u>Billingham International Folklore Festival</u></p> <p>JM informed that BIFF have received a grant from the Heritage Lottery over the next 3 years to archive the festival.</p> <p><u>Sports</u></p> <p>NR informed that there is to be a Rat Race event in Nottingham 'Men's Help Survival for the Fittest' and advised that this may predict funding for next year.</p> | | |
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| <p>12. Any Other Business</p> <p>LF highlighted that Culture do a lot of events and suggested doing a presentation to the Renaissance Board in order to make them aware of the benefits Culture bring to the area/community. LF suggested that having this presentation as a resource may help with future funding applications.</p> <p>JD suggested making the presentation at the same time as the Tees Valley Cultural Strategy.</p> <p>NR advised that Stockton is being showcased on Channel 4, 24th October 2010 @ 7.30am.</p> <p>PB advised that the next Renaissance meeting is in 8 weeks time; PB acknowledged that it is currently a busy time for Culture and, in recognition that it would take time to prepare a presentation, suggested asking for a slot at the earliest available Renaissance meeting in 2011.</p> <p>JD suggested convening a 'working group' meeting to decide on the content prior to the presentation.</p> <p>Comments and Decisions</p> <p>JD to contact Sara Upex in order to ascertain the most convenient time/date to make the presentation.</p> <p>Does it need council/ Cabinet approval/ endorsement?</p> <p>No</p> <p>13. Date of Next Meeting</p> | | |

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| TBA Culture Partnership members are invited to forward any agenda items for future meetings to Jane Russell. | | |