

Minutes for Meeting: Four Year Planning

Date: 05/01/11

Minute Taker: Katy Saunderson

Chair: Geof Armstrong

Present: Pauline Heath, Stuart Bracking, Janice Irving, George Wallace

Apologies: Helen Atkin, Karen Sheader, Carolyn Roberts, Paula Greenwell

Who	Point Discussed/Action to be taken	When
GA	Kitemark Mencap to hand over their work to date on kitemarking for us to develop further so that we may provide our own approved quality standard.	
PH	Community Dance Currently working on a programme to set standards in workshops – could be an opportunity to link up.	
SB	Suggestion We should try to hold some sort of regular event – cabaret etc in an effort to bring people together and instil a sense of community.	
GA/JI	Arts v Politics We need to establish what our main focus should be. Perhaps an initial focus on Arts to satisfy ACE with a likely future shift kept in mind. Both can currently be supported as dedicated freelancers will be used per project so a separation to reduce conflict is possible.	
GA	Arcadea’s focus needs to be on the disabled individual so that they are not disadvantaged in engaging with the arts. Allowing them to engage in the arts in the way that they choose must be at the very core of our mission and reflected in our aims.	

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GA	The disabled community must also be motivated to mobilise and make a change for themselves. Centre on individuals which will knock on to the wider community.	
JI	<p>Aims & Objectives</p> <p>To be reviewed in AGM so that limited time in this meeting may be used better.</p>	
GA	<p>Aims will need to contribute towards the vision that nobody should be excluded from participating in the arts in the way that they want to because they are disabled.</p>	
PH	<p>Case Studies</p> <p>Perhaps create a series of case studies examining what the needs are of different groups and how we fill that need.</p> <p>Look at Young People/Audiences/Artists etc.</p> <p>Could then be put on postcards and distributed giving us a presence in the community.</p>	
GA	<p>Evaluation Framework</p> <p>Need to develop one so that we may effectively evaluate what we do in a simple way. There are 3 key areas we need to evaluate;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Partners – did we deliver/what kind of partner are we? 2. Disabled People – did we successfully help/how was the experience? 3. Success in achieving our aims <p>Focus on 2011/2012</p> <p>Ticket Scheme</p> <p>Agreed that all members have a good understanding of the vision value.</p> <p>A dedicated member of staff will be required to carry out work.</p> <p>We need to demonstrate the need for this service.</p> <p>Volunteer travel expenses need to be contributed towards by the scheme member.</p> <p>If this is the norm from the offset then it should not present a problem. It is important that we provide a realistic experience rather than a charitable one. A contribution is acceptable but we must explore ways to offset it. Perhaps a mileage limit should be set.</p> <p>Travel must cost scheme member no more than a 'normal' experience.</p> <p>Perhaps sponsorship through a local taxi firm could be a solution? Display logo on ticket?</p>	

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	<p>First Apprentice Perhaps use the experience to create an evaluation/best practice on how to support a young disabled person in the workplace. Use it to empower other organisations to change their thinking.</p> <p>Snow Ball Link into ticket scheme. Run workshops throughout year which lead up to the event and contribute e.g. music, decorations, dance etc. Perhaps also hold a small craft market in conjunction with event. Use as an opportunity to bring disabled people & local organisations together and say thank you for support. Opportunity also to link up with other organisations.</p> <p>Cultural Hub 9 month pilot in Newcastle to help young people with learning difficulties to gain access to workshops, shows etc. This is an opportunity based programme, though may lead to centre based. Supporting people through direct payment.</p> <p>Remploy Similar to above and based in Sunderland. A central community centre to provide workshop based support and act as a springboard for local artists. Remploy have a good knowledge base that we can access & use to connect with people & identify local needs.</p> <p>Equality & Awareness Training Scheme Provide public service staff with training on diversity issues. They will be looking at gender/sexuality/age etc out focus will be disability with an arts flavour. Will also help to sustain our relationship with Oscar. Freelance trainers to be used as writing the workshops will be a time consuming task.</p>	

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	<p>Baltic We will contribute workshops to event, important in becoming visible.</p> <p>Katathakali SE Asian dance group in Stanley whose dance incorporates traditional storytelling through sign language. They would like to become a full partner of our organisation. We are hoping to bring together the SE Asian dancers a group of local death people to experiment together. Suggested numbers are 10 death people for a 20 week programme leading to a performance. Could contribute to the Snow Ball. Dance City may be interested in coming on board. Offer experience as a pilot opportunity and then assess what support is needed. Encourage the group to be proactive in any ongoing activity.</p> <p>Young People Shadow Have a sister young persons organisation set up and ran from within the office. Offer support in getting up and running then start activity with Juice Festival. Try to secure support from the Youth Council/Princes Trust.</p> <p>News Service Needs to be attached to the ticket scheme. We need to promote/advertise/allow people to communicate through us. Website is a good platform for this – ensure it has a news feed/notice board.</p> <p>Focus on 2012/2013</p> <p>Choir Sage to host event in partnership with ourselves, we need also to talk to other organisations to act as partners.</p>	

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	<p>DADA Fest Aim to bring to the region through a series of screenings. Can use as an opportunity to cross pollinate with other communities e.g. screening in gay quarter. Hold screenings in 4 areas Newcastle, Hexam, Middlesborough & Northumberland. Perhaps hold 2 nights in each e.g. a comedy night & a dance night. Have a supporting act on also and hold in a bar or other suitable social setting.</p> <p>Summer Camp Book Calvert Trust or similar (Dilston) and hold a 1 week residential camp for young people Offer workshops and general respite. Individuals could access their care packages to fund their attendance. Perhaps tie event into the Dilston summer festival.</p> <p>Conference Hold at a regional level to keep opportunities relevant to those we serve in the area. Agreed that £5k should be a sufficient amount to fund such an event.</p> <p>Cultural Volunteers To grow out of the Apprentice Scheme.</p> <p>Re-Brand Bring forward – next 2-3 months. Could use as an opportunity to meet with people and connect with the local community. Marketing through researching. Need to check the implications of a re-brand with the Charity Commission. Bank needs to be notified. Research into names needs to begin.</p> <p>International IT Project Build up some sort of Avatar community/event (similar to the beat bullying campaign). Perhaps look at an online animation project artists can contribute to (similar to the Aardman/Tate children’s project)</p>	

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	<p>Focus on 2013/2014</p> <p>Ticket Scheme Look to link up with Shape and begin nationalisation of scheme.</p> <p>YP Project Should now be fully up and running.</p> <p>Unleashed Again...20 years on Laing eager to be involved, need to begin the lead into event in 2012/2013.</p> <p>Forums Set up forums Artists/Actors/Designers/Photographers/etc. Work on an audit to map the region.</p> <p>Mentors Working with individual artists is too time consuming, encourage them to act as mentors for each other.</p> <p>Transition Planning Aim to get involved in the transition planning process with families. Link in through regional directors, include culture & arts conversation, run pilot. Help with the process of gaining independence.</p> <p>Weaknesses How we work with artists and move them into the mainstream needs to be addressed. Suggestions: Focus on graduates could ensure professional aspirations rather than leisure activity. Work with Ann Tye or similar in setting up professional studio spaces for disabled artists. Run an annual competition in conjunction with local gallery – selected works exhibited. Work with Universities/Colleges on collaborative</p>	

