

**WMCA Cultural Leadership Board Meeting 12  
MINUTES**

<b>Date</b>	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2022
<b>Time</b>	14:00 – 16:00
<b>Location</b>	Virtual meeting
<b>Organisers</b>	Salla Virman, Senior Policy Officer, Culture, WMCA Lauren Rawlins, Project and Marketing Officer, Culture, WMCA
<b>Attendees</b>	Martin Sutherland – CLB Chair Carol King – CLB Deputy Chair Ayub Khan Aftab Rahman Raidene Carter Simeon Shtebunaev Julia Negus Pamela Cole-Hudson Ed Cox, Executive Director SINZ, WMCA
<b>Apologies</b>	Karen Newman Indi Deol Ammo Talwar Parminder Dosanjh Cheryl Jones Adrian Jackson Jerrel Jackson Doreen Foster Timothy Maycock Laura Nyahuye
<b>Guests or Observers</b>	Laura McCaughey, Communications Lead, Create Central (item 6)

#	Item	Actions
1	<b>Welcome &amp; apologies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apologies were noted</li> </ul>	
2	<b>Declarations of interest</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No declarations were received</li> </ul>	

3	<p><b>Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes were approved</li> </ul> <p>Update on actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Karen to discuss next steps with the cultural &amp; creative social enterprise programme with Chair/Deputy Chair</li> <li>Raidene to share CWG specific case studies with WMCA</li> </ul>	<p><b>Karen</b> to contact Martin &amp; Carol</p> <p><b>Raidene</b> to share CWG case studies with WMCA</p>
4	<p><b>WMCA updates &amp; CLB Governance items</b></p> <p>WMCA Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Salla and Ed provided an update on meeting with Mayor the West Midlands on culture which was a positive one</li> <li>The Trailblazer Devolution Deal (TDD) is progressing, including the specific ask for culture. Ed and Salla will be starting discussions with the Government next week.</li> </ul> <p>CLB Governance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Martin will not be continuing as Chair after his term comes to end this autumn. The board discussed next steps and agreed to set up a small working group to discuss further – members are asked to contact Salla to sign up for the group</li> <li>Given that the Chair is stepping down, the board agreed to extend the post of the Deputy Chair for further 12 months to provide continuity for board activities</li> <li>Ian Francis has also stepped down from the board, the Chair has thanked Ian for his contributions. This means that CLB could also look to recruit further members and this can be discussed by the working group</li> </ul>	<p><b>Salla</b> to re-circulate TDD proposal</p> <p><b>CLB members</b> to volunteer for working group.</p>
5	<p><b>WMCA Cultural Officers Group update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Salla provided an update on key items</li> </ul>	
6	<p><b>Create Central Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Laura McCaughey updated the CLB on Create Central's completed and planned activities in 2022, finishing with the news that BBC Midlands will be relocating to Digbeth and building a studio in the former Typhoo tea factory.</li> <li>Laura encouraged the CLB to get in touch with Create Central at any time, and to sign up to the Create Central newsletter.</li> <li>Simeon expressed an interest in Create Central's work on spatial development and creative clusters and would welcome a further conversation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Laura</b> to make an introduction</p>

7	<p><b>CLB Theory of Change</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This has been rolled over to the next meeting. The Chair and Deputy Chair thanked CLB members for their time; work is progressing well but is not finished</li> <li>• Raidene and Carol to have a conversation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Raidene and Carol</b> to organise a separate conversation</p>
8	<p><b>Working Group updates</b></p> <p><b><i>‘More than a Moment’ working group</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carol attended the More than a Moment quarterly meeting for CLB. It seems the board is on the right track but important to keep EDI in the agenda, the ‘self-check’ initiated by the board is key to this.</li> <li>• We will wait until later in the year to repeat the diversity audit for CLB given the new Office for National Statistics (ONS) demographic data is not available until then – and due to changes within board membership</li> <li>• Actions from this WG: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CLB were strongly encouraged to join the MTAM Working group</li> <li>○ Developing a mentoring programme – CLB members invited to share learning and expertise, and to suggest people who’ve run or attended mentoring programmes who could be invited as guests to MTAM.</li> <li>○ Simeon happy to share experiences from being at mentee at: <a href="https://www.builtbyus.org.uk/fluid">https://www.builtbyus.org.uk/fluid</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Regional Compacts+ network</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuing to work with ACE</li> <li>• National meeting took place of all the Cultural Compacts, which announced there will be a National Conference of Cultural Compacts in Coventry on 12<sup>th</sup> October convened by ACE</li> </ul> <p><b>Black Country Cultural Investment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus is now on delivering the CDF underspend grant from Arts Council England. This work is progressing well with long-listing and RAG rating of projects</li> </ul> <p><b>WMCA Town Centre Task Force</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rolled over to next meeting as Doreen is on leave</li> </ul> <p><b>Cultural Infrastructure Working Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simeon updated the group on the upcoming Cultural Infrastructure roundtable event which is planned for the last week of September. CLB are welcome to join and are asked to suggest invitees.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CLB members</b> to join MTAM working group.</p> <p><b>CLB members</b> to share expertise and suggest names.</p> <p><b>Salla</b> to get further details about the event.</p> <p><b>SV</b> to circulate summary of event to CLB members.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Cultural Infrastructure group is also looking further into asset mapping and development of the digital cultural infrastructure map</li> <li>• Simeon and Salla met with ARUP who are developing a repurposing framework to support the work WMCA is doing around Net Zero and Circular Economy.</li> <li>• There was also a discussion about the role of Civic Societies in terms of planning related activities and how the working group could engage with them. Julia happy to share her experiences with Simeon and share the invite with them for the roundtable event.</li> </ul> <p><b>Skills/Black Country Talent Working Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carol gave a summary of the upcoming Black Country Cultural Careers Summit, 7<sup>th</sup> October, other CLB members are welcome to attend</li> <li>• CLB members were asked for ideas for presenters and case studies</li> </ul> <p><b>Freelancer Working Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theory of Change has been developed and key focus will be on two strands:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ How to better advocate for importance of freelancers</li> <li>➤ How to ensure there are more equitable opportunities for freelancers</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The working group is looking for new members to join, CLB members are asked for suggestions</li> <li>• The working group will also have a conversation with Culture Central about their freelancer support offer that they are delivering as part of the CWG legacy work</li> </ul> <p><b>Cultural Prospectus Working Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work is progressing and final drafts and the website wireframe should be available soon.</li> <li>• Materials should be ready to promote the devolution deal work as well</li> </ul> <p><b>WMCA Digital Inclusion Coalition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rolled over to next meeting as Karen and Indi are on leave</li> </ul>	<p><b>CLB</b> members to send suggested invitees.</p> <p><b>Julia to</b> send event summary to Coventry Civic Society &amp; discuss with <b>Simeon</b></p> <p><b>CLB members</b> to contact WMCA with suggestions</p> <p><b>CLB members</b> to suggest freelancers for working group</p>
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9	<p><b>Reflection and board ‘self-check’ to ensure EDI has been considered in relation to decisions/actions by the board</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The board discussed the recruitment process for the new Chair and members to ensure this will be a transparent process. It was agreed that the working group should develop a proposal on this to present to WMCA.</li> <li>• Salla noted that WMCA EDI team and the WMCA Race Equalities Task Force representatives had reviewed the Devolution Deal proposal and provided some recommendations to ensure EDI is thoroughly considered.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Recruitment working group</b> to develop process and proposal</p>
10	<p><b>AOB, dates of the next meeting and forward plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The board discussed concerns around the current hostile attitude within the political leadership race nationally on “low earning” degrees, and suggestions of de-investing in cultural programmes. It was agreed that advocating for cultural education would be important and Chair could escalate this, including discussions with Government and the Mayor.</li> <li>• CLB members expressed concerns around lack of communications support for board activities, including social media and other advocacy. WMCA has convened the board and should therefore ensure the work is highlighted and recognised – similarly to e.g. Create Central. This should also include a lot more visual content including videos and images.</li> <li>• CLB presence at party conferences was also discussed and it was agreed that these opportunities should be explored to ensure CLB can advocate of key issues. Salla to meet with public affairs to find out current plans</li> <li>• Next meeting is 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022 in Stratford-upon-Avon, members should ensure they reserve time for travel to venue</li> </ul>	<p><b>Chair and WMCA</b> to discuss potential advocacy actions</p> <p><b>Salla</b> to meet with WMCA public affairs team to discuss opportunities for lobbying and party conferences.</p> <p><b>CLB members</b> to ensure to reserve time for travel for next meeting</p>
11	<p><b>Meeting close</b></p>	