

MINUTES of the **CULTURE THEME BOARD** held at the West Park Leisure Centre, Long Eaton on 17 December 2010

PRESENT

Councillor Andrew Lewer (in the Chair)

Paul Hackett (North East Derbyshire District Council), Mike Hayden (Chesterfield Borough Council), David James (Visit Peak District and Derbyshire), David Joy (Derbyshire Sport), Tim Spencer (Erewash Borough Council), Councillor Geoff Stevens (Derbyshire Dales District Council), Lorna Wallace (3D)

In Attendance: Jaci Brumwell (DCC, Cultural and Community Services), Robert Gent (DCC, Cultural and Community Services), Martin Molloy (DCC, Cultural and Community Services), Ros Westwood (DCC, Museums), Ann Wright (DCC, Arts)

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of B Ashley, C Capstick, Jim Dixon (Peak District National Park Authority), Wesley Downes (DCC, Chief Executive's Office), Jim Hewlett (South Derbyshire District Council), Steve Pintus (NHS Derbyshire County), Councillor Ann Syrett (Bolsover District Council), Allison Thomas (DCC, Environmental Services), Councillor Emily Thrane (Arts Council England – East Midlands), Cath Walker (DCC, Chief Executive's Office), and Councillor Jean Wharmby (High Peak Borough Council)

40/10 **MINUTES** The minutes of the meeting of the Culture Theme Board held on 29 September 2010 were received.

41/10 **CITY AND COUNTY OF CULTURE** Derby City Council had previously facilitated a meeting to test potential support for a bid to the DCMS UK City of Culture competition in 2013. At the meeting, there had been lots of support, and strong endorsement had been obtained for a proposal that the city and county councils should work more closely together to create a coherent cultural offer. As a result, a steering group had been formed.

Derby City Council had provided funding for the initial consultation, research and for the creation of a City and County of Culture brand. Following a formal tender process, a design company Origination had been appointed to create a brand, and a number of sub-groups had been established to move the initiative forward. A presentation had been received from the design company, and a marque had been adopted.

It had been announced in July that Derry had been awarded the accolade of City of Culture for 2013. An announcement of the 2017

competition had been expected shortly after this, but following the Comprehensive Spending Review, DCMS had decided not to proceed with a competition for 2017 until the outcomes of the 2013 event were known.

A meeting of partner organisations and stakeholders had been held in November to review progress. There had been strong support for the City and County of Culture initiative, and it had been agreed that, irrespective of whether a national competition was taking place, partners would aim to deliver a Year of Culture in 2015. Consideration was now being given as to what form such an event would take, and there would be liaison with the Championing Derbyshire group, which was leading on the bid to host the Olympic Torch Relay in summer 2012. It was the intention that this would act as a springboard to generate community interest and support for the Year of Culture. It was proposed to use the City and County of Culture brand to raise awareness of the Year of Culture, and to invite partner organisations to adopt the brand.

Derby City Council had made available £33,000 to fund the initial phase of the work, and was considering what additional financial commitment it could make. The County Council had made no financial contribution to the feasibility study and branding exercise, but had identified £75,000 from the 2009/10 budget outturn.

42/10 **CULTURAL STRATEGY WITH DERBY** Following a meeting to discuss Derby's Cultural Strategy, it was the intention to align the cultural strategies of the City and County Councils. Although it was felt that it would be quite difficult to have a joint strategy, it would be possible to have elements of both working alongside each other. When more information was available details would be provided to the Board.

43/10 **UPDATE ON LOCAL ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP** Councillor Lewer had recently attended the first meeting of the LEP Shadow Board, and informed the Group of the main issues that had been raised. There had been discussions on the Regional Growth Fund Bid, priorities for the area, and the representatives that should be attending the Board. It appeared that the Board was working quite well, but the structures and protocols were still being agreed. Councillor Lewer stated that he would provide more updates when further information became available.

44/10 **DERBYSHIRE PARTNERSHIP FORUM CONSULTATION** Partners had recently been asked to consider and provide views on the future working of the Derbyshire Partnership Forum, the thematic partnerships and the need for high level priority and target setting. A wide range of views had been expressed, and the key points were highlighted. There was wide support for partnership working and the Partnership Forum, but it was felt that meetings should take place less frequently and the format should be revised.

It was also felt that there was a need to review the existing thematic partnerships to ensure that they were fit for purpose. There was support for a review of the remaining thematic partnerships and other sub-groups to ensure that they matched the partnership's priorities.

A key issue was the need to ensure that resources were used in the most efficient way to deliver key priorities. As a result, the membership of partnerships would need to comprise the partners who were able to contribute directly to the delivery of priorities.

As a result of the findings, six proposals had been outlined, including that the non-statutory thematic partnerships should review their purpose in light of new government proposals moving forward, and all thematic partnerships should review and revise their terms of reference as appropriate and consideration should be given to the use of time limited task and finish groups to deal with single issues. Future partnership arrangements should support the delivery of priorities beyond the end of March 2011, and partners would be consulted shortly on a reduced number of high level indicators and targets to support the delivery of priorities from April 2011 onwards.

45/10 REPORT FROM VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR EVENT Lorna Wallace provided the Board with a report on the Surviving and Thriving in the Big Society event that had taken place on 2 November 2010. The event had been organised by the Voice for the VCS Project in partnership with 3D, and forty-eight had attended. There had been a number of workshops, facilitated by members of 3D and the NI7 Steering Group. A number of key themes had emerged from the workshops, and the Board was presented with the areas delegates had prioritised for further action.

46/10 DCOG PROPOSALS FOR CONSULTANT-LED SESSION ON EFFICIENCY It was reported that a workshop was due to be held at Coney Green on 12 January 2011 which would focus on a number of areas, including sports development, the Arts and parks. The issues of management and procurement would also be discussed, along with options to work more collaboratively to achieve efficiencies.

47/10 OUTCOMES PROJECT The Board was informed of the work being undertaken to identify the outcomes being delivered by cultural services.

The national Outcomes Framework for Cultural Services was being piloted in Derbyshire, and it was also the intention to create a document to show the successes which would be distributed to stakeholders. The national framework was expected to be rewritten by the end of January, and there would then be a further update to the Board.

Details were also given of a bid to the Arts and Humanities Research Council to fund a three year collaborative doctoral project with the University of Sheffield. This would be a useful tool for Derbyshire, but it would also be capable of wider national implementation.

48/10 **WORLD HERITAGE SITE UPDATE** Martin Molloy gave an update on the work relating to the World Heritage Site, and said that progress was beginning to be made. The deadline for the receipt of applications for the Director's post was 19 December, and job descriptions for the remainder of the team were to be finalised. The first meeting of the new Board was due to take place in the New Year.

49/10 **DERBY SILK MILL** Stuart Gillies, Head of Museums, Derby City Council, attended the meeting to provide the Board with proposals for the way forward for Derby museums. It had been necessary to develop a clear direction as a result of public sector funding cuts, and a Transformation Plan for Derby museums was being developed. This included the development of the Silk Mill in Derby, which was a very important building in relation to the World Heritage Site.

A two year project was proposed, including temporarily closing the Silk Mill to redevelop the building, and refurbishing the Art Gallery, as well as planning to open two new galleries.

A new organisation was being established in order to deliver the project. It was stated that it would be a transitional year, and from 1 April 2011, the organisation would embark on a number of pieces of work. This would all be reported back to the relevant forums. A detailed business case was being developed, and it was the intention to create the correct organisational model, and well as developing the relationship with local authorities.

50/10 **DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING** The next meeting of the Board will take place on Thursday 17th February 2011 at 10:00am at the new b2Net Football Stadium, Chesterfield.