

**Cardiff Music Board Meeting
Meeting Summary
May 18th 4.30pm Microsoft Teams.**

In attendance:

Chair Cllr Huw Thomas (Chair Cllr HT)	Guto Brychan (GB) Helia Phoenix (HP)	Michael Garvey (MG) Nick Saunders (NS)
Antwn Owen Hicks (AOH)	Heather Brown (HB)	Phil Sheeran (PS)
Cllr Peter Bradbury (Cllr B)	Joe Jones (JJ)	Ruth Cayford (RC)
Daniel Minty (DM)	Jonathan Day (JD)	Sarah Hemsley Cole (SHC)
Gavin Allen (GA)	Bethan Elfyn (BE)	Tumi Williams (TW)
Jon Fox (JF)	Liz Hunt (LH)	
Adrian Field (AD)	Lucy Squire (LS)	Apologies:
Gerwyn Evans (GE)	Ruth Ballantyne (RB)	Andy Warnock

1. Chairs Introduction- Cllr Huw Thomas	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Chair Cllr HT) We felt it was important and useful to bring the board together for this special meeting to discuss the impact the Covid-19 crisis is having on the music sector. Given the current crisis we will focus this meeting entirely on the challenges of the pandemic and schedule a meeting for a later date to deal with wider Music Board business. 	Actions: Previous Meeting Summary Approved
2. Sector Issues	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Chair Cllr HT) We would encourage Board Members to share any reports that they might be aware of with Council Officers, who can then share with the rest of the group and ensure that information is shared with relevant policy makers. We welcome CMB Member Lucy Squire's offer to share research that she has been working on with USW Colleagues responding to Covid-19. (LS) Lucy highlighted some of the online activity that USW students have been delivering, including online events with extensive reach. Lucy offered USW students as a resource to support the sector at this challenging time. 	Action: CMB Members to share reports, data and best practice regarding support for music activity during the pandemic.
3. Grassroots Venue Issues	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (GB) Since closing, music venues no longer have any income coming into the business. Most are now dependent on funding (to date - Creative Wales, Business Rates Grant and the furlough scheme) and some businesses might have reserves to keep the company ticking over, but the future is unknown There is currently no clear strategy in place for when the situation might change for our industry and we are not expecting this to change any time soon. We do not currently see how we can operate if social distancing measures are to remain in place following lifting the lockdown. 	Action: Continue to monitor situation and lobby for sector support Action: Cardiff Council to support MVT Campaigning and work Action: Research online music activity

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced capacity would also make it very difficult for us to open and be economically viable. • (JF) From a MVT perspective venues are moving from emergency into crisis. We are supporting a number of aspects but its going to take money to sustain the sector. We need political commitment. • The Music Venues Trust, MVT has assembled a team of leading experts on tenancy issues, rent and mortgage negotiations, planning, licencing, legal contractual issues and more. This Grassroots Music Venue Crisis Service will help problem solve challenges that venues are experiencing by connecting venues with their team of industry experts. • (JF) Music Venue Trust is also calling on the music industry, cultural sector and the UK's most successful musicians to come together to create a £1 million fighting fund to prevent the permanent closure of hundreds of Grassroots Music Venues across the UK. Music Venues Trust are also working with Government on 'REVS' - Reopen Every Venue Safely (REVS) this is the grassroots music venue (GMV) sector response to the Covid 19 Crisis, and specifically deals with the process by which circa 700 GMVs within the Music Venues Alliance (MVA) might emerge from current restrictions on opening and trading to normality while fully protecting the public. 	
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4. Musicians and Music Event challenges

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (RB) According to MU research, one-in-five (19%) musicians fear they will have to abandon their career - Two-in-five (38%) are not eligible for Government's financial assistance schemes. The Musicians' Union is urgently calling on more meaningful support for those affected. • The pandemic has had a huge impact upon members, some have been able to maintain online teaching, but there is significant hardship from those that fall between the support schemes currently available. • MU are co-ordinating advice to support musicians. Anyone can sign up for updates. MU have set up a hardship fund. MU are involved in a number of campaigns and musician support schemes. • MU are encouraging members to charge the same cost of music lessons online. Online teaching results are very good. • (SC) Noted she has been working on the Principality Stadium conversion into a Covid-19 field hospital, highlighting the events industry has so many different transferable skills. • (SC) The commercial events sector has many challenges. Drive in's in Europe are popular and there are a variety of ideas that could be worth exploring. However, it is evident that Music Events are just not safe and viable at the moment. There is much concern that if the pandemic goes into next year. • (NS)We have moved all our festivals into June and July next year. We have carried on organising virtual events, helping to 	
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<p>entertain people at home and building brand awareness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (MG) Emphasises that some aspects of Music education can still happen for example virtually and there are lots of good examples of virtual teaching for individuals and groups taking place. • (MG) suggests spending some time thinking about the talent pipeline and how we can still be thinking about our future performers and audience, even if venues are closed right now. • (MG)How could some investment and effort in talent - through commissioning; teaching; network support etc. better prepare the sector to bounce back and be ready for a new future when it does comes. • (BE) BBC Cymru Wales have taken Horizons online. Instagram live seems to be the most popular for online engagement. • We need more research on online engagement, to explore the opportunities and issues. • (HP) We should harness the new interest in online activity, this has widened engagement and encouraged audiences to experience new music. • (Cllr PB) Noted how people are rediscovering music during lockdown, and how its supporting well-being during the pandemic and this should be recognised. 	
<p>5. Cardiff Music City Festival update.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (JD) Due to the current Covid-19 Challenges, Welsh Government are now faced with huge challenges regarding the live major events they fund going forward, funding is likely to be needed to support priority challenges. We will monitor the situation and plan accordingly. 	<p>Action: Work with WG MEU to plan Cardiff Music City Festival when guidelines and the public health situation allows.</p>
<p>6. Arts Council of Wales and Welsh Government Update</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (AOH) updated the group on the ACW Individual Artists Stabilisation Fund that opens on May 29th and the ACW support to date • (GE) Brought the CW Music Support group together. The Music fund was put together for a quick response and are working with the sector. • WG meet the DCMS next week. We need to consider what support we can give if the pandemic continues. 	<p>Action: Work with Creative Wales to explore support for the sector.</p>