

## Explorers Network Meeting Captions

### **Meeting 5 - 20.03.2024**

See the recording at <https://youtu.be/W0YGltwZhfI>

11:08:56 It hasn't notified anyone.

11:09:02 Thank you, Pardon. I pressed the button and it didn't start. Thanks, Ellie.

11:09:02 Got it. Thanks, Ellie.

11:09:08 Okay, so this is the. This is the summary of some of the results from the questionnaire.

11:09:17 There's a lot of information in this questionnaire. So, this is possibly just, the first part of a sharing of the information.

11:09:29 That we got back from you. But I just wanted to kind of go through some of these things that are that I've got kind of 3 3 questions that we asked and some of the responses.

11:09:41 They're a bit of a summary of the responses. Many people, for example, mentioned inclusivity.

11:09:48 Many people mentioned respect, or kindness. So, I've kind of summarized those.

11:09:56 I'm not going to read out loads of things. This is an opportunity for you to see what's here and then to comment back.

11:10:05 On anything that you've seen and you know, if you have any questions or you want to talk about it, then, please do.

11:10:19 I was particularly interested in, in how many people mentioned openness. In the question of what should the values of the network be and I think that's a really important one.

11:10:33 For lots of people so it's really good to know that that came through And as we would hope, then inclusivity and equality were also, really important for many people.

11:10:46 I'm going to move on. To the second question that we asked how has being involved in the network been good for you.

11:11:01 And again, there were certain things that came through quite, quite a bit. Here, meeting new people and hearing different perspectives, understanding the wider picture.

11:11:13 We're kind of common themes. But also, so was, so was, finding a community and reducing isolation and, you know, finding like minded people was also something that came through very clearly.

11:11:31 And also learning, learning from others and learning new skills.

11:11:40 I'm just gonna move on to this third question. What would you like the network to do in the future?

11:11:49 And there were some interesting answers here and and some of this has mirrored the conversations that we've had in the steering group meetings.

11:11:58 About possibly looking once the explorers project comes to an end. That we look to become an independent entity.

11:12:12 Also something that came through really clearly, and something that we have discussed in previous meetings is about, having forums for sharing best practice.

11:12:21 Having an opportunity for meetings. Specifically for artists.

11:12:29 And, and also having smaller group meetings. Because it can become quite overwhelming when there are a lot of people in the chat and not everyone wants to talk.

11:12:42 When it's a really big meeting, we know that. And so that this is really helpful and really interesting for us.

11:12:48 And one of the things that the steering group will do, that ourselves and steering group will have a conversation in April.

11:12:59 And I think we'll look at how we can introduce some of these ideas into the the network going forwards.

11:13:10 I wanted to add in a couple of Elements here, there's there's a lot of text here, but I think it's important that it's retained.

11:13:18 I've retained these quotes. As they are rather than editing them. And I'm just going to read through these.

11:13:25 These are 2 notes of caution. From people. once I'm I'm not I'm just not completely comfortable with disabled people having a foot in in the mainstream art world but also not really having control.

11:13:39 And still being dependent on support and advocacy from able to people. I won't read all of that, but I think this is a really important point to make.

11:13:49 And. This is a really big issue for us within the network about how we. Give.

11:13:59 Control and power to people who sometimes, are operating from. Positions where, you know, that they find, working in a neurotypical environment.

11:14:14 Very challenging. Oh, or, typical environment really challenging.

11:14:23 So I think this is a really important thing to mention, bring, to the whole network. The second one is, is kind of similar in a way and it's, I think the disparity in power between the organizations and individuals in the network needs to be acknowledged.

11:14:38 I feel the network should exist to support nearer divergent artists and our ability to make work and gain opportunities as well as work.

11:14:46 SECT to change. Now this is really interesting, I think in the sense that Some of the supported studios, including project artworks.

11:14:59 You know we we look to advocate for people and we look to support people but but it's a continually ongoing process.

11:15:08 And it's very easy to actually think that you are doing the best thing for people. But with without necessarily including them in the decision making process and it's one of the things that we want to talk about a bit later on in this conversation.

11:15:24 In this meeting about how we include the voices of people who can't be in this room. In this environment in this meeting.

11:15:33 And I think that's a really important thing to acknowledge. That's specifically around, you know, including people who are not here who's not in the room.

11:15:44 But also also actually just acknowledging that, you know, studios as organisations it's possibly easier for us to get.

11:15:58 Funding to be heard. Than it is for individual artists. And I think that is something that we need to have further conversations about.

11:16:11 And, what we can do about that.

11:16:13 So I'm just going to close the whiteboard now and but open up the conversation. Is there anyone that wants to talk about anything?

11:16:24 Anything that they've read or anything that, you know, is there anything that you've seen that you want to make a comment about?

11:16:38 Come on, someone say something, so it's not just my voice. Anna, go on.

11:16:42 On that. Oh. Firstly, I just want to say thank you for that accessible format.

11:16:51 I really appreciate it. And yeah, just very, very grateful. And also really happy with some of the content.

11:17:04 And I got few little points to add. I want to say as well, I'm someone who has not done the survey.

11:17:13 And I will do the survey. After this meeting and if you have't done it don't worry, you're not alone and you know, just find find a bit of time if you can chip away at it.

11:17:31 So the first thing. My mom's just written some stuff. Word missing. I can't read your handwriting.

11:17:40 I'm sorry. We're gonna see. Oh, so I think a word that is maybe missing in that first set of v is something about it being practical.

11:17:49 So I think there needs to because It's I think there has to be some action that comes along with that and I know that's something that is very core in the values of explorers from what I've seen so far.

11:18:02 Because there is a lot about doing, not just saying and talking. Which is what makes it special. So I think that's something to remember.

11:18:12 I'm done here. This, the missing practical. Oh, here. Meeting people.

11:18:20 Yeah, I know that's what they said. Here, in question here, Anna's.

11:18:27 People are not artists. I also think it's really important. I think it's good that we have a focus on disabled artists and neurodivergent artists.

11:18:33 I do think that we're missing a trick. That also it and that's me as an artist educator.

11:18:42 I do think it's important that we think about the audiences are seeing the work are looking at the work as part of a larger disabled community.

11:18:53 And what can be learned and what kind of relief and well-being and all kinds of other soft outcomes can come from that as well.

11:19:04 So I think it's important to think about our kind of like outward facing. Is it called outward facing?

11:19:12 Yeah. Impact And also I think I do still think there is an important role. Did anyone stop me, by the way, if I'm talking too much?

11:19:26 I do also think there's a really important role. For You know,

11:19:36 Organizations and institutions to be learning as well. I think that was in there but I just think I think we haven't quite hit the nail on the head with that yet.

11:19:46 I think it's a bit more to that. That we need to expand. And I think that's mostly.

11:19:57 Oh yeah. And something else that I think is really important. Oh yeah, and something else that I think is really important, which I know is again another value but also fits into everything we've spoken about before but making it clear.

11:20:08 Is about this balance. Within the within explorers network of people who have lived experience and people who are allies.

11:20:19 And champions for those with lived experience, cause I know that's something. That we've worked and been very committed to, especially within the steering group, for example.

11:20:29 We have those conversations a lot. So I think that's a really you know, unique, a USP of the Explorer's network.

11:20:38 Yeah, those are my thoughts, but. Really exciting to see, you know, this ongoing kind of.

11:20:46 Visual of what we've all been feeling and wanting to kind of pull together. So thank you so much.

11:20:54 Thank you. I know that's really, useful and helpful. And actually, you know, that's my summary.

11:21:01 And I think it's fair to say that many of the people who are from organisations made it really clear that clear that their learning from one another was very is very important and very important for studios and and organizations to recognize what other people are doing and that you know that we are that there are different approaches.

11:21:25 That we have and that there isn't a sort of perfect way of doing things and that we you know that we're all on this journey together.

11:21:37 I don't want to spend too much longer on this, because I want to try and keep time, but does anyone else want to make any comments about the the summaries?

11:21:47 I will share all of this information with you via email. And, the steering group have already had the summaries, but I will, I will share more.

11:21:59 Kyla.

11:22:01 Hi, everyone. Nice to see everyone. And I just had a thought about, and particularly because I come from an organisation perspective so often I am sort of the voice of the artist that we are working alongside and And I wondered whether there was a practical way that in in meetings or group discussions like this that we could really make sure that the artists that were present had that moment to speak and that and I wrote time and applause because I

11:22:36 think quite often when you're when you are used to going to Zooms and used to going to meetings and used to meeting people you can quickly you can feel space can't you and actually so I think maybe a practical way of making sure that the artists in the room is for organisations to kind of pause and give give the floor to those people that are here.

11:23:02 And if it's fine, no pressure if that then doesn't get filled. But I think we can very quickly be like, oh, this is the silence I must feel.

11:23:11 So maybe it's a practical way as well. We can really make sure that people you know, get opportunities to speak.

11:23:18 Yeah, great idea. Thank you. And I think that we do try to make this is safe space in the sense that, you know, if we don't speak for a few moments, that's okay.

11:23:31 And I think, you know, like if people pause or once take time to say something, that's absolutely fine.

11:23:38 And we know from from the last meeting where jazz gave a really impassioned introduction to a conversation about

11:23:54 Kind of rights in relation to government and and and kind of government government decision making. The we've still you know that we allow people space to be able to communicate in their own way but it does require.

11:24:12 Patients from all of us and I think that we're all working on that aren't we?

11:24:20 Any more comments before I move on?

11:24:26 Right. I'm, I'm going to move on and,

11:24:31 Oh, sorry, Sharon.

11:24:29 Sorry, I'm Sharon had the hand up.

11:24:36 Sorry, yeah, it was just a quick one. I think, a word that we find ourselves using quite a bit at the Arts and Cross Century in Nesbor is the word equity.

11:24:45 I think it's not necessarily looking for equality but looking for equity and kind of recognising that not everybody starts on the same platform.

11:24:53 And I think that's, something that's cropped up quite a bit with, with the individuals that we work with as well.

11:24:59 And recognizing that we have to redress that. With the individuals that we work with as well and recognizing that we have to redress that those imbalances to make sure that you know people do have that opportunity.

11:25:07 To the same kind of things as everybody else. That that was the only point it was going to make.

11:25:12 Thank you. A really good point. as I say, I will share all of that information with you.

11:25:19 And, and of course, as always, people are very welcome to, Right to me. and, you know, Share their own thoughts outside of these meetings.

11:25:33 It's it's really important for us that these meetings are not the only forum for us to you know, discuss these issues.

11:25:41 Okay, I'm going to move on to the next item on the agenda. which is what does ally shit look like and And this is an interesting point.

11:25:57 Actually, It came up in a conversation that we had in the steering group meeting a few weeks ago about what the network practically can do to support individual artists.

11:26:09 And I'm one to just throw this conversation open. We have, you know, we have all got ideas of what allyship looks like from, from kind of individual and organizational perspectives, but I just wanted to open the conversation up and I allow other people to, say what they think.

11:26:31 Does anyone want to comment on the question what does ally ship look like?

11:26:45 Yes, Chris.

11:26:47 Yeah, I think there's a different between individual. I am artists in supporters studios.

11:27:02 Oh



11:27:05 I'm not and what it's lowers for me, it's, What?

11:27:26 Artists in supported studios. so there's a time in here that we talked about empty wheels.

11:27:43 Well, we don't talk about.

11:27:50 I'm, and I think that one of the things that we're trying to do more and more within the network is recognize as I say the people who are not in the room or not able to be in the room.

11:28:04 It's something that we talk about quite a lot within project artworks anyway, but it's something that I think is a conversation that we want to explore.

11:28:13 Much further.

11:28:18 Some of us are in mobile. Lock. Well, on the throne.

11:28:28 I will need to have a conversation about how to do that. And they, and, Prim full, all in the book.

11:28:44 But I supported doctors as well.

11:28:46 Yeah, absolutely. I mean, in relation to what, the question, what allyship is, does anyone have any thoughts about what that means for people who who do need support to be in the room to be part of the conversation.

11:29:13 I think, I think there's something about, just always prioritizing.

11:29:22 The artists, voice. As the base assumption. Rather than a base assumption being

11:29:34 Just by rote, you know, I go to these meetings and talk on behalf of someone else.

11:29:40 This is sort of a change in just sort of. I guess sort of checking on people checking themselves and just checking that they're not making those assumptions.

11:29:49 For situations like this.

11:29:53 Yeah, brilliant. Thank you, Ali. That's a good point. Oliver.

11:30:01 I always do that thing when I try to unmute. Shrink the whole screen and then everyone disappears, you know, back.

11:30:10 Hello, I'm all over. For me, Allyship is with and not for, just bring it to my situation, someone someone someone alongside me rather than speaking for me or and my capacity will be different on different days in different situations so Just checking that.

11:30:37 And sort of not assuming. Is really appreciated. So, the point is, Was it kind of, I mentioned it, about taking time and including pauses and things like that is a really great thing to include I think with with allyship just because it changes shape all the time.

11:31:03 Fantastic. Anna.

11:31:08 So I sought to the internet. T to find out what the proper definition because I have a Oh, I know what I'm looking for.

11:31:19 To say I like an ally in life, but I was also interested what does this work actually mean?

11:31:28 What it says. Is meaning of allyship in English. This is just Google. The quality or practice of helping or supporting other people who are part of a group that is treated badly or unfairly.

11:31:43 Although you are not yourself a member of this group. And I like this bit, it says. One of the most important ways to practice allyship is just to listen?

11:31:54 I think that's really good, but then I think We need to talk more about that and this.

11:31:59 Context because obviously listening means paying attention to many different types of communication and alternative methods of communication. And Yeah, but I found that quite helpful because I think that's helped me understand it a bit more because I always do kind of get confused between advocacy.

11:32:27 And ally as well because I guess Maybe that's it, maybe that's why. So the ally is someone who can do listening and Agree and be there for you.

11:32:45 And then advocacy is when that person Kong. To kind of do that talking. To even to an ally.

11:32:58 So then you're advocating potentially to an ally. That's someone's advocating then to an ally or to a non ally as well.

11:33:03 To make change. Maybe.

11:33:08 Thank you, Anna. Yeah, I mean, we know. One of the things that, we, talk about quite a lot, within, again, within project artworks and in in the network is how some people advocate for themselves, but it takes a very nuanced and patient and and a and a really

11:33:39 Delicate. Relationship between someone who can advocate for them. Or can, help them to advocate for themselves.

11:33:50 You know, sometimes it's It's really about the relationship that that an advocate or an ally has with an individual that allows that person to be able to be included and and that that nuanced relationship is sometimes missed I think when we you know, when we're all trying to, get you know, either get our points across or be seen or heard or

11:34:20 You know, or just, you know, in a conversation like this that that nuance is very tricky to try and capture.

11:34:31 Anyone have any more thoughts on what Ally Ship is? How we can advocate for artists, how we can support artists in a practical way, I guess is the the key element of this.

11:34:49 Does anyone have any any things that they do that they would like to maybe, mention? Sophie.

11:34:58 Hi, I am an ally. And my question to the group is if you spot another ally and my question to the group is if you spot another ally who's doing something that you because I find that you because I find it reasonably easy to spot when something's reasonably easy to spot when something's not being an ally, you know.

11:35:14 People acting in with the best of intentions but it's not really falling right or whatever. I've got any advice for how you can flag that with somebody

in a useful way to say I'm spotting you doing this and then you know I know you want to help but that's not really helping.

11:35:35 Is it? Are there things people have seen happen before that have helped? To bridge that gap.

11:35:43 What a great question. Anyone, does anyone have any suggestions?

11:35:52 Anna, come on.

11:35:57 Sorry that I keep speaking. yeah. Though so I'm I the way I deal with.

11:36:14 Those situations without being too confrontational. Is to.

11:36:22 To kind of flood in the training and the resources and the tools and learning and education. Because, because if there's a gap there that's being shown.

11:36:38 By that behaviour or action. That's where I go to first. And then if it's continues.

11:36:48 The next question is to ask yourself, does that person have access barriers? To understanding this information?

11:36:55 What are they? Can you break them down? And if that's not possible, then Unfortunately, you have to be a little bit confrontational because that's just standing up for what's right, I think.

11:37:09 But I think it's got to be a layered process where you give that person the benefit of the doubt as much as possible.

11:37:20 Thank you.

11:37:14 No assumptions, yeah. No assumption. Can be all sorts of reasons.

11:37:21 Thank you, Anna. Anyone else?

11:37:31 Come on, we've got some amazing facilitators and advocates and allies here.

11:37:38 Someone else tell me what you do what you would I mean we have we all have examples of this in our own practice, don't we?

11:37:47 Kyla.

11:37:50 Just me and you, I'm on, we'll go for it. And I just wanted to write in response was actually just saying what you said was a really delicate way.

11:38:02 Sophie of changing somebody's mind or perspective so We can't, right, collective, we constantly are trying to develop, learn and grow.

11:38:15 So however I might I might you know challenge that practices I might just offer an alternative or or question it.

11:38:24 You know question the assumption and just you know help that supporter to kind of see see something differently.

11:38:33 We use it that we have a lot of a lot of books and resources that are available and quite often if a supporters is at the studio.

11:38:42 And they have time. They will just pick up a resource. So I think that's quite powerful like visuals.

11:38:50 And then there was a question before that, Martin that you said about, you know, how do we check in those assumptions and how we assuring that we're being allies, I think was the question.

11:39:02 So we, we, do work with a lot of people who do not use words. So we check in regularly so we'll quite often bring people together.

11:39:13 We'll probably bring people together around food. Because that's a really great way to connect. And we'll just work through things and that might be that we work through things and we use and we quite often use Makaton.

11:39:27 But because that's kind of they've got symbols and they've got action symbols and we try and work with the supporters who quite often live with people.

11:39:37 And support them in their lives. And we work, we work through things together so we don't see it as a sort of single unit but I mean I'm I'm reflecting on the supported studio with a collective of people so That's how we did.

11:39:55 Thank you.

11:39:56 Thanks, Kyla. Chris.

11:39:59 I think This is more of both when we think. The whole thing about, in, in, in, whole psychology of how this supported.

11:40:25 And we got on to the end talking about a consultancy, some vaulted studios.

11:40:32 It means a much more, thing. The urgency of the individualities. Okay, I'm, SIR, RTC, who've, consultancy to, But it can be difficult because it's, thought of the whole culture.

11:41:08 Yeah, absolutely. I would I would agree with that. And I think One of the reasons for having being able to have a forum like this is to sort of, you know, have conversations where we, you know, we are supporting.

11:41:25 Studios and and you know other provisions that support. Individuals, whether they're artists or not.

11:41:35 To better understand. That people can advocate. If they're given the opportunity that they can advocate for themselves that they can represent themselves.

11:41:44 On their own terms and sometimes it does take work for that to happen, but it's really important that we make that happen.

11:41:57 Of course, mom can say something, Anna.

11:42:04 Go on.

11:42:04 Sorry, just checking, cause obviously she's here in a support capacity, but she's also an incredible professional in trained in advocacy.

11:42:12 Right.

11:42:14 I'm very lucky. This is Helen by the way. I just wanted to sort of wade in a little.

11:42:24 I just wanted to say, when this happens with Anna and I'm sure you would all replicate Anna's experience that sometimes if she has support with her people talk to the support.

11:42:38 Instead of to Anna. And I'm sure you all nodding now this is very common I address it, but I refused.

11:42:48 To reply to them and I actually will turn and talk to Anna. And almost redirect the conversation.

11:42:58 Then somewhat people may think that's quite blunt. But I do think it's a really important part of allyship.

11:43:08 Modeling and is not allowing that behavior to be okay. And I suppose that's like modeling, you know, when you have a young person, you don't really want to focus on the bad behavior.

11:43:24 You just want to ignore it and just respond. With what someone should be doing. And I think that's a critical part of allyship.

11:43:38 And as a trained Africa, I would just say the training I did forced me to really understand. That as an advocate you have no voice it's not my job to have a voice if you like it's like Anna having allowed and I am her loud hailer.

11:43:56 That you all? And that's what training in advocacy. Tells you is that you know I'm not there to have any view.

11:44:05 I am there to be Anna's loud hailer. So that's a, I think that's a really critical thing as well.

11:44:13 That's what I want to say. I just want to add to that though also very quick. Sorry, I'm just also gonna slow down talking a little bit because Edward did put in the Edward did put in the chat about making sure that they can lip read.

11:44:30 So, I'll forgot my point. Never mind. That's it.

11:44:39 I think it's also important. So remember that that doesn't mean that I don't also need Mentoring.

11:44:51 Which is when Mum is not simply amplifying or supporting my voice but also having critical conversations with me to help me with my learning.

11:45:07 And also My ethics as well. So I think, you know, it's not just about you know, letting anything be loud and Whatever, you know, it's I think.

11:45:28 And allyship. I'm mentoring. And support they and care. They all.

11:45:36 I like little hats that you have to sort of swap in and out at the right times.

11:45:42 As well, which sounds like. You're a magician really. That's how you do it.

11:45:53 Martin, I think unpicks that nuance a little bit. That you were speaking of so cleverly about how it's so hard because when someone is being an ally or an advocate.

11:46:05 The It's seamless in a way. So that's all. Thank you.

11:46:13 Yeah, thank you. That's a really, helpful and enlightening. Edward.

11:46:25 It would.

11:46:30 In the hands gone down now.

11:46:33 Okay, Joe.

11:46:41 Hello. Alright. Yeah, just made a few little notes as well. As I'm, to kind of to be open and adaptable.

11:46:54 To be aware of the shifting environments and politics and systems. But affect access rights in funding.

11:47:03 Take action alongside our, improve and a challenge. To improve ourselves, to be aware and share opportunities and learning together.

11:47:14 Brilliant, thanks Joe. Edward, are you able to come in now?

11:47:21 Yeah, sorry, lanas. I had to go, I'm, I'm saying.

11:47:29 Every time I try to, my back and decision, you always said to me, but my family. O the artist is doing very well.

11:47:40 But we don't come to me and said so I can't go without anyone next me more because they just, England, me like I'm in physical.

11:47:50 Let's say we had to see you at the time. Just because I'm a dispersed city, Let's not talk to him.

11:48:02 Oh, the compining, of work, instead. Which is very hard change. Isn't going there are things happening.

11:48:14 Oh, so can I relate back to boxing? Yes, it about people who will not speak in words.



11:48:22 That correct him is.

11:48:26 So that's the quick term, long vip. I'm so sorry.

11:48:31 That's okay, it would. Thank you so much for that contribution that's really helpful, really good to hear.

11:48:38 Thank you. Sharon.

11:48:41 Yeah, just listening to this conversation now. It just kind of make you makes you realize how how massive the important This word, I ship, is and and I guess beforehand.

11:48:56 When you when you're working in an environment, you kind of some of these things you do just automatically, you know, listening is so important.

11:49:04 I mean, I know the place that I work at, it's very much about building relationships with the artists that you're working with and getting to know.

11:49:11 How they work and having time to listen to how they want to take their work forward and talking to them about opportunities.

11:49:19 So it is very much about building relationships. But I think, I think there's lots more to say about this and I think it's it's probably worth thinking about.

11:49:27 And I mean back to again and again because you know it's very hard to just kind of come up with with things now because because a lot of what we do is so nuanced that you don't always recognize you know, the techniques that you're using because you just automatically use them.

11:49:46 So And I think it's great to open up this conversation about allyship. I think it's it's quite a complex thing and I think you know it's something that needs a lot more.

11:49:55 Thinking about and kind of sharing. People's ideas and notions on what they think works for that.

11:50:04 Absolutely. And I think that, we will definitely have this conversation. Probably many times in the network and I think it's right that we do so because it's it's evolving as well.

11:50:17 Ellie.

11:50:19 Yeah, I just, once it's add, because I hadn't thought about it in terms of explorers, but some recent experiences are really relevant to this conversation.

11:50:30 So, and just for context, I managed the Northwest. But outside in, but I am, and I don't have a learning disability, but I am neurodiverse.

11:50:41 I have some brain damage and a load of weird neurological conditions including narcolepsy and things.

11:50:47 And since. September October November have been trying to recruit an access support worker. And we had to go through 2 whole rounds of recruitment.

11:51:00 And actually the issue that came up most with people not being appropriate for the role. Was kind of exactly what we were talking about now.

11:51:10 And

11:51:12 And I remember that I found it really hard in recruitment terms to talking to the organization to Try and explain.

11:51:22 In a kind of formal way. Why what it was that wasn't right, but it is basically the approach towards me was patronizing.

11:51:35 Relied on assumptions and this is just sort of in an interview. Patronizing relied on assumptions and you know there'd be things people would say about

11:51:46 You know, we had scenario specific questions. And some people's answers were just

11:51:55 So it's not what we've just been talking about in terms of allyship. And these are people who currently work in like supportive roles and meant mean very well and i'm sure are good at lots of other jobs but Yeah, I just sort of.

11:52:14 So, wanted to highlight and I'm sure anyone who has gone through hiring their own whether it's carer or support worker is so difficult anyway.

11:52:25 And but yeah, I just wanted to share that. That's been like I've now got someone who's lovely and I'm doing an induction with her today.

11:52:33 Yeah, she's great. But that it is such an like constant problem that also does make me feel realized that I'm lucky to be involved in networks like this.

11:52:47 And in this kind of world of work. Where I'm used to people getting it more. And then it's almost like when I look outside of this I'm like oh yeah lots of people really just do not get a

11:53:04 Absolutely, thank you, Ellie. Claire.

11:53:10 I was actually gonna mention outside in. Because I'm, now a member of Outside in and I think the work they do is great.

11:53:20 And I was thinking about some of the stuff that they do and if we could take some of that and apply it to what we're trying to do.

11:53:29 Mentoring, I think, could be really lovely as a way to kind of bring people together. Help support one another.

11:53:37 And help to develop these inroads that we were talking about. So yeah, I just that was what was going through my head like a proactical way forward because, you know, something that I, and I'm sure all the people don't want this to become just a talking shop where we discuss all this stuff.

11:54:00 We create this lovely, you know, network but then nothing sort of We don't take it anywhere, so you know, that's what I'm keen to try and do.

11:54:08 So thank you.

11:54:12 Thank you, Claire. Absolutely. I would say that one of the things that I think we that we should recognize and celebrate here is the fact that just the fact that we're having this conversation.

11:54:25 In a national context with people from all over the UK, people who don't. On in the same networks locally or regionally is something that we're doing is a practical thing.

11:54:39 And we definitely want to do more, but, you know we we're already doing something just by the fact that we're having this conversation.

11:54:48 Adam and Claire.

11:54:52 Hi, I'm Claire. I'm a parent of 2 young children with, one, with autism and one with cerebral palsy.

11:55:01 I think being a good advocate is making sure that what you're doing is in the best interest of the person that you're working with.

11:55:09 My eldest son's non verbal and we know that he enjoys painting and we talk him along to the Baltic to do some painting but we have to very much read his body language.

11:55:21 He does have a communication book that he can sometimes use and it's it's about learning that learning to read that person more than just words, body language as well, and making sure that what you do.

11:55:35 Is not because you want them to do it it would it is in their interest to do it it isn't it is good for them and it's safe for them as well.

11:55:44 And another thing as well is If you have a project. In mind and you're running a project for a group of people.

11:55:54 You may have a an idea of how that project you want it to go and how you want it to work.

11:56:00 They will have a completely different idea and just let them express themselves in their way and do the project how they see it.

11:56:07 Because you can't direct them to do it your way.

11:56:12 Thank you, really, really amazing comment. Thank you. There's some really great conversations happening right now.

11:56:20 Both in the chat and, and, here live. But I am conscious that we need to have a break.

11:56:28 So I'm going to pause. Now and we'll actually just address the next agenda item after the break.

11:56:40 If that's okay, Ellie, are you still okay to be, to be part?

11:56:41 Yeah, yeah, cause the, the setting, the date thing is kind of, It's the same topic, isn't it, as the membership bit, so I'm happy we can squish that into one after the break.

11:56:52 Cool, okay. So we're going to have a 15 min break. Alan, you're signaling.

11:56:59 Did you want to say something?

11:57:04 We can't hear you. You're muted.

11:57:07 Yes, I'm, it's all very good stuff and I'm just used to it.

11:57:13 I was part of the group in about 2,000. And only too well aware of the basic problems that if I do there use the word compared to the mainstream art world, our costs are instantly twice as high as soon as you save the word.

11:57:33 Our costs are instantly twice as high as soon as soon as you save the word carer. Which is I mean, it's really difficult to be sort of okay and save these things and and people I, able, able, people.

11:57:45 We'll, we'll have access to facilities like when I worked when I worked at Warwick University.

11:57:53 I'm retired now. But, had only we should access the photocopying paper, the web and all sorts of things that if I'm being

11:58:02 If I'd been, no, to alternately able, I don't know. We probably wouldn't have had access to it.

11:58:14 It's I'd like to see this, the, go on after the end of the funding.

11:58:21 But meanwhile, at the end of the funding, but meanwhile back at the ranch, there's this nagging feeling at the end of the funding.

11:58:26 But meanwhile back at the ranch there's a snagging feeling at the back of my mind.

11:58:27 I'm sorry but as soon as the funding goes out everything goes pear shaped because because we we with the 2,000 you could literally see if the funding guide because you used to get loads of paper loads of papers to the letterbox and you could almost weigh the funding running out in terms of what was coming through my lesser box.

11:58:49 I'm hoping I'm not being too negative, but for me. That is one of the practical things that keeps coming to mind.

11:58:58 Thanks, Alan. We're gonna talk about some of those things in second half of the meeting, actually.

11:59:05 So thank you. Thank you for bringing that, in now, Edward.

11:59:15 Yeah, I can I guess suggest That's when we have a break. To come myself to Laosu where's the ice and go look at the screen because I've done meetings before.

11:59:32 Oh, Brazil and all that. People have like that is the best. Says, it's, of having a break.

11:59:42 You still have a screen peek so can I come himself? And sound of and Leave the screen because that's what I didn't say myself, I actually went to a group of Oh, different.

11:59:58 Everywhere. This day you both know, to save, all that. And the majority of them said, that it really helped him.

12:00:09 When the camera and sound were off. And you went away. They gave them a much better opinion, much better, so I'm not forcing people to do so but King I just people turn their cameras off and sound up and actually go for break.

12:00:29 In.

12:00:31 Fantastic. Thank you, Edward. What he said? Okay we will be back at 1215 I hope to see you, very shortly.

12:00:42 Go and have a, P and a break.

12:15:44 Okay. We're just coming back to.

12:15:52 Restart the meeting. We have 3 quite well, for me, interesting conversations to have about, how we can actually make the network membership more representative and accountable.

12:16:17 And part of that is actually about, setting dates and, starting to talk about agendas for specific supported studio and artists meetings.

12:16:31 And then also a conversation to have about the future of the network. Because we are in the last 2 months or so of explorers now and so through explorers funding we will only have one more meeting.

12:16:47 But we'll talk about this in, in a few moments. And there are some exciting things happening and we think we've got some, we think we've got some good plans.

12:17:01 So, I think that we can we can be aspirational. Ellie, are you okay to, leave this?

12:17:13 Sure, so, this kind of follows on from what we were talking about just before we had the break, and really neatly.

12:17:21 So. Yeah, from feedback. From the survey and from artists and talking to people on the steering group.

12:17:29 A number of artists felt that as we were saying before supported studios weren't necessarily representing them.

12:17:38 And that they're supported studios. Who may sort of be automatically representing artists who could and may want to represent themselves.

12:17:53 And he should be able to have that opportunity. And so. As Martin said, One thing we were looking.

12:18:06 For this would be to have supported studio and artist meetings because obviously no matter how accessible we try to make big network meetings.

12:18:18 Like this at the end of the day. They also are what they are in a way. And So one, yeah, option that we had was for separate meetings to happen, perhaps in mid April.

12:18:33 And there would just be supported studios and artists. And then whoever wanted to sort of feed back.

12:18:42 From those could be the person could be who attends. And the network longer meetings.

12:18:49 So be interested to hear people's thoughts on that.

12:18:58 And jump in if I've forgotten anything, Martin.

12:19:03 Thank Kelly. I would just add. Really that we because we're looking to kind of you know improve this idea of representation and accountability.

12:19:16 About, and we're opening this up to the network. In terms of ideas.

12:19:24 But, you know, how do we include people? In this conversation, for example, you know, Are there?

12:19:34 Supported studios. are there artists that, a part of sports studios who could be part of this conversation as well.

12:19:46 Because we think it's quite important that We try and make that happen and from Project Artworks point of view, we There are definitely artists and there are family members and caregivers.

12:20:00 That we want to start inviting to these meetings. And, you know, if that's, if that's also the case for some other supported studios, then I think it's really helpful.

12:20:14 Edward.

12:20:16 What would you do for soon, and see what arches. But not in As to you They've been missing out over days to being allowed to cook.

12:20:34 We would love them to come to meetings and be part of the network. Definitely.

12:20:40 Been bigger because me I don't have a studio so how's that going to be for me if you have to go to kitchen meetings and that.

12:20:50 How would that work for me if I don't come to to you? How's that going to work for me?

12:20:58 Do it is going to be.

12:20:59 No, that's a really good point. Sorry, I should have been clearer when we said it.

12:21:03 So it was It would be like a group. For supported studios and individual artists. And obviously you've done Like yeah, the right thing today because you're here as part of this meeting as an independent artist.

12:21:17 So it's definitely not. Trying to create a separation or anything. It was to try to include, artists who are, who go to the supportive studios.



12:21:29 Who like aren't on in this particular zoom right now. That sort of thing. Anna?

12:21:38 Yeah, I just wanted to, yet just to let you know as well, Edward, I similar Lily, although I have some affiliations to support studios through friendships and work previous and etc.

12:21:53 I'm not part of one either. So yeah, really good question. And also looking forward to.

12:22:00 Getting to know you more. Yeah. So in a way Is it almost rather than 7 a typical big kind of like meeting like this sort of thing?

12:22:15 It's like we have an agenda, we all come together and then we like. Deal with those kind of things that and then that's the content.

12:22:24 Is it that we're almost kind of like thinking about changing that culture of a big meeting and how that works?

12:22:30 In that we would then in a way use these big meetings to decide what those things are. That we care about that we want to talk about.

12:22:38 Then it's almost like that's like we almost We're just creating an agenda like by being big meeting.

12:22:45 Hmm.

12:22:47 And then all the conversations and the working and the da da da, happens until the next one and then we.

12:22:56 Check in and have the converse is it almost kind of like thinking about alternative ways of creating a model.

12:23:04 Of what a network meeting could be. Is it about creating more? Another word we should put in our values.

12:23:12 Yeah, I think that's yeah, a really good Did you want to say something then?

12:23:18 I was just going to say, yes, I mean, in a sense, I think that when we talked about it, in steering group, it feels like the support to studio.

12:23:32 Meeting and the artist meetings. They do 2 things they give an opportunity for for ideas to be discussed in a smaller group.

12:23:46 That can then be brought to the, to the big network meeting. But they also allow conversations that have been started in the network meeting.

12:23:56 To be discussed maybe in more detail. In a smaller group. And, so sort of all of those things in a sense, but the groups really need to be what works for.

12:24:11 The people that are in the group and in a way that's to be decided once the group happens.

12:24:18 Yeah, and I don't know if. And that doesn't necessarily also mean that by a smaller supported studios group it would be like a smaller zoom.

12:24:30 With Artists in Supported Studios because then that's just like not really solving anything so it might end up being the a more practical, you know, for support to studios, it might be a more practical way of doing that.

12:24:42 Like what?

12:24:43 Might be they have look like there's like a No, almost like a small focus group in the studio.

12:24:50 That's what's kind of, you know, with artists and then that can be sent back properly.

12:24:56 Well, lots of fireworks have gone off behind you. And I don't know what that was.

12:24:58 Just wait.

12:25:01 I totally get it. So it's about having the time to be able to put all of this information of us chatting and being in this forum in this format.

12:25:13 Having a chance to play around with different models. That to bring it to different methods of communication and alternative methods of communication.

12:25:24 Yeah. Okay.

12:25:25 Before we bring in Joe and Stephanie, I just wanted to respond to that very quickly to say, yes, it gives us more time.

12:25:32 And it allows us to like go into detail that perhaps we don't have time to do in these bigger meetings.

12:25:41 Jo.

12:25:42 Okay.

12:25:46 Yeah, yeah, sorry. Even just in the break, they're kind of walking through our studios and just chatting about.

12:25:52 About this meeting. There was a number of interest. So even kind of.

12:25:58 I suggested whether that's okay to like forward on and share the meeting notes from this to so people can get an idea of what the network's about and what discussions are.

12:26:10 Sorry, we could feel a lot, a lot, to join and be active. Yeah, and kind of we've got a number of kind of Associate, you kind of work remotely as well, which would.

12:26:23 Kind of be easier to kind of join the an online platform, but, but also nothing works there.

12:26:31 For us, done in person, so kind of in focus groups within the studio, face to face.

12:26:40 It's, it's all about, yeah, providing accessing voice.

12:26:44 Yeah.

12:26:45 William, thank you, Stephanie.

12:26:48 Hey everybody, I'm Steph Terrell, Head of Arts, well being at the Disability Charity Sense.

12:26:56 So I've been coming to a few meetings and just kind of absorbing the conversation. And just following on from some of the work that we doing, around our advisory group.

12:27:07 Which Martin has been involved in. We're looking at all forms of communications to using the total communication approach within there.

12:27:16 Advisory group setting. And so moving forward around this what the discussions around advocacy and widening out the pool of communication within this group.

12:27:31 It's almost like you would have, I could kind of imagine like a menu of access that you would have.

12:27:41 In terms of if you want to get involved within the group. Hybrid. Or in real life with BSL interpretation or with focus on a Oh, audio description.

12:27:56 I think that could really help. Focus what forms of access people need. Because we found in the past when you try and merge different forms of access so for example if we're doing an event in which we've got a BSL interpreter and or an audio subscriber.

12:28:17 Sometimes the 2 don't help each other. They don't wanna the BS selling, will want information is like minimum words.

12:28:26 Really clear concise actions to take forward. And then if you're trying to put a audio subscriber within the mix.

12:28:34 And they kind of want to build up the landscape of what's in front of you. Sometimes trying to create a space where you got all forms of access.

12:28:44 In a in a space can actually not support people to kind of get that really clear vision of what communication they need.

12:28:53 So, so are they within this group like, and I was talking about the subgroups. Having a group that's like, okay, this is a non verbal group that uses peck boards or widgets or this is a group that's got BSL or audio description.

12:29:12 Or large fun, easy read or Braille. Not to separate out people and not that you want it to be as equal form of of access but actually people if there if there are kind of channels of the different communication or groups subdivided into what access will work for them for them.

12:29:30 Would that then mean that because what we all want is everybody's in the space, they're informed, they're aware, they know their voice matters, they know how they can contribute.

12:29:41 If you've got that menu of different provisions, that means that people can find the space that works for them.

12:29:49 It's just think. That's just my kind of listening to the conversation, but just being super clear about the forms that you've got so everybody can join in with whatever communication they need.

12:30:05 That was just my thinking around this whether that helps with the communication with of the group.

12:30:14 I think that's really helpful actually. Thank you. And, your meetings are always incredible.

12:30:23 So, I take that very seriously. Thank you, Flora.

12:30:30 Hi, yeah, just, from action space thinking about this. For us at the moment we're doing we're just starting a research project on how I'm our artists can participate in in board decisions.

12:30:49 But it's very much the research stage of how, how could this. How could this work? in terms of artists with different needs being able to access it.

12:31:04 It's such is it really early days. So we just had the first session last week.

12:31:10 It's mentioned on our Instagram, it's a UCL funded. Research projects. And And when I think about, so that's I think that hopefully we'll learn some some stuff from that in terms of how can we support our artist to participate in other discussions.

12:31:29 Think what I think about our artist. Participating in this kind of zoom format I think think it would be quite difficult for some people and also that the aim like why would be because people have done zoom maybe for learning some art skills for communicating with another artist but it always has a really like practical Element in terms of connecting to their art practice.

12:32:01 And so kind of just just thinking about that. Because often artists do obviously come to our studios, specifically they want to come to to develop their art practice.

12:32:18 So the kind of other stuff around that is. Slightly different. I noticed Jennifer mentioned about the differences between of supported studios between.

12:32:31 Studio practice like best practice and studio practice and discussions that supported studios could have around that. And then connecting for artists and those being maybe different things.

12:32:45 I thought that was interesting. So yeah, these are just. Thoughts that get into mind for me that I that But I could take it if if we do decide to set up.

12:32:57 That kind of group I can then obviously take it to my team and and we can, look at how we could.

12:33:04 Support participation if that's possible.

12:33:08 I think it's more I think it's most important that we that we discuss how we do it and say that we try to find the way that works for people.

12:33:18 Yeah.

12:33:22 Hi, thanks. Yeah, yeah, so I've got 2 thoughts at the moment. One is that as part of the reason I've come to the meetings is to see if I would want to sign post people to come to them themselves, you know, as a developing artists in our projects.

12:33:38 And we cover quite a range of different art forms. Obviously there's a lot of the sporty studio and stuff is heavily weighted on visual arts.

12:33:47 Is that something that's written into the network or is it just like coincidental that that?

12:33:52 And is it possible that we might that in the future there might be some division between visual arts and maybe having a group that's focused on other art forms as well like filmmaking and things like that is pretty popular.

12:34:06 Yeah. So that's.

12:33:18 Yeah, absolutely. I think that. Because there has been a network that's been supportive that was kind of set up by carousel in Brighton who are performing arts organization.

12:34:20 And they set up creative minds. But I think it's hard generally a more. Focused angle.

12:34:30 Although for example I know that Venture Arts has been part of that and and and other organizations nationally.

12:34:36 We've actually had conversations with Creative Minds, and Carousel and and I think what we want to try and do is recognize the importance of specific conversations, for example, around art form, visual arts or, forming arts music, for example.

12:34:56 But also, that these forums are an opportunity for conversations about creative culture generally. And about the conversation that we had about advocates and the importance of finding someone who can advocate.

12:35:12 For someone for an individual in the right way show you know i think that goes across art forms and and actually you know it's not even specific to cultural.

12:35:22 Activity, something about, you know, ourselves as humans. So I think it's all good and I think you know what we would like to see is have an opportunity for the network to continue to develop.

12:35:39 And maybe have art forms specific conversations then, which would be really interesting, for lots of people, I think, if we can.

12:35:48 Edward.

12:35:50 Hi, I was just thinking that I'll just say that This meeting has been really such a beautiful, so thank you.

12:35:59 The week and the way to live wheat was really helpful. Thank you very much those people did that.

12:36:05 Thank you, but I was just thinking about in the future is they're having breaking, Look so small among our meetings instead of Wrong.

12:36:21 To attend the meeting fully. Who can't stay for long and people who need a break in with you.

12:36:31 Well, I mean, you can just hang out.

12:36:38 Yeah.

12:36:36 That's a really good point, Edward. I think part of the reason for wanting to have, meetings that are focused on specific.

12:36:46 Issues or for or for specific groups for example. Would be some way to towards that. So that we can, as I say, have kind of maybe more detailed conversations about specific subjects and if there is appetite for that from the from the whole network then we should definitely try and do that.

12:37:12 Does anyone else want to comment on this idea in particular I think you know, does anyone have any suggestions about how supported studios might make, you know, bring people that they support into, you know, part of this conversation.

12:37:33 Either either kind of literally in making something work for people in this environment. Or perhaps how information is disseminated to artists within studios.

12:37:46 And and shared like for example I know that Becky I don't think Becky's been able to come back.

12:37:53 Into this meeting, but I know that Becky and Blue Room, they have conversations about, what's happening in the network.

12:38:02 Becky has conversations with the artist that she supports and that's a really important thing. Ky.

12:38:11 And yeah, I, I think from our experience of explorers, what's been the most powerful connection and is when we've been face to face and I was just thinking about how potentially like with with the ending of the funding and I'm going forward what that could look like for explorers.

12:38:31 And so, you know, there is already chatter about Doing stuff online, doing things in a hybrid way and face to face, but all of that, you know, we will need to think about the budgets that come with that.

12:38:42 And I think this is a really lovely idea of, I think it was Fienna that just mentioned about or was it Flora?

12:38:53 When the artists have met it's been very practical and I'm wondering whether some of the artists that are riot works works alongside actually it could be very a practical way to connect with people on a national



international way and that's all it is to start with to sort of introduce people and build on those relationships.

12:39:17 Because yeah i think that that that relational bit is really important And obviously then plan to do the face to face work.

12:39:28 We would we would definitely be we educate supporters in helping the understanding to flourish. Anyway,

12:39:42 So I suppose we, the invitation would be to support us to come to meet in and support those artists.

12:39:52 Who are non verbal or who do not use words to communicate. And in, in that way.

12:39:58 So yeah. I'm not so, just thinking out loud, sorry.

12:40:02 That's okay, thank you, don't say sorry. Sonia and Katherine.

12:40:11 Hi, and I'm Sonia, this is Katherine and we're from Kien Prices, we're from a DAYS and it's up in the northeast and we run like a series of the combined arts workshops on a weekly basis.

12:40:24 And we were just staying before earlier that We, a lot of our, since users, they all have like a wide range of like high needs, like low needs and I feel like we were saying that it would be so beneficial.

12:40:42 It's like we've got some of our artists like in this discussion just talking as themselves because a lot of our artists in this discussion just talking as themselves because a lot of them I think would love to express their opinion of what they are finding and how they are finding it.

12:40:53 As individuals just in a standard forum like this. The one.

12:40:58 Fantastic. Thank you. What do people think about the idea of having a specific meeting where studios invite artists to come and be part of that conversation.

12:41:14 Okay, that's something for us to do then, isn't it?

12:41:19 Okay, fantastic. That's great. Thank you so much everyone. Just to mention, sorry, Ellie, I've kind of taken over.

12:41:29 That's okay.

12:41:32 We do want to try and set dates for, for having meetings. Because of Easter and the Easter break affecting some people are there particular weeks of April that might be good.

12:41:48 But for people all particularly bad for people. And I'm going to suggest some dates. For us but anything any suggestions or recommendations from you.

12:42:13 What if we looked at Anna, sorry.

12:42:17 I was just gonna say it could be really cool. To almost create a bit of a you know like bands and stuff have like tour dates then it's quite in advance.

12:42:29 It'd be really cool if we could have a bit of a sort of like and a like a prediction of like maybe I mean this is gonna sound really ambitious but like over the next 6 months what would it explorers meet up look like that kind of thing.

12:42:47 Just because I think then people can get it in the diary as well and then it protects it.

12:42:53 Absolutely. I think the There's been some precariousness. About obviously about the future in terms of explorers coming to an end.

12:43:08 We're, we're about to have a conversation about that. And I think what we aspire to is being able to say, you know, that we will have dates.

12:43:15 In the diary months in advance so we can do that. I think that we need to just be sure that we can honor that those.

12:43:23 You know, that commitment, because at the moment, you know, we, I don't think we have a cliff face, but we certainly have a steep slope that we need to negotiate.

12:43:35 I hope that's it. A metaphor that, translates. Does anyone have any other comments about dates or suggestions?

12:43:48 So, for times that we meet. Are they particularly good or bad times of the day that we might have?

12:43:54 Support his studio meetings, although we might have artist meetings.

12:44:00 I just wanna say I'm the first 2 weeks of April or half term for schools. So anyone with kids might have.

12:44:08 A lot of noise in the background.

12:44:11 Thanks, Claire. That's very helpful. I was looking at the week beginning the fifteenth of April.

12:44:17 Does that, how does that look for people?

12:44:23 Okay, I will start suggesting some dates. Sonia Katherine.

12:44:29 Yeah, yeah, just as a general consensus with our data sets are pretty hectic during the week, just as a general consensus are pretty hectic during the week, but Thursday afternoons I'm generally like all right, during the week, but Thursday afternoons have generally be hectic during the week but Thursday afternoons I've generally like all right time for us just as a little tip there.

12:44:44 Okay. That's very helpful to know. That's really good. Thank you.

12:44:53 Okay. Ellie, are we okay if we move on?

12:44:58 Yeah.

12:45:02 One of the things that I want to actually, that we need, just. Talk about is we want to grow the steering group.

12:45:09 We have a really incredible steering group at the moment. but a couple of people have had to step down from the group.

12:45:19 And, and because of the limitations on people's time. We think it's really important that we grow the steering group to enable a kind of democratic decisions to be made.

12:45:32 At the moment, there are 7 people in the steering group and we, feel like we need more like 12 or possibly even a couple more in order to mean that when we meet the steering group that enough people are in that meeting for us to kind of make some really good decisions.

12:45:51 So I will be putting this out to the whole network. But if you think that you would like to be part of the steering group.

12:46:00 Then do please let me know at the moment it works out as being about one meeting, maybe every 2 months.

12:46:11 If we want to become more active, then it might become more. It might be that you need to meet more in the future what we want to make sure is that is that people are paid if they don't have a waged income.

12:46:28 So for individual artists, for example, to be part of a steering group, we, we would expect to pay that artist for coming to steering group meetings.

12:46:38 It's not lots but it it represents kind of half it would represent a half day.

12:46:45 Do let me know it doesn't have to be in this meeting, but do let me know if you or anyone else.

12:46:52 You think should be part of the steering group and If this people, that you know of in the network who may be aren't in this conversation, do mention it to them or suggest to them because we really want to get I will representative group and the more that we can How's the steering group represent everyone?

12:47:14 Then the more active and the more kind of powerful we become. It's already with the steering group members that we've got here already an incredibly powerful group.

12:47:25 Members that we've got here already an incredibly powerful group who make some great decisions.

12:47:29 So, yeah, please consider that.

12:47:35 Okay, I'm just going to move on now. To what we've already started talking about.

12:47:43 Which is the future of the network. I've already mentioned we've got a probably one more meeting.

12:47:50 Left. As part of the fund, the funded part of, project that I run explorers.

12:48:03 Yeah.

12:48:01 I want to try and get these for studio and artist meetings in as well. But probably one more network meeting that will that will likely be I'll give you the date for it now it will likely be around the 20 first or the 20 s of May.

12:48:24 We will confirm that with you, but it will be in probably in that week. And that will be right at the end of our project.

12:48:33 Project officially ends, in May and, so we sort of like need to just try and get it in in time.

12:48:42 The student group. Discussed some options for. What might happen after that date?

12:48:51 And I wanted to kind of put some of those options. To the network as a whole. One of the things that we, that we discussed.

12:49:02 Was whether some of the supported studios that are part of the network will be willing to take on the hosting and administration.

12:49:12 Of running this network for a set time. It means that there will be some financial obligation obviously in terms of, that time for the supported studio.

12:49:26 And, potentially also for supporting the steering group. But it's we're not talking a great deal of money.

12:49:34 And obviously one of the things that we would do is maybe look to see whether we can rotate that.

12:49:41 So they're the obligation on sports studios isn't. You know, the financial obligation isn't

12:49:48 Isn't that isn't that great until we potentially get funding?

12:49:56 Another option is that we, right now, consider setting up a formal organization. A community interest company or a consortium.

12:50:09 To bid for. arts council. Money in order to keep the network going. We've talked about this the steering group with very keen on doing this.

12:50:22 But it does also take time to sit and write bids and to constitute yourself or you know a group of people as a as a CIC or as a consortium or as an organization.

12:50:40 So. That is another option.

12:50:46 In further further into the future, we might want to look at, whether the network exists as a subscription model and that we ask people artists for example to pay a small subscription to be a meant to be members and support the studios maybe pay a little bit more related to the number of artists that they support for example.

12:51:12 It might be that all of these things, the things that we try. I just wanted to put that out there to you, see what you think.

12:51:26 And you got anyone got any comments?

12:51:36 I do it.

12:51:39 My concern with the prescription is what happens if there's people there who are financially difficulty. Of still monkey pre-.

12:51:51 To be taken away with Oh, restrictions, they will become part of your group. You are going to drink it because .

12:52:00 Of You, you need to be the for a description of not everyone can have part, the, I supposed to disabled access should be to, Unlude, at any time.

12:52:17 If you can

12:52:24 I think that we would try to make sure that we were really careful and fair to people, Edward. And so if someone Couldn't pay it.

12:52:33 Subscription, for example, we wouldn't, exclude them. We would just give them, longer to, be able to, support that subscription or we would, you know, we would work with them to, support, it might be that we work with them to support them to to get financial support to be part of the network.

12:52:56 So we definitely definitely wouldn't look to exclude people, if they couldn't pay.

12:53:05 I would also want to help out as well. I'm most of that kind. I can't become a team member because I go to But if I'm able to help out any time.

12:53:19 Fantastic, Edward. Thank you so much. It's really lovely to hear that.

12:53:24 Thank you.

12:53:27 And this follows on a bit from what you just said, Edward. I winded, I wondered whether, I mean, in the steering group we discussed kind of like what that actually looks like.

12:53:36 Because it's sounds quite big, doesn't it, a subscription? You know, what does that mean?

12:53:41 Doesn't mean a pound does it mean a hundred pound? So I think it might be worth sharing what those what those costs might look like.

12:53:50 Particularly if you ask it if we're asking supported studios or a larger organizations that are here. To financially input, and like what is what is that?

12:54:02 So you know, I think that what does that look like would be really helpful. My, my final thought was around the CIC model and I mean, art right collective has been going for 3 years and we set up a CIC because we really wanted the collective of artists to be informed and empowered so we're on a bit of a journey.

12:54:27 But actually you could set up a community interest company and start that that process quite easily with with a single person.

12:54:38 And, and then help it to grow. So, and because that's what we did at our riot, we didn't want to sign people up to become trustees if they didn't understand what that meant.

12:54:53 So we're on our own journey and and also I know that I'm I have really valued project artwork's input and your input Martin.

12:55:04 So how that can continue and and we don't want to lose the wealth of information that is here right now.

12:55:12 And so these these models enable that that to happen and enable you to continue that process. It might be a handing over process, it might be a continuum.

12:55:24 That's for everyone to decide. But yeah. I think that was old.

12:55:29 Thanks, Kyla. Thank you. Anyone else want to comment on any models that they can suggest or any kind of like pitfalls with any particular idea.

12:55:46 LA.

12:55:48 Not so much the models but just wanted to say that, upside in is you know, we're really keen to help.

12:55:57 Carry the torture on if there's like an absent interim or something while while a group of figuring out what, you know, doing all the admin for whatever's next or whatever.

12:56:08 And Just to echo what everyone else, just be, yeah, don't want to waste any of the kind of connections and knowledge and everything that we've got here together.

12:56:18 So. We're happy to, help carry on the torch.

12:56:23 Thank you, thank you, that's really good to know. It would be good to know and again it doesn't have to be in this meeting but it would be good to know from other supported studios.

12:56:33 Another organizations if they also, you know, would feel the same way we want to make sure that we and continue as smoothly as possible and actually, one of the things that I need to do is actually just do some sums about costs.

12:56:54 And that's something that we can then talk about in the next meeting. We're not talking about huge sums of money over a year, including, steering group.

12:57:04 It adds up, but actually, you know, over a year for a large organization, it's not too much.

12:57:10 Sorry, Jess.

12:57:15 Hello, thank you. It was just from a really sort of practical point of view of that kind of just ease of transferring explorers if it needs to be to like another committee organization what we've really tried to do with explorers is to kind of keep it as a separate identity to project artworks where we possibly can.

12:57:36 And also try and use freeze resources. As much as we can as well to do things. So, If it did come to the point where we were sort of handing over the experience website or the Instagram accounts or the ways that we've been doing things with the network and the directory.



12:57:54 It should be a really Easy process to sort of hand that over and it should be quite and.

12:58:00 An independent That's definitely the wrong word, that we can sort of transfer with support and help and sort of but we've always tried to sort of keep it as this thing that could be independent in the future.

12:58:18 So it in theory we should be able to do it quite seamlessly.

12:58:24 Okay.

12:58:24 Yeah. Thanks, Jess. That is really helpful. Adam and Claire.

12:58:31 I'm just a comment on the potential of you of having subscriptions I think when you start introducing introducing subscriptions you put up barriers to people.

12:58:42 And I think if we can do it. For free and continues to do it for free at point of access.

12:58:48 And then that sort of puts everyone on an even playing field.

12:58:53 Yeah, I would I would completely agree with that and I think the subscription model is not by any means anyone's first choice we just need to acknowledge that this doesn't organize itself and that's something that we need to kind of like find a way around.

12:59:10 Anna.

12:59:12 I just, I just wondered if it was helpful as well to clarify when you talk about subscription.

12:59:19 It's what when we've kind of drilled in. Focus on to the fact it's for artists and individuals.

12:59:33 Yeah.

12:59:28 However, I think there was a another intention that maybe is the bit that still should happen which is any like large cultural organization's companies in arts and institutions who want to learn from all of this stuff that we're giving and we're talking as individuals.

12:59:54 I think that's where that subscription is relevant. Because it's like if they have the capacity and the funding.

13:00:02 Because of Arts Council, let's create strategy for the next. 8, 7 years left, however many years left, and other kind of funding bodies.

13:00:13 It's in those organizations best interest. To even, you know. Specifically allocate funding.

13:00:22 You know, to a subscription for Explorer's Network. And I just, I wasn't sure if that had been made that clear.

13:00:32 We kind of hone down on individuals but actually I think our target in terms of being able to be more financially protected to be able to carry on is about you know, people who have an economic capacity.

13:00:48 That they are. Giving something back. Not simply taking, I think. That's I,

13:00:59 No, you're spot on. I guess one of the things that we just need to try to do is make sure that we still get those institutions coming.

13:01:09 Because actually I've noticed that they've started to drop off a little and the, that's something that we need to think about.

13:01:20 Edward and then Chris.

13:01:27 And I just like Somebody else talk about I think that we should have free open access. Every, pico soup count do it.

13:01:39 I strongly agree with whoever said it that we should have free open access. To this quickly pro after believing if you're going to say open the bike, help us in longer to help.

13:01:55 Give it longer time to pay it. There's still people hanging off. So I would say we need to consider free open access to those who need it and say look.

13:02:06 Do you Would you, free open access.

13:02:14 Thanks, Edward. That's a really good point. Chris.

13:02:34 Okay.

13:02:35 Chris? Did you want to say something?

13:02:51 Chris?

13:02:53 Oh, well.

13:02:56 I will put one for I know we're saying about open license. Well, I think we need to do a little bit more work on who this is for.

13:03:15 I, what the power for something, but not entirely clear.

13:03:26 I think we need to do more work.

13:03:30 Absolutely agreed, with that. And I think, you know, we're, on meeting number 5, we're not yet a year old.

13:03:40 And, you know, having met 5 times. Now, you know, we're just starting to kind of like get those ideas much clearer, aren't we?

13:03:50 Yeah.

13:03:54 We're going to draw the meeting to, close now. people are dropping off.

13:03:59 It's one o'clock and everyone wants to go for lunch. I am going to send the recording and the chat of this out to everyone as soon as we can it will take a little time to write up the notes from this meeting because it's been really interesting and and but there's a lot of information in it.

13:04:22 So, we'll try and get that out to you as soon as we can.

13:04:27 In the meantime, do stay in touch. Do let us know if you want to, or someone you know, you think should be on the steering group.

13:04:39 And have a good rest of your day and we'll see you soon. Okay. Thank you so much everyone.

13:04:48 It's been a super interesting meeting. And we hope to see you again very, very soon.

13:04:54 Thank you.

13:04:56 Thank you.

13:04:55 Thank you. Bye.