

**Bristol One City Culture Board**

**Minutes**

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| **Date/time** | | Thursday 22 October 2020  15.00-16.30 | **Venue** | Zoom Call |
| **Co-chairs** | | Craig Cheney (Deputy Mayor of Bristol) & Lynn Barlow (Assistant Vice Chancellor Cultural and Creative Industries Engagement, UWE) | | |
| **Minutes** | | | | |
| 1) | **Welcome (Lynn Barlow)**  The Chair welcomed everyone, thank you so much, good to see you all again. Art Funding announcement, more money from the Government, which may mean a slight reduction in anxiety level. New members, Mary Lockhurst University of Bristol, Arts, Donald McTieran, UJIMA radio. Thank you for your comments, do CC me into the emails.  Whoever is behind #lovebristol arts – really effective and a great thing to do  This week in the City; Wild Screen International Festival, Natural History and Wildlife festival occurs every two years. Brings 800 people into the City, last count 1300 delegates, the reach bodes well, especially for a small charity that does not make much money  **Previous minutes discussed with the group and is as detailed below:**  Page 2: Agreed as read  Item 3: No Comment  Item 4: TOR – no comments  Item 5: No comments  **Actions: Board members to discuss actions points** | | | |
| 2) | **Update on Economic Recovery, One City and Role of Culture Board (Andrea Dell, Head of City Office)**   * No update | | | |
| 3) | **2022 Festival Update (Jon Finch, Head of Culture and Creative Industries, BCC and Gary Topp, Executive Director, Arnolfini)**   * Refer to Item No.7 – Recovery Fund | | | |
| 4) | **Arts Council Update – Funding for Freelancers (Phil Gibby, South West Director, Arts Council)**  Project grants from Arts Council – MPO’s not small projects, relaxed their guidance to support freelancers who are in dire straits. MPOs, one avenue for supporting freelancers. Freelancers move across different genres.  CG: Has to be totally different to Ben’s talent design  EH: Project application, revisit a show, use as a model for social distancing, freelance production team and artist  Channel 4, BBC – Principle to have a conversation, support an MPO with a broadcaster, letters of support, pledge support aims and objectives, fruitful liaison colleagues  Deadline for application March 2021  Levelling needs  **4:07 Chat**  EH: On the 5th November - 11am - The DIY Arts Network Cultural leaders group are meeting to discuss further how to support freelancers if anyone would like to attend please email me: [elise.hurcombe@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:elise.hurcombe@bristol.gov.uk)  Carolyn Hassan Knowle West Media Centre:  <https://kwmc.org.uk/events/block-west-interview-residents/>  Sacha Mirzoeff: Please do contact me at C4 about support. We also have a person specifically about inclusion and diversity called Izzy Francke who can specifically help with linking up freelancers [ifrancke@channle4.co.uk](mailto:ifrancke@channle4.co.uk)    Think application deadline is March 2021 but the project can run longer than that date up to 3 yrs (I think)  EH: Letters of Discomfort - defo a good title to a show lol    From Emma Blake Morsi to Everyone: 04:11 PM  EBM: Ah yes, Izzy has met with our team and myself personally. Great contact to have!  @Elise – I unfortunately won't be available for then but I already know someone from the Rising team could be very interested in that conversation on 5th Nov. So may be in touch with a suggested alternative Rising rep to join for that discussion  And LaToyah that sounds great, definitely do get in touch  BA: Can the free lancers be paid to attend?  EH: Yep  LMJ: Yes  DM: There are also the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)! Community Radio has one with the BBC  EH: There is also an access budget so if anyone in the board feels that something could help please let me know  EBM: We can introduce breaks if needs be too. Even if it's just a five min break halfway  BA: Agree working in smaller groups would be great  SM: Break out groups work well  AR: One final thing - we’re doing a Placemaking Charter for the West of England. Would be good to send this around this group for comment, to ensure that creativity is well represented.  EBM: That would be great, Anna!  Cllr.CC: That would be great Anna  SM: Thank would be great Anna  NM: Yes please, Anna.  EH: Does anyone have any info on where city's Kickstart bid is at e.g. are BCC going to act as a lead employer?  EBM: Hi Elise, I think I'm waiting to hear back from Zak about this re: freelance support?  From Emma Blake Morsi to Everyone: 04:16 PM  EBM: If there's a better person to contact please let me know x  EH: Emma BM Email me directly elise.hurcombe@bristol.gov.uk I'll sort it for you  EMB: Thank you, will do!  CG: Emma H my understanding re: Kickstart is that BCC are waiting for more info from govt.  EH: Thanks Charlotte  CG: We are waiting for them to come back to BOV re: forms to fill in  **End of chat**  LB: Recruiting two Freelancers on board, hope that they can join December | | | |
| 5) | **Overview of the Hippodrome (Ben Phillips, Chief Executive, Hippodrome)**  Thank you to the co-chairs for allowing me to update you on what is happening to the Bristol Hippodrome, and to you for listening.  I fully understand how the Bristol Hippodrome and the Ambassador Theatre Group are perceived by parts of the cultural funded community. I get it, I truly do. However we need to look at what culture means to the vast majority of the public, our patrons, our customers. We are without any doubt the place that many people will interact with culture for the first time in a paid for, out of home experience. We are seen as commercial and corporate and better suited in ideology with the business community by our cultural colleagues. I sit on the Bristol BID board and we are partners with many business based organisations and companies here in Bristol. However, they value our diversity and embrace that we sit in both camps. Whether I will feel the same embrace from this group remains to be seen, but I remain optimistic. When you ask the people that used to perform on our stage, generate music from our orchestra pit or be involved in bringing the productions to life from behind the scenes and ask them how they see themselves the answer will be they work in a cultural creative industry that they love with passion.  The reason I was asked to speak today was I expressed to the chairs that I left the last meeting having said nothing because I felt I was in the wrong meeting. There was so little mention of the huge emergency we are right in the middle of and the destructive impact it is having on 100’s of thousands of people who work in our shared community. My view and it is my view that this group at this stage in this present climate worry and debate less about what legacy we are going to create for ourselves or whose agenda or voice is the most relevant, but just for now concentrate on all our survival and for sustainability for tomorrow. How we can be here for the organisations we represent but here for each other and this amazing city.  So from a numbers organisation let me finally give you ours so you can have the view from a purely commercial organisation. On Monday 16th March at 18.45 on a sold out performance of WWRY I was given the instruction to evacuate all customers from the building, ask all my staff and the members of the visiting company to go home and await further instruction. That was the last day anything cultural happened for us. In the financial year up until that day just over half a million people had paid to see a show with us. With two more weeks of that financial year to go we had generated profit with seven figures. Those 500,000 + people whilst visiting us also went on to generate 10’s of Millions of pounds for the businesses of Bristol. We directly employed 167 people and indirectly thousands of cast and crew with each production.  Today is a few days over seven months later. In this financial year we generated no income, as has any Bristol business as a result of us. We lose money daily as it goes by. Whilst initially customers kept their tickets for reschedules their need for the money back grows greater. Many of those thousands of cast and crew are now out of work and claiming benefit or working in unskilled jobs. If only they had seen the ads about Fatima who did not know her future was not in the arts but a real job like Cyber sooner. I myself am on a part time/furlough mix until the end of this month, then just part time. As for the 167 that worked for me. I had to speak with 165 and see the tears in their eyes or the hear crack in their voices or in some cases the gladness at finally knowing their fate as I sent them off to either lay off or redundancy. It’s just me and two others now.  Not the best 7 months of my life  Thank you for listening  LB: The Hippodrome, what is your plan for recovery and what do you hope to achieve?  BP: Commitment from producers when they can produce shows, shows independent, diary, hope to operate from spring, speculation pantomime producers, stuck in mud waiting. 3 left, our plans are for the Spring. Our plan keeps moving. Friends around this table, reach out and try to help as much as we can. People assume that we can ride this storm, we are in trouble, stick with us and hold each other  **15:19 Chat:**  EH: Thank you Ben.  EBM: WOW thank you so much for the honesty and transparency  Cllr. CC: Thanks Ben, important to hear  EH: Your honesty and passion is inspiring  AR: Agree that the hippodrome is an important part of our city’s cultural offer. Thanks Ben. It sounds rough. It was good to be out with the #WeMakeEvents wider group of people - many left out of funding.  CG: Thank you Ben. It’s really good to understand where the Hippodrome sits at the moment and how challenging it continues to be for you.  EH: We need to look at egs like Music Venue Trust to talk about what's been "saved" but what's been missed and still needs support as a city  SM: Thanks Ben - painful and honest to hear - thank you for sharing. You play such a key role in the city.  EH: I think the support can come from this space creating a shared statement to articulate the needs are still there, where they exist and a clear ask for culture from the city to Government  EM: Your last two points are absolutely spot on Emma. We need to be strategic with our analysis of where our needs are as well as how we present and acquire/specify support from the government and long-term strategic lawfully-abiding changes for the city  **End of chat** | | | |
| 6) | **One City Plan**  **Received the next City Plan, Cllr. Craig Cheney run down with the refresh, take some actions away.**  Pulled together to what we can achieve with organisations around the city, public sector, organisers – one city plan, series of actions spilt down 6 themes, culture not represented. Bring forward two new boards, culture and children. Helped create actions and plans and then the pandemic came along,   1. 2050 – Actions to support and endorse, have conversation on how are going to help each other. There are regularly meetings of the One City Board. Economy is not pulling away from the environment plan. 2. One City plan is being refresh, think about the culture the city needs from the city and what we need from the city   LB: To organise break out sections in the next meeting   * **Action: Circulate plan after meeting – Cllr Craig Cheney**   Create groups so that they can feed into random groups together  Economy Board have weekly meetings. Look to the future on the recovery. Published on Friday?  **3 Pillars**: People in labour market, BAME, Families low income, reskilling, low carbon economy  **Strand**: Safe reopening, focus on culture  **Bristol Places**: Reach out to all those communities that are harder hit, Lawrence hill, Hartcliffe, Clifton and Henleaze, costed delivery plan, WECA, Council and Government feed  15:26 Chat  ML: I don‘t have a copy of the plan. Could I be sent it? thanks  LMJ: Yes, think that works  Cllr.CC: we can get a plan sent to everyone here  LM: Randomly helps us all understand each other’s perspective so would be my preference  EH: I agree should be random  FF: Plan is available here: <https://www.bristolonecity.com/about-the-one-city-plan/>    **End of Chat** | | | |
| 7) | **Recovery Fund**  Natalie Moore, represent Films, Events, Arts come together to create a sub group, Michael Dow, Becky Peters, John Finch, Head of Culture and Creative Industries Development Team.  Work as part of BCC’s C&CI team. Team of representatives in different specialism; Melissa Inman (to talk through the work we’ve been doing), Elise Hurcombe (to talk about our links to WECA and new fund), Michael Dow, Becky Peters and John Finch. Working to support and safeguard the future of Culture and Creative industries in the city.  We all know that Covid has had a massive impact on cultural sector businesses and freelancers with many out of work and businesses at significant risk. The Culture Development Team has been working to understand the economic impact of the crisis and communicate this to colleagues and stakeholders so it can be factored into future city plans.  Work has contributed to some important developments for C&CI sector, including sector investment, a One City Culture board and greater recognition of the value of culture & CI within the council.  **MI update - What the C&CT have been working on:**   * + A series of surveys undertaken across the sector from the start of the pandemic to assess the immediate threats and impact, and to identify and respond where support is needed these were shared through   + Supported the establishment of the Culture Board and fed into the economic recovery.   + Invested recourses into business support for the Culture and Creative Industry.   + Provided advice for financial and government support schemes , including enabling WECCA’s 1.5 million support and regular communications offering up to date information and signposting to wellbeing resources.   + Information and Guidance sessions held in collaboration with city wide networks including MP’s from across Bristol   + Seeking out opportunities where external partnerships can help drive forward business recovery, sustainability and inclusion priorities.   + Expert and strategic support for the events and festivals sector including monthly meetings chaired by Deputy Mayor Cllr Asher Craig with the Events and Festival sector, the Creation of Covid Secure event guidance to support restarting events, the establishment of a Events and Festivals working group with experts from across the sector to address key and ongoing challenges faced. Share how important the networks are.   NM: We all know that Covid has had a massive impact on cultural sector businesses and freelancers with many out of work and businesses at significant risk. The Culture Development Team has been working to understand the economic impact of the crisis and communicate this to colleagues and stakeholders so it can be factored into future city plans.  Work has contributed to some important developments for C&CI sector, including sector investment, a One City Culture board and greater recognition of the value of culture & CI within the council.  EH: Regional contribution and response.   * + West of England Combined Authority is the regional Authority. I have been working with them during a secondment and the work our teams has been inputting   + The West of England Combined Authority is a regional body representing Bristol, Bath & North East Somerset and South Gloucestershire with responsibility for Economic Growth, Housing, Transport and Infrastructure. Combined Authorities, like Bristol, have a directly elected Mayor.   + All Combined Authorities have an Investment Fund, agreed with Government, to fund strategic projects for the benefit of the region.   + Along with a range of other Investment Fund allocations, WECA have created a £10m Regional Recovery Fund.   + Recovery plan, we inputting too has Committed a total of 1.5 million   + Small Business Resilience Grant Programme culture and Creative Industries (£.5m)   + Culture & Creative Industry Business Support Programme (£0.5m)   + C-19 Community Recovery Fund (£0.5m)  1. In summary, we have a Culture Board to support embedding culture and creative industries in the city 2. We have helped to enable WECA support of 1.5 million 3. We are working well as a team to continue to support the evolving needs of Culture and Creative Industries 4. Very important link with economic development and how the opportunities and challenges that arise   Thank you again to the wonderful team behind all of this work, whose jobs have had to shift to meet the needs of the city wide Culture sector. We have achieved incredible things in 6 months. I feel so proud of the work we have done. We to connect through culture  **15:32 Chat**  EBM: Hi Melissa, could you say where the surveys are being sent to? Like the scope of areas and business networks. As I can imagine many of the grassroot community/ethnic minority businesses may not be in the immediate city's networks  AR: Agree our Economic impact should be captured regularly. Nicola mentioned this piece of work on the night time economy. It would be good to have the economic impact measured regularly (every 3 years at least?) with Festivals, Venues, Music, Film, Architecture & Design all feeding in.  MI: Hi Emma they were shared widely across arts and cultural networks, BSWN and also shared with Voscur, economic development also shared by economic development with Bristol@night and by the city wide business comms  EBM: Thank you for outlining that, Melissa! Really important to know  BA: cirque bijou to Everyone: Thanks Elise for sharing that  MI: Hi Anna completely agree, this has been fed into the economic recovery work and is something we’ve picked up with Bristol festivals and working on with BCC colleagues  AR: Great to see you getting into the room with other decision makers Elise & Co and making our case.  EH: Polite request can we say Emma B or Emma H as there are two of us #doubletrouble  NM: Hi Emma, they also went out to our local film & TV freelancers via local crew databases and to local arts freelancers via artists networks.  EH: Capital investment is a separate fund  Question 1: Is this fund separate to capital funds WECA have available for the region in 2020/21 and 2021/22? If so are you also able to talk about this?  Question 2: the One City Economic Recovery plan made several references to community/learning hubs. I am not clear if these were physical hubs; if so are we able to as a city articulate a clear ask of WECA for capital investment into the Council’s own concessionary lettings portfolio, which underpins a lot of cultural activity acting at local level, e.g. MX Centre, Filwood community centre etc.  CH: Support Emma 100% re community buildings  DD: Sound diplomacy -  EBM: Would also like to discuss further how we're distributing this information. Sounds like a lot is being done but it almost feels wasted if we're not equally assessing who are using these resources and has access to them/to even know what platforms to use to know this is all available for them. In all of this, has there been a specific intention to widen and refresh our distribution channels?  LMJ: More than happy to share SPC economic impact report though it was done in 2018  AR: Agree with regards to community buildings. But they were built for a particular time. There’s a good opportunity perhaps to update them for now, and delegate place-making to social enterprises. We’ve just done some good work with St Pauls Learning Centre, St Pauls Adventure Playground & Halston Drive on this (The Green Way Project).  EH: Yes Anna  CH: Or to delegate/engage with the different community alliances/ CAO’s that are emerging in neighbourhoods  LMJ: Really great piece of work Anna  EBM: Would also like to add that on the ground as a business working with A LOT of Bristol's thriving and well-renowned young creatives, at Rising we're already losing a lot of them to other larger cities as they look elsewhere for support. And the irony is that Covid has actually halted a lot of people's moving plans, so we really ought to capitalise on nurturing relationships with our young entrepreneurs before we lose them when post-Covid makes movement easier  EH: Yes Carolyn vital to support orgs to grow  EBM: I also live in Halston Drive – so this is VERY close to home  EHVY: Polite request: CAT reform please!  EH: Absolutely Emma B  EHVY: Community ASSET Transfer not Community LIABILITY Transfer  Go for it Anna/Carolyn  CH: We would also be happy to be involved in that  NM: Agree, Emma B! Talent retention at this time is so important.  DMcTernan: Talent retention is important. However, we also operate as a gateway for new talent. We seek to develop the next steps for talent at all levels. Developing connections with bigger operators is also an important aspect.  From Emma Blake Morsi to Everyone: 04:03 PM  EBM: I think developing connections with bigger operators is always going to be a priority – so we need to be even more conscious of not slipping on the support needed for talent retention already in the city  As that is always going to be forgotten when we aim for the "big guys"  CH: KWMC are and it will be focussed on freelancers  From Me to Everyone: 04:03 PM  https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/projectgrants  EH: I'm interested in a conversation Charlotte xx  Cllr.CC: Summarised version of Economic Recovery Strategy here: <https://www.bristolonecity.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/One-City-Economic-Recovery-Plan-At-a-glance.pdf>  CG: Great Emma. I will get Ben to pick up with you direct  Cllr.CC: Full version here:  <https://www.bristolonecity.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/One-City-Economic-Recovery-Plan.pdf>  EBM: And then to also create a support so that when we are trying to generate new bigger interests we're not then further damaging culture with the negative aspects of gentrification without the necessary cultural awareness strategic plan required  LMJ: Same for Carnival; we’ll be looking at that funding to support artists and develop our artistic programme, retaining skills and knowledge within the community  BA: We are looking at doing something with other circus orgs nationally to support free lancers across our sector  LMJ: @charlotte and @emmaB be happy to chat to you about SPC plans for the project grant and see if there are any synergies….  CH: We are also interested in looking at how we build temporary or moveable structures for cultural activity/performance etc see Blockwest  Cllr.CC: Meanwhile use important too  EH: Yes LaToyah  **Further announcements to follow**  Over the coming weeks we will add more data to this webpage as further Culture Recovery Fund awards are announced- such as Grants over £1 million for both Rounds 1 and 2, and the Capital Kickstart and Repayable Finance programmes.  **Bristol figures**  Culture Recovery Fund: Grants – Round 2 – Under £1 million  Date published: Saturday 17 October 2020  Amount awarded: 6.7 million  Culture Recovery Fund: Grants – Round 1 – Under £1 million  Date published: Monday 12 October 2020  Amount awarded: 1.9 million  EH: Funds do not count on Capital  Cllr.CC: Community spaces are one of them – in the mix of the conversation Buildings, physical available and not for shopping mall  TP: Night time boards commissioning a night time consultation not only to get the night time economy, culture brings to the city, logical step and how wide that net may need to spread  Research into film and TV and not joined up, part of commissioning round. How do we make sure that we are getting the current research together  Cllr.CC: Night time economy – Economical development send to Annabel Smith   * **Action: Night time consultation review gaps in December meeting – Night time board / Annabel Smith**   Community – Feed back to WECA bring organisations back to life  EH: How do we make sure that there is clear pathway, transparent – working on that  AR: Looking at Capital investment, build in community’s opportunity, putting people at the heart of these buildings, viable good social enterprises. Co-design work, Landscape Artists, Community improving, but for the needs of people living there now.  Cllr.CC: Trustee, raised huge sums of money, run services, building better than where it was. Community alliances   * **Action: Emma Harvey to put together presentation for community alliances**   **15:28 Chat**  TP: Marti / Nicola on the NTE Board are commissioning an economic survey of Night Time in Bristol - is this something that could be extended to Culture to help with understanding what it brings to the city?  CG: I think that would be great to understand the economic value and impact that we collectively bring into the city  LMJ: I think this is a piece of work that has been talked about for a while Tom. Would be good to join forces.  Cllr.CC: Thomas, we should have lots of data already, I’ll ask economic development to pull some of that together as a starter for ten  EBM: I think that would be a brilliant idea Tom! I think if we were to do that though we would need to ensure that whoever is conducting the survey includes our grassroot community businesses to truly reflect all areas of cultural business that often is also overlooked in such kind of surveys. If that's the case Craig I think it would be important to ensure the above is also reflected in that data | | | |
| 8) | **Donald McTieran** – **4 radio licences,** reach out 50% public and private sector, natural bridge. Small skill digital broadcaster, form a consortium, small scale, more specific community broadcasting channels from the area, Visual aspect, community radio station – digital broadcaster develop web capabilities | | | |
| 9) | **AOB / Discussion (All)**  Discussion held on reducing meeting time: Agreed to keep 1.5 hr in diaries for meeting  Productive Forum – shout with suggestions  Elise Hurcombe: Access budget, communicating with Freelancer on the addition of recruiting two freelances  Anna Rutherford: Stakeholders, Culture and Community in the room | | | |

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| **Action table** | | |
| Action | By who | By when |
| Anna and Carolyn to talk about place transformation at January board meeting | AD to add to agenda |  |
| Circulate Economic Recovery Plan after meeting | Cllr Craig Cheney |  |
| Review strategic and data documents including the Night time economy and tourism so we have a full picture going into the refresh of the One City Plan | Night Time Board /Annabel Smith | December meeting |
| Emma Harvey to put together presentation for community alliances | Emma Harvey |  |
| Review structure of Culture Board meetings to include some breakout sessions | AD/LB |  |