



ARTS COUNCIL

Minutes of the South West Area Council held on Tuesday 16 May 2023 Barnstaple Library

Present:	<u>Area Council:</u>	
	Helen Birchenough	South West Area Council in the Chair
	Roger Griffith	South West Area Council Member
	Natalie Adams	South West Area Council Member
	Lloyd Coleman	South West Area Council Member
	Louise Coysh	South West Area Council Member
	Charlotte Bond	South West Area Council Member
	Shahina Johnson	South West Area Council Member
	Bambo Soyinka	South West Area Council Member
	Cllr Julian German	South West Area Council Member

In attendance:	<u>Arts Council England:</u>	
	Darren Henley	Chief Executive Officer
	Phil Gibby	Area Director, South West
	Nema Hart	Director Place, Partnerships & Economy SW
	Sarah Crown	Director, Literature and SW
	Shirley Kirk	Senior Manager Operations
	Morwenna Fuge	Head of Advocacy and Communication
	Ginny Graham	Relationship Manager, Theatre, SW
	Philip Butterworth	Relationship Manager, Touring, SW
	Rebecca Hudson	Assistant to the Area Director (notetaker)

Guests:

Apologies: Cllr Lawrence Williams, Cllr Satvir Kaur, Louise Mitchell

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Area Council members to the meeting and invited them to introduce themselves.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2.1 Area Council members reviewed the circulated Declarations of Interest report and agreed it as an accurate record, they noted no updates.

3 PRIORITY PLACES 2 YEARS ON

- 3.1 The Area Director took Area Council through a presentation on the South West Priority Places, two years in.
- 3.2 NH took Area Council through an update on Gloucester and the progress being made there.
- 3.3 *ACTION: PG suggested bringing an item on Place Partnership Funds to the next meeting. Area Council members welcomed this. BH/AM to add to the agenda.*
- 3.4 The Area Director took Area Council through an update on Gosport and the progress to date.
- 3.5 NH took Area Council through an update on the Isles of Scilly and progress to date.
- 3.6 The Area Director took Area Council through an update on the Isle of Wight and progress to date.
- 3.7 Charlotte Bond joined the meeting.
- 3.8 NH took Area Council through an update on The New Forest and progress to date.
- 3.9 The Area Director took Area Council through an update on North Devon and progress to date.

3.10 NH took Area Council through an update on North Somerset and progress to date.

3.11 The Area Director took Area Council through an update on Portsmouth and progress to date.

3.12 NH took Area Council through an update on Rushmoor and progress to date.

3.13 The Area Director took Area Council through an update on South Somerset and progress to date.

4 BREAK

5 PRIORITY PLACES 2 YEARS ON CONTINUED..

5.1 SC took Area Council through an update on Swindon and progress to date.

5.2 The Area Director took Area Council through a National Lottery Project Grants overview across the priority places.

5.3 The Area Director gave an update on how things are going across the priority places, and those places momentum is building

5.4 The Area Director noted a list of names to look out for across the priority places.
ACTION: BH to share this list with members by email.

5.5 The Area Director thanked Relationship Managers for the hard work they are doing in priority places and emphasised the importance of doing the development work on the ground.

6 RACE ADVISORY GROUP/DISABILITY ADVISORY GROUPS - UPDATES

- 6.1 The RAG representative gave a brief update from the Race Advisory Group, noting that there hasn't been a meeting since Area Council last met. They noted that they were unable to make the next meeting and agreed with another member that they will deputise.
- 6.2 The RAG representative gave an update on the implementation of an informal group for the South West, and noted the need to wait until September so that the new Area Council members can be included in this.
- 6.3 The DAG representative gave an update from the Disability Advisory Group of which the next meeting will be 26 May. They noted that they were unable to attend a few recent meetings, and emphasised the need for another member who would be able to attend meetings alongside them.

7 EXECUTIVE & AREA DIRECTOR REPORT

- 7.1 The Chief Executive invited questions relating to the Executive Director report.
- 7.2 The Chief Executive gave an update following the NPO process.
- 7.3 The Area Director took Area Council through the Area Director report.
- 7.4 The Area Director took Area Council through the circulated NPO risk register and members noted those organisations scoring 9 or above.
- 7.5 Sarah Crown left the meeting.
- 7.6 The Chief Executive gave an update on recent awards from the Transition and Transform Funds.
- 7.7 The Area Director took members through the local government update.
- 7.8 The Area Director noted his sadness to be losing Morwenna Fuge as Head of Communications in the South West Team.

8 CHAIR'S REPORT AND AREA COUNCIL MEMBERS CATCH-UP

- 8.1 The Chair took members through her report including updates from a number of recent visits, to Cornwall, Weston-super-Mare and Gloucester. She thanked the team for all their hard work organising these trips.
- 8.2 The Chair updated from a number of recent National Council meetings which have covered topics including DACP, MEH's, Equality and Diversity review, Review of Effectiveness.
- 8.3 The Chair and members noted the need for Area Council and other advisory groups to come before National Council meetings within the structure.
- 8.4 The Chair gave feedback from the Inclusion Review and noted the drop-in sessions in June and reminded members to join.
- 8.5 The Chair gave an update from the ongoing Area Council recruitment round and thanked Shahina Johnson for all her help with the process.
- 8.6 The Chair noted that 13 people have been shortlisted for interviews taking place next week.
- 8.7 The Chair noted her sadness at Morwenna Fuge's departure, and thanked her for all her hard work over the years.
- 8.8 The Chair welcomed Area Council members to give a brief update from themselves.
- 8.9 Members took turns to give a brief update.

9 MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

- 9.1 Area Council members reviewed the minutes of 2 March and agreed them as an accurate record.

10 AOB

CLOSE

