MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER CULTURE AND SOCIAL IMPACT FUND COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 21 JANUARY 2022 AT THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE, MANCHESTER CITY CENTRE

MEMBERS:

Councillor Martyn Cox (Chair)	Portfolio Lead for Culture
Councillor Hilary Fairclough	Bolton Council
Councillor Charlotte Morris	Bury Council
Councillor Janet Emsley	Rochdale Council
Councillor Stephen Coen	Salford City Council
Councillor David Sedgwick	Stockport Council
Councillor Leanne Feeley	Tameside Council
Councillor Elizabeth Patel	Trafford Council
Councillor Joanne Marshall	Wigan Council

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Alison McKenzie-Folan	Lead Chief Executive for Culture
Sam Elliott	Bolton Council
Philip Cooke	Manchester City Council
Darren Grice	Rochdale Council
Mandy Kinder	Tameside Council
Peter Ashworth	Stockport Council
Gareth Redston	Manchester Jewish Museum
Alison Gordon	GMCA
Marie-Claire Daly	GMCA
Jenny Hollamby	GMCA

C&SIFC/01/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Tim Whiston (Manchester), Norman Briggs (Oldham Council) and Keith Cunliffe (Wigan).

C&SIFC/02/22 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR THE 2021/23 MUNICIPAL YEAR

RESOLVED/-

1. That the appointment of Councillor Martyn Cox, GMCA Portfolio Lead for Culture, as Chair of the Greater Manchester Culture and Social Impact Fund Committee for the 2021/22 Municipal Year be noted.

2. That Councillor Janet Emsley be appointed as Vice Chair of the Greater Manchester Culture and Social Impact Fund Committee for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

C&SIFC/03/22 TO NOTE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER CULTURE AND SOCIAL IMPACT FUND COMMITTEE 2021/22

The 2021/22 Membership of the Committee was presented to the Committee, as detailed below:

District	Member	Substitute Member
Bolton	Martyn Cox (Con) Chair as GMCA Portfolio Lead for Culture	
Bolton	Hilary Fairclough (Con)	To be appointed
Bury	Charlotte Morris (Lab)	Richard Gold (Lab)
Manchester	Tim Whiston (Lab)	To be appointed
Oldham	Norman Briggs (Lab)	To be appointed
Rochdale	Janet Emsley (Lab)	Susan Smith (Lab)
Salford	Stephen Coen (Lab)	David Lancaster (Lab)
Stockport	David Sedgwick (Lab)	Tom McGee (Lab)
Tameside	Leanne Feeley (Lab)	Mike Smith (Lab)

Trafford	Elizabeth Patel (Lab)	Mike Freeman (Lab)
Wigan	Paul Prescot (Lab)	Keith Cunliffe (Lab)

RESOLVED/-

That the Membership for the 2021/22 Municipal Year be noted.

C&SIFC/04/21 MEMBER'S CODE OF CONDUCT AND ANNUAL DECLATION FORM

Members were reminded of their obligations under the GMCA Member's Code of Conduct and to complete an annual declaration of interest form which would be published on the GMCA website.

RESOLVED/-

That Members complete an annual declaration of interest form and return it to the Governance and Scrutiny Team for publication on the GMCA website.

C&SIFC/05/22 TO NOTE THE COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED/-

That the Committee noted its Terms of Reference for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

C&SIFC/06/22 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

There were no Chair's announcements or urgent business.

C&SIFC/07/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

C&SIFC/08/22 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 19 APRIL 2021

RESOLVED/-

That the Committee approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 19 April 2021 as an accurate record.

C&SIFC/09/22 GMCA CULTURE PORTFOLIO FUNDING 2022/23

In September 2021, a paper was approved by the GMCA which related to funding for the Culture Portfolio in 2022/23. It had been agreed that the GMCA Cultural Investment of £3.84m per annum would be rolled over for one year during 2022-2023. There would be a project to review cultural investment funding beyond 2023, which would include consultation with the Committee, residents, and relevant stakeholders.

The Culture portfolio's funding since 2019 had supported 35 organisations across all ten Local Authorities and they had been a key source of support for residents during the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding would now support the organisations to recover from the pandemic.

It was noted that the sector had experienced high levels of uncertainty and it had been difficult to predict the success of events. Some events that had been anticipated to sell out had not done so, while others had exceeded expectations. There had also been challenges in predicting audience demographics. In particular, there had been concerns that young people had missed out on opportunities to develop an interest in cultural activities, like attending the theatre, and that this might result in a lost generation of audience members. Moving forward, work would be carried out with organisations to support them to cater for people who had different preferences and needs with regard to mask wearing and social distancing as it had been acknowledged that people with clinical vulnerabilities would still need protection from COVID-19 in the coming months.

A Member highlighted that the one-year roll-over was a temporary measure, and it was noted that organisations that were not part of the current scheme would have the opportunity to apply for investment funds in the future. A Member had attended the

launch of the Northern Culture APPG's Levelling Up report, which had identified culture as being key to people's wellbeing.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the Committee noted the proposal agreed by the GMCA on 24 September 2021 to roll-over GMCA cultural investment (£3.84m p/a) for one year (2022-2023) to provide surety to the organisations funded by the GMCA and support the continuation of strategic cultural activity including Town of Culture, Creative Improvement Districts, StreamGM, and the GM Music Commission.

2. That the Northern Culture APPG's Levelling Up report be noted and distributed among members.

C&SIFC/10/22 PORTFOLIO UPDATE: MANCHESTER JEWISH MUSEUM

The Manchester Jewish Museum had reopened in July 2021 after two years of closure for major renovations and expansion. The new exterior façade had been designed to make the museum more visible and accessible to the public. Both the interior and exterior restoration and design had been influenced by Spanish and Portuguese architecture to reflect the history of the synagogue. The museum now had the space to store its entire collection of 30,000 objects in its state-of-the-art climate-controlled environment. New permanent collections had been established, which would tell the stories of Jewish Manchester through three themes: journeys, communities, and identities. A new learning studio and kitchen would enhance the learning experience by providing opportunities to make Jewish food, like challah bread. One of the museum's key objectives had been to encourage a wider audience to engage with the museum and it had hosted several cultural events in order to achieve this aim.

A Member asked about the museum's opening hours, and it was clarified that the museum was open seven days a week. The museum noted that the decision to open on Saturdays (the Sabbath) had been the subject of consultation with Jewish communities across Greater Manchester. It had been a difficult decision but opening on a Saturday would provide more opportunities for people to visit the museum and the Jewish communities had been understanding in this regard.

During lockdown, the museum had conducted a project titled ‘Synagogue in a box’, targeting areas across Greater Manchester that had either high or low areas of racial diversity. The museum was popular with schools across most Greater Manchester local authorities but there had been some challenges engaging with schools within Manchester as the cost of travel for a comparatively short distance was prohibitive for some families. The museum had been providing help to schools to encourage their engagement, but work was ongoing to find solutions to the challenges.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the update be noted.

2. That Members would promote the Manchester Jewish Museum in their constituencies.

C&SIFC/11/22 GREATER MANCHESTER TOWN OF CULTURE 2022

Bury had been the previous Town of Culture and had held numerous cultural events over the previous two years. It had commenced the process of developing a cultural strategy as part of its Town of Culture legacy.

In December 2021, a meeting had been convened to decide the Town of Culture in 2022. Four bids had been received (Leigh, Sale, Salford Quays and Stalybridge) and it was decided that the Greater Manchester Town of Culture 2022 would be Stalybridge in Tameside. It was noted that all four bids would have been worthy winners.

In the coming weeks, there would be a meeting to decide the path of activity for the year ahead, and a launch event would be planned. It was noted that updates regarding the schedule would be provided at future meetings and Members were encouraged to take part.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the Committee noted the paper and process agreed by the GMCA in October 2021 which set out a proposal for GM’s second Town of Culture in 2022, as put forward by the GM Culture Strategy.

2. That thanks be given to Bury for its work as Greater Manchester's first Town of Culture.

C&SIFC/12/22 DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED/-

That meetings be organised in accordance with the Committee's Terms of Reference (at least twice a year)