



Minutes of the Creative Network South Group Meeting held on Thursday 31st May 2018 at 2.30pm until 4.30pm at Portsmouth Guildhall.

Present

Maureen Frost; Chair of the Creative Network South/Chief Executive of Hampshire of Commerce
Charles Freeman; Creative Network South
Pippa Bostock; University of Portsmouth
Lynne Dick; Making Space
Alison Hesselberth; Portsmouth City Council – Economic Growth
Jo Stark; University of Portsmouth
Adrian Moss; Focus Business Communications (Video)
Ming Wu; The Makers Guild
John Thompson; TSE Productions
Sam Ingram; Havant & South Downs College
Cllr Steve Pitt; Portsmouth City Council – Cabinet Member for Culture; Leisure and Sport
Andy Grays; Portsmouth Cultural Trust – Portsmouth Guildhall
Hayley Reay; Portsmouth Cultural Trust – Portsmouth Guildhall
Catherine Lee; Solent University
Caroline Barfoot; Solent University
Jane Bryant; Artswork
Josie Dalling; Portsmouth City Council
Gillian Tully; Film Expo South
Laura Doye; University of Portsmouth
Andy Headington; ADIDO
Caroline Sumners; Fifty One Degrees
Adrian Moss; Focus Business Communications
Melina Brothers; Brockenhurst College
Lisa Hall; PA to the Executive Directors/Business Information Manager at Hampshire Chamber of Commerce.

In Attendance

Caroline Julian – Head of Policy & Public Affairs at Creative Industries Federation
Steve Roffe; Dorset Business Angels
Ben Joel; Apex Studios

*Charles Freeman paid his thanks to Andy Grays of Portsmouth Cultural Trust – Portsmouth Guildhall for kindly hosting the Creative Network South Group Meeting.

1. Apologies

Ed Gould; Carswell Gould
Lucy Marder; Artswork
Jennifer Anyan; Solent University
Gwyneth Campling; Hampshire Cultural Trust

2. Welcome to Guildhall – Andy Grays

Andy Grays welcomed CNS members to the Guildhall, and updated the network on the work of the Cultural Trust.

3. Introductions – Maureen Frost

Maureen Frost; Chair of the Creative Network South Group welcomed Caroline Julian – Head of Policy & Public Affairs from the Creative Industries Federation. Steve Roffe of Dorset Business Angels; and Ben Joel of Apex Studios. CNS Members introduced themselves.

4. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

The Minutes of the Creative Network South Group Meeting held on Thursday 8th February 2018 were agreed subject to the following amendments.

Page 3 – to amend from: ‘Matt’s work is part funded by Solent University and the University of Portsmouth.’ To amend to ‘Matt’s work is part funded by the University of Portsmouth.’

Page 5 – (9.) Update on Artswork Culture and Creative Workshop Learning Project by Jane Bryant. Jane advised that she wished to amend the wording to this section and said she would provide Lisa Hall with the appropriate wording that she wished to use.

ACTION: Jane Bryant of Artswork to provide Lisa Hall with the appropriate wording that she wishes to incorporate for the (9.) Update on Artswork Culture and Creative Workbased Learning Project for the Minutes of the Creative Network South Group Meeting held on Thursday 8th February 2018.

Charles Freeman informed that the Creative Industries Declaration has been circulated.

Charles Freeman reported that a Letter and a copy of the Creative Industries Declaration was sent to all local MPs.

Charles said that we have received a response back from one of the local MPs.

Maureen Frost advised that she had spoken to Stephen Morgan MP recently and advised him about the Creative Industries Declaration and work of Creative Network South.

Charles Freeman advised that James Andrews of the Solent Growth Hub within Hampshire Chamber of Commerce has now left the Solent Growth Hub/Hampshire Chamber of Commerce for a new job role in Chichester. Charles paid his thanks to James Andrews for all of the work that he had done to assist the Creative Network Group particularly regarding the website/marketing.

Jo Stark provided an update regarding the Digital Survey. He advised that the survey had been promoted via social media. 400 responses from Dorset; 100 responses from Southampton and 150 responses from Portsmouth.

It was noted it would be useful to cross reference survey findings with Tech Nation Data.

Melina Brothers of Brockenhurst College advised that the New Forest Business Partnership were worth approaching.

Catherine Lee and Caroline Barfoot of Solent University were working on the Creative Industries projects which might be relevant.

ACTION: CF to discuss with representatives of the University of Portsmouth; Solent University and other stakeholders regarding the benefits of further collaboration on the project.

5. Update Reports

A) Venture Fest – Update by Jo Stark, University of Portsmouth

Jo Stark provided an update regarding Venture Fest. It was generally agreed that despite the snow the event had been very successful. Over 500 people had attended including those in the digital; and film sector. They are currently considering potential venues for next year's event.

The purpose of the event is to showcase innovation in the area. Venture Fest is funded by the Local Authorities; LEPs and the Universities. There is a young entrepreneurs section held at Venture Fest.

Jo Stark of the University of Portsmouth said that they also get involved in running other events.

B) Creative Expo – Update by John Thompson of TSE Productions

John Thompson of TSE Productions stated that they had held the Creative Expo at Havant and South Downs College. The event had a Business and University focus. John advised that the Expo was well attended attracting around 500 people.

John said that TSE Productions will look to run the event again and that they want to grow the event.

John said that he wants to learn more about the local Hampshire area – business community and to be more collaborative.

C) Film Expo South – Update by Gillian Tully of Film Expo South

Gillian Tully of Film Expo South stated that this is Film Expo South's 3rd year.

This year she is planning to run 3 training events of which 2 of the events are being held on the 25th June 2018.

The Events will seek to match projects with investors. Six film makers will showcase their work.

Gillian said that they are talking to partners to set up a website and look to set up a funding pot.

Melina Brothers of Brockenhurst College said that she would be happy for the college to assist Gillian in anyway that they could. Melina also drew attention to the strength of the Film sector in the New Forest.

D) Marlands Centre Innovation Hub

Denise Edghill of Southampton City Council provided an update on the Marlands Centre Innovation Hub.

Denise advised that the top floor of the Marlands Centre was being turned into an Innovation Hub to provide co-working space. Denise said that Southampton City Council have signed a 25 year lease for this.

It will provide state of the art space for digital and creative business. Denise said that the space within the Marlands Centre Innovation Hub would be available from February 2019.

There will be different levels of services available/prices for tenants. Equipment will be available to use at a fee.

Denise said that there has been a lot of interest expressed.

E) The written update report was noted.

6. Creative Growth Southampton – Caroline Barfoot of Solent University

Caroline Barfoot reported on the launch of Creative Growth Southampton. The aim of the project is to help at the early stage creative businesses and freelancers achieve sustainability and grow.

The project is hosted by Southampton Cultural Development Trust and funding has been secured from PUSH and Arts Council England for a two year period.

To date 10 people have gone through the mentoring and tutoring programme and there are another 10 people in the pipeline to undertake the mentoring programme.

The next event will be a networking session on Thursday 7th June 2018 at 5.00pm to 7.00pm in 'Mettricks' at Guildhall Square, Southampton.

Melina Brothers of Brockenhurst College said that the college does a lot for the film industry and other sectors, but noted students need help starting and growing businesses.

ACTION: CF to discuss how Brockenhurst College can engage with Creative Growth Southampton.

ACTION: Creative Network South Group to look into setting up a working group for discussing how to support the film industry locally.

7. Finance for Creative Businesses – Update by Steve Royffe of Dorset Business Angels

Steve Royffe of Dorset Business Angels gave a presentation on the work of Business Angels.

Steve gave an example on how they assisted a film project, the procedure with regards to securing investment and the types of finance needed within the film industry. He also drew attention to the way soft funding (i.e. grants) that can be used to support film projects.

Dorset Business Angels is a not for profit organisation and is one of a network of organisations looking to invest in high growth potential businesses in a broad range of sectors including Tourism; Defence; Film/TV and Financial Services.

Melina Brothers drew attention to the number of film businesses active in the New Forest area and the benefits they bring to the rural economy including the promotion of tourism. She also suggested that it might be possible to use rural development funding to support film sector initiatives.

8. Proposals for/to establish an Apprenticeship Training Agency and utilise the Local Authority and major apprenticeship levy – Update by Denise Edghill.

Denise Edghill advised that Southampton City Council in partnership with other Hampshire Local Authorities is looking to establish an Apprenticeship Training Agency ATA – and Solent Apprenticeship Hub. A bid has been submitted to the LEP but the outcome is yet to be decided.

The ATA will seek to work with SMEs taking the risk out of employing apprentices and possibly brokering the sharing of experiences. (The ATA will technically act as the employers of the apprentice). This could be particularly valuable to creative and digital businesses which tend to employ less than 20 people and frequently do not have an HR department.

The Local Authority partners including Southampton City Council, Portsmouth City Council, Isle of Wight Council and Hampshire County Council, and other major employers will also be able to pass 10% of the Apprenticeship Levy to the Apprenticeship Training Agency.

Denise said that Southampton City Council and the other Local Authorities will be using 10% of their Apprenticeship Levy to support the ATA. This could facilitate a particular opportunity to provide extra support to groups who might otherwise find it hard to access apprenticeship opportunities.

Melina Brothers of Brockenhurst College said that traineeships (work experience) also represent a significant opportunity for businesses not able to employ an apprentice.

It was noted that since the introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy that there was a 40% reduction in the take up of apprenticeships. Denise said that Southampton apprenticeships have reduced by a third.

9. Update by Artswork on Culture and Creative Workbased Learning Project and Proposed event – 30th October 2018 – Jane Bryant.

Jane Bryant of Artswork drew attention to the planned Creative and Digital Sector apprenticeship forum on Tuesday 30th October 2018 at Southampton City College.

The aim of the event is to link SME's in the creative and digital sector seeking to employ apprentices with training providers. The event will also link to the Mayflower 400 training framework.

The programme will include case studies and provide clarification on delivery of new apprenticeship standards.

Denise Edghill stated that a Creative Careers Road Show was held at The Guildhall in Southampton last year and that good feedback was received. This is an annual event for employers (Businesses) and Schools. The event covered the whole of the Solent area.

It was also noted that 'Hampshire Futures' is available for those interested in Higher Level Apprenticeships via the Universities.

It was noted that there is no age limit now to undertake an apprenticeship, and that there is wide recognition of the need to up skill in the sector.

Maureen Frost said that there is the need for information on workbased learning opportunities which could be included on the Creative Network South website.

10. Creative Industries Federation – Update by Caroline Julian, Head of Policy and Public Affairs.

Caroline Julian, Head of Policy and Public Affairs at the Creative Industries Federation provided an outline of the work of the Creative Industries Federation. She stated that the Federation was formed four years ago. It represents companies of all sizes, covers the whole of the UK and all aspects of the Creative sector. The Creative Industries Federation includes sub-sector Trade Bodies which have the opportunity to put forward their voice on specific issues. For example, they work with Universities and Further Education Institutes to work on skills.

The Creative Industries Federation is closely linked with Government and helped negotiate the Creative Sector deal. It also runs workshops with the LEPs.

Three key priorities are:-

- **Creative Careers and Skills**

With increasing automation and easy access to new technology, the future demand for creative and technical skills will be high and every growing. We need to tackle this challenge head on to ensure our world leading industries maintain their competitive edge.

We aim to restore the centrally and technical skills, advocating this case to Government and delivering practical interventions to help young people, teachers, careers advisers and parent to better understand the range of creative jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities that are possible, and how to pursue them.

- **Entrepreneurship and Growth**

The creative industries are the fastest growing part of the UK's economy, and play a significant role in unlocking innovation and growth in other sectors too. This success is fuelled by established international brands all the way through to micro-businesses, self-employed workers and freelancers.

We want to support these entrepreneurs and help grow creative enterprises by delivering practical services for our members. Building on the strength of our research and advocacy to date, we will also champion the priorities of those constituents and work closely with national and local Government to identify means to grow the sector at large.

- **EU and International**

We want to invite Creatives from around the world to work with us and, in time, become the voice for the sector internationally. Post-Brexit, we will need to be more open and collaborative than every before.

We will be thought leaders on global opportunities, convening practitioners and policy makers from around the world to identify how the creative industries can tap into new markets and respond to global challenges. We will play a central role in shaping out future relationship with the EU and influence the UK's trade deals to help unlock the sector's global growth potential.

11. Any Other Business

Gillian Tully stated that Film Expo South were looking on a new website and that the website would cover the Hampshire area but would also incorporate further areas such as Cornwall, Kent etc.

Portsmouth City Council – 'Portsmouth Festival' – 10 days of Art and Cultural activities/events. There is a new Sherlock Homes exhibition in Portsmouth. Portsmouth City Council is also working with the National Museum of the Royal Navy on the Southsea Seafront project which has reached second round bid stage.

Jane Bryant of Artsworld informed of a new pilot project to 'Nuture creative people in your workplace'. Cost of this was £75.00 to attend.

Update by Solent University:-

*End of the year shows from 8th June 2018.

*Cultural City Conference – 28th June 2018 and 29th June 2018.

*The University is seeking to respond to a call out from the Government regarding 'Strengthening Place', funding.

*Theo Paphitis (Entrepreneur, 'Dragons's Den star) has been appointed to be the new Chancellor of Solent University.

Portsmouth Guildhall – will open new space for creative skill development in September 2018.

Cllr. Steve Pitt announced that Portsmouth City Council to work with 'Victorious Festival' with a view to holding a creative and cultural skills conference in Portsmouth.

ACTION: CF to meet Cllr. Steve Pitt to discuss how CNS can support this conference.

The Makers Guild – have opened a new space which is focusing on Robotics. One project will focus on designing and building A1 Boat – Melina Brothers at Brockenhurst College offered to help with the project.

Adrian Moss of Focus Business Communications – provided an update regarding the 'Mayflower 400' for 2020. To encourage people to stay in Southampton providing a wide range of events and activities. The project will also seek to increase tourism and footfall.

Melina Brothers of Brockenhurst College and Jo Stark of the University of Portsmouth offered to provide their assistance to Adrian Moss.

Alison Hesselberth of Portsmouth City Council drew attention to the Shaping Portsmouth crowd funding event on the 19th June 2018.

Lynne Dick of Making Space drew attention to the Associate Maker Scheme launched by Making Space.

Charles Freeman requested that network members to send details of events, training opportunities etc. that could be posted on the Creative Network South website.

Ben Joel of FX Studios stated that he had set up his own company. He said that he works with film and production companies.

12. Date of Next Meeting:-

The next Creative Network South Group Meeting will be held on Wednesday 22nd August 2018 at 2.30pm until 3.30pm at Artswork, Latimer House, 5-7 Cumberland Place, Southampton, SO15 2BH.