

**Minutes of the 26th Yorkshire Culture Board Meeting
Wednesday 14th February 2007, Round Foundry Media Centre, Leeds**

Board Members Present: Clive Leach (chair), Gary Topp (company secretary), Narendra Bajaria, George Nairn Briggs, Cllr Mike Pye, Leigh-Anne Stradeski, Adam Carey

Apologies: Ruth Churchill Dower, John Davies, Robin Smith, Colin Jeynes

Also Present: Amanda Potter (DCMS), Elaine Stuart, Jane Fear, Rebecca di Corpo (Yorkshire Culture)

1. Welcome & Apologies

- 1.1 The chair welcomed directors to the general meeting. and noted the apologies of the above members.
- 1.2 The above apologies were noted and the chair advised board was not quorate status.

2. Minutes of previous meeting Tuesday 12th December 2006

- 2.1 The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters Arising

- 3.1 All action items were confirmed as having been completed or followed up as appropriate.
- 3.2 It was agreed the next board meeting will be held in South Yorkshire. Sheffield International Venues invited board to conduct their meeting at the English Institute of Sport - Sheffield.

4. Director's Report

- 4.1 **Advocacy:** The focus has been on fewer, but larger projects including the design and production of the Yorkshire Gold Strategy and phase one of the new Yorkshire Culture website. Both are currently scheduled for launch end March 2007.
- 4.2 Yorkshire Forward invited Yorkshire Culture to present at the House of Commons regarding the region's developments with London 2012, in January. There was a good turn out of MPs however Richard Caborn was not in attendance on this occasion.
- 4.3 **Cultural Observatory:** The board supported the chief executive's proposal to resist extending the programme in its current form. The pilot phase of the Yorkshire Cultural Observatory project will therefore be terminated end March 2007.
- 4.4 It was noted however that the Yorkshire Cultural Observatory evaluation paper provides a good basis for constructive discussion concerning a sustainable operation in the future. The DCMS research network is currently

in discussion concerning the possibilities for the future of the programme nationally.

- 4.5 **Partnerships:** The North Yorkshire partnership sub-regional investment plan is currently in the process of being approved. The work of Yorkshire Culture features in the plan's main priorities, including the region's heritage asset and adventure sport and tourism related activities.
- 4.6 **Policy & Strategy:** Amanda Potter gave a brief update on the Regional Commentaries programme; four are completed and four are still underway. The cultural agencies and local authorities are working collectively to move this programme forward. The Cultural Improvement Forum will be meeting in early March. As a national initiative the IDA are reviewing current processes.
- 4.7 The Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) results are due at the end of February. The board advised they would find it useful to be given an indication as to the status of this work for forward planning.
- 4.8 **Physical Activity Framework:** It was suggested the chair and chief executive write to the regional director of Sport England Yorkshire, copying in key partners, to propose a way forward with this programme of work.
- 4.9 **Social Enterprise:** The board were informed that the ERDF and match funding had been approved. Yorkshire Culture are currently holding interviews for the consultancy aspect of this work and John Wright will report back to board at the next meeting.
- 4.10 **BSF:** It was noted that Arts Council England have supported the BSF programme in principle, yet are not in a position to offer specification resourcing on this agenda. CABE are engaged in providing expertise in this area however and are currently working with the Department of Education.
- 4.11 **Northern Way:** Yorkshire Culture have been requested to undertake two additional areas of work for this programme; a feasibility impact study and the coordination of a steering group. This work is pending finalisation of contracts with Yorkshire Forward.
- 4.12 **Illuminate:** The chief executive pointed out to board that the region's IIFA/Bollywood and London 2012 delivery of activity were based on the infrastructure of the cities network that was successfully established during the Illuminate programme.
- 4.13 **Yorkshire Committee for the 2012 Games:** The board was advised that the work for London 2012 is dominant and will be a key part of the programme of activity for Yorkshire Culture in 2007/08. The executive chair of the Yorkshire Committee for the 2012 Games will present a progress report at the June 2007 meeting.
- 4.14 **The Clore Leadership Programme:** Yorkshire Culture have secured funding for a Clore Fellow for this programme for 2007/08.

5. **Yorkshire Culture / Draft Business Plan 07-08**

5.1 The Yorkshire Culture draft business plan is continuing to be developed. The final plan will be submitted to DCMS by end May 2007.

5.2 After brief discussion the board motioned for Yorkshire Culture to continue operating with its current business model and programme of activity, as proposed. The board expressed its support for the work of the chief executive and his staff.

6. Finance Update

6.1 There were no variances to report for the period since the December board meeting and no issues were raised concerning the company's financial position at this time.

7. IIFA/Bollywood

7.1 Fiona Sidwell, Regional Project Director, IIFA Weekend gave a presentation on the progress to date. A copy of the presentation can be circulated upon request by contacting Yorkshire Culture (Rebecca di Corpo or Elaine Stuart).

7.2 Key questions/issues from board members included:

- how is the legacy translated into something tangible?
- how does the region harness community support in actuality?
- how will the VIP ticketing process and selection be managed?
- what is the communications strategy for this event and against what timescales?
- how well linked is this project with the Creative Industries in the region?
- what systems are in place to measure the impact on the business communities in the region and to determine the opportunities for local employment across the cities?
- what opportunities are there to use this event to raise awareness of the food and health agenda?
- how will this event engage with youth in the region?

7.3 With the above in mind, the board asked in what way they could contribute to the success of this event and requested Fiona stay in touch, where appropriate, regarding the developments of this work.

7. AOB

7.1 There was no further business to report.

8. 2007 Meeting Dates and Venues

8.1 The following date and venue was confirmed for the next meeting:

- Tuesday 3rd April, Sheffield

Action & Decision Points

Paragraph 4.3 – Cultural Observatory: the board supported the chief executive's proposal to resist extending the programme in its current form. The pilot phase of the Yorkshire Cultural Observatory project will therefore be terminated end March 2007.

Paragraph 4.7 – CPA: the board advised they would find it useful to be given an indication as to the status of this work for forward planning.

Paragraph 4.8 - Physical Activity Framework: it was suggested the chair and chief executive write to the regional director of Sport England Yorkshire, copying in key partners, to propose a way forward with this programme of work.

Paragraph 4.9 – Social Enterprise: John Wright will report back to board at the next meeting.

Paragraph 4.13 – Yorkshire Committee for the 2012 Games: the executive chair of the Yorkshire Committee for the 2012 Games will present a progress report at the June 2007 meeting.

Paragraph 5.1 – Yorkshire Culture / Business Plan 07/08: The final plan will be submitted to DCMS by end May 2007.

Paragraphs 7.2 & 7.3 – IIFA/Bollywood: Key questions/issues from board members (refer above) to be responded to as project developments unfold.