

MINUTES



Northern Voluntary Jazz Promoters Network Meeting

Saturday 8th July 2017

10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m at the "Jazz Lounge", Robin Park Centre, Loire Drive, Wigan WN5 0UL.

Attendees : Chris Desaram (chair) and Judith Waterhouse (Wakefield Jazz) Ian Darrington (Wigan Jazz/Festival), Paul Bream (Jazz NE Newcastle) Gill Wilde (Grimsby Jazz/Festival) Steve Crocker and Jean Watson (Seven Jazz Leeds), Mike and Marion Gordon (Scarborough Jazz/Festival) Geoff Matthews (Southport) **Apologies**: Neil Hughes, Kim Macari, Steve Bootland, Les Brown, Sam Ashton, Michael Swerdlow & Victor Greenberg, Barney Stevenson, Paul Thomas, Jez Matthews. **In attendance** Lesley Jackson (Jazz North)

Item:

1.0 Welcome Ian Darrington, director of the Wigan Jazz Festival, welcomed the Northern Jazz Club members. The Wigan Jazz Festival was continuing to be a huge success with this year's headliners including Gordon Goodwin's Phat Band, Brandord Marsalis, Jools Holland, Kurt Elling, Ambrose Akinmusire and more

2.0 Minutes of Clitheroe network 27 April 2017- **approved as true record**

Matters arising – PB proposed we used any surplus on Orpheus Round 1 to support the Dutch JPN bands coming to the North. If the mk 2 project disappears. **Not approved** – view was that the money should be used for a future Norvol project

3.0 News Round Up

Wakefield-Jazz 30th anniversary in June celebration with 5 concerts. **Southport** – JM reported on new Southport arrangements at Atkinson. He had put on recent double header concert including Alice Zawadski – very successful... **Grimsby Jazz** – Gill Wilde retiring end of 2017 from Grimsby Jazz . Grimsby club taken over by Warren Jolly – move to Thursday evenings. Cleethorpes Festival held this year at Moon on Water . Fish Tales commission going well (first performance in Hull to be followed by national tour) and kids performances at schools also going well. **Scarborough Jazz** – very happy – club flourishing, new younger attendees, festival bookings ahead of previous years. **Jazz North East** – Women Make Music programme a success. New Newcastle jazz Festival to be held 'Newcastle Festival of Jazz and Improvised Music' 28 September - 1 October 2017. All day Dutch showcase included – next year Luxembourg showcase. **Seven Jazz Leeds** – 10th anniversary in September - changing name to JazzLeeds to reflect wider activities in city. Two festivals programmed this summer – 3 August the 1st JazzLeeds festival in Millennium Square and 2nd Village Jazz Festival in Chapel Allerton 1-3 September. **Jazz North** - Northern Line showcase planned for in Manchester 31 August. (subsequently to the meeting LJ announced the new Alt Shift J pop-up jazz festivals (four) aimed at developing younger audiences)

4.0 Finance and Membership report

Finance GM's final report before hand over of Treasurer role to JW. Current membership 21 (+Darlington and Heart say they will re-join) Surplus in bank £6421.47.

Membership – Discussion whether new £50 fee was working. Generally Ok but for some smaller clubs fee was an issue. Tight margins for some clubs +JPN fee was also £50 for some. Norvoljazz as ever needed to make it clear the benefits of membership.

Agreed: **JW to draw up proposals on Norvoljazz membership and how to grow it – report back to next network meeting . Vote of thanks moved and seconded to GM for all his work as Norvoljazz Treasurer over the last four years**

5.0 Internships scheme

LJ introduced the item. With PB/SC and CdeS she had met with Brendan Murphy, the ACE music Relationship Manager in Newcastle, to discuss the promoter development project on 23 June 2017

Scheme was £42-45k bid to ACE encouraged us to develop the internship idea further and move from 6-9 months part time per intern so that they could experience the full cycle of bookings for a jazz promoter. Project would have training and skills development element. Would be 3 or 4 paid internships. Specific promoters would mentor and host the next generation of jazz promoters and they would be part of recruitment process. It would be a significant commitment from clubs. SC circulated a draft expression of interest form.

Agreed – **Norvol Network approved and supported the proposal for a jazz promoter internship scheme and move to the next stage of drafting a plan (LJ). Clubs would be contacted with outline of the project to gauge their interest in applying for an internship. The network thanked Lesley for all her work on this so far**

6.0 Touring Project

CdeS asked about Project Orpheus and whether Kim Macari would have the time to work with s again with all her other new JPN/Scottish Jazz Federation commitments.

GM said he would be prepared to put together an international touring project if required but not immediately. Other people were also suggested that also might be approached

Action - CdeS to write to Kim on our behalf – (he subsequently clarified that Kim does want to work with NorVolJazz on a mark 2 of International Touring scheme)

7.0 Trello/Facebook Forum - methods for keeping NorVol members in touch to be set up. Neither BS nor JM able to attend – item deferred till next time

8.0 JPN Annual Conference

CdeS and SC reported back on recent successful June 2017 annual Jazz Promotion Network conference in Leeds College of Music. A new younger board had been appointed and there had been more emphasis on joint projects between UK/Irish promoters and less on big (and unsuccessful) ACE funding bids. Dutch joint promoter programme and #Jazz100 had been major items. It was felt there was not much or a voice for voluntary promoters at the conference .

LJ mentioned that Jazz North might be holding a conference of its own very soon. SC asked that Norvoljazz could be involved in the planning of this. LJ also said Jazz North would be widening the scope of their annual Education Conference in future years. **Item noted**

9.0 Pitches and projects

1. **Peer Reviews** An informal evaluation of concerts by clubs in the network SC (Seven Jazz Leeds) circulated a note on how this might be done and the potential benefits. Wakefield/Scarborough/Jazz NE all expressed an interest and wanted to be part of it .

Action **Promoters to come back with a list of concerts they wanted peer reviewed in the autumn – all – response to SC**

2. **Emerging Artists** . Seven Jazz every year gave two concert opportunities for up to six LCom final year groups to play/rehearse their degree evaluation pieces in front of a live jazz audience in late April early May each year. 3 bands per concert 40 mins each. Cost would be expenses, LCoM give bands some help with transport. The bands would be curated jointly by Seven Jazz and Leeds College of Music with one eye on who was making waves on the Leeds DIY jazz circuit. Sc asked if other clubs be interested in setting aside one or two concert slots for these? Grimsby, Scarborough and Wakefield all interested. Jazz north East couldn't make it work due to LCoM connection

Action **Interested promoters to come back with dates in April May 2018 that they could set aside in their programme for these emerging artist bands- – all – response to SC**

10.0 Next meeting – Scarborough Jazz Festival **Sat 23 September 2018** (thanks Mike!)

Meeting closed 1.30 followed by buffet lunch and visit (by some) to Wigan Jazz festival concert with Dave Newton Trio