

## **Minutes of Leonardo Partnership Meetings held in the Vovestre District of France over the period 9<sup>th</sup> April to 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

### **Present:**

**Laois School of Music, Ireland:** Nuala Kelly, Rosa Flannery and John Davidson,

**ANIMATO, France:** Fergus McKay, Gaia Miato, Marie Markus and Marie Jubin

**Turkey:** Sirin Akbulut Demirci and Mustafa Alp

**Ireland: Tallaght Community Arts** Danai Kelleher, Tony Bardon (Chairman), Andrew Lea and Shane Ó Fearghail

### **Welcome**

Tony welcomed the delegates and thanked Fergus and Gaia and the French contingent for acting as hosts for the second time.

Gaia outline the programme of events for the following few days

The minutes of the previous meeting, which had been circulated in advance were approved.

### **Activities update**

Tony asked for an update of the activities which had taken place since our meeting in Laois.

### **France**

France has been busy making preparations for this visit

### **Laois**

The Laois School of Music had organised a trip to Aberdeen for their youth orchestra. This had been a very big learning experience for them. The project had cost approximately €7, 000 and they had to raise the funds themselves as they found it difficult to obtain grants.

There were approximately 25 people travelling with 15 children in 10 adults. It was a good experience for the children as they got a taste of what life was like on the music road and there was a lot of hard work involved.

### **Turkey**

They have been selected for a detailed review by their National Agency. They had many questionnaires to answer and explain in detail what was happening on the project. TCA had been selected for detailed review on their earlier Grundtvig project.

Turkey will be translating the website into Turkish. Tony pointed out that there was a facility within the Weebly package for doing this. He is to send details.

Turkey has the capacity to send out the Toolbox to approximately a thousand teachers in Bursa for feedback and suggestions, this should be very helpful to the project overall.

## **TCA**

The main focus of TCA has been development on the websites.

### **Review of websites.**

We had a number of sessions where we reviewed the content of the websites.

### **Multiple Websites**

Tony explained that at the moment we had three websites draft websites.. These were the project website for all the information which would be required by Leargas to evaluate the overall project, the Teacher's Notes and the Toolbox itself. There was some concern that we had too many websites for the final project and we are to look into streamlining them as far as possible. One way forward may be to integrate the Toolbox and the Teaching notes. This will depend upon the programming facilities within the website software.

### **Success**

Some discussion took place around the concept of preparing for success rather than developing maximum potential. The title of the project is preparing for success in music, Tony expressed the view that success was a concept which meant a whole lot of different things to different people and it was difficult to set out the criteria. It is up to each individual to define what success means to them and then they need to develop their potential to the maximum extent within their meaning of success. Tony will seek to develop these concepts within the framework of the Teaching Notes.

### **Weebly Platform**

Tony explained that the websites had been prepared on a platform called Weebly and he asked for each delegation to submit a nomination to become a Weebly editor. Laois nominated Rosa. Turkey nominated Ersin and Fergus and Gaia will be the editors from France. He pointed out that this package was particularly easy to use and recommend that that as many people as possible become familiar with it.

We had been using box.com to collect information for the project but it would now appear that uploading directly from each of the delegations was probably a better option. Tony is to check out if there are maximum limits on what can be uploaded. We also need to check out if we can link to locations within pages on the website. (There is no maximum limit on the upload and linking tpo locations within pages is not a feature of the software)

Each of the delegations is to be responsible for populating the visits with media and audio. They will also be responsible for any dissemination material.

**Look and feel.**

Overall, people were very happy with the look and feel of the websites and the ease with which they can be navigated.

**Follow up meeting**

At a follow-up meeting there was a detailed review of each of the websites, the respective content and presentation.

There was much discussion as to the scope and possible reach of the material, but ultimately there was acceptance that we needed to stick as closely as possible to what been undertaken to do in your application. Elaborations can take place at a later stage, if appropriate.

Shane O'Fearghail and Nuala Kelly conducted a session on an ideal layout from a user's perspective.

We may need to get some professional help before we finalise the websites.

**Irish Visit**

Date for the second Irish visit to Tallaght Community Arts

After some discussion it was agreed that the visit should take place between 23rd June, a Tuesday and the following Saturday. The Rua Red building in Tallaght was considered to be an ideal location.

**The Forum.**

As part of the Irish visit there will be a Forum held in the Laois School of Music to discuss the progress and outputs of the project with interested parties.

Rosa Flannery will make contact with Paul Roe, who is a musician, a teacher and a coach, to arrange a meeting with Tony Bardon. The plan is that Paul Roe would chair the forum meeting, give a short talk on the role of coaching music and act as a coaching consultant as we finalise the project.

**Thanks**

We thanked our French hosts for their excellent hospitality and the opportunity they afforded us to progress the project, enjoy each other's company and share each other's music

## **Evaluation Session French Leonardo Visit Saturday 11th April 2015**

### **What is working well?**

- As in earlier visits the participants were pleased with the quality of the interaction and relationships which had developed on this visit and during the course of the project to date
- The availability of the outputs in Website Format brought a new level of understanding as to the contents and the workings of the Toolbox and related teaching notes
- We continue to enjoy each other's music and we now have a far greater capacity to support one another at gigs. Our music is very well received at the gigs.
- We received further insights into the nature of music and the role it can play in building community as a result of interacting in a discussion forum with the local community
- Our French hosts provided us with a programme that was rich in experience of local culture while at the same time creating an atmosphere that facilitated the progressing of the project

### **What is not working well?**

- We still have a distance to go on finalising the website/ websites
- We were still experiencing some technical difficulties with technology on the visit
- We feel that there need to be a visual dimension to the project in order to make it more attractive

### **What do we need to start doing?**

- Retain a professional coach
- Clarify the need for professional IT Input
- Start preparing for the Final Report

### **What we need to continue doing**

- Some more live coaching sessions to bring home to participants the principles of coaching
- Updating everyone in the project,

### **What do we need to stop doing?**

- We now have a good idea of the content, we need to refine this and put an emphasis on presentation

### **Next steps**

- Circulate minutes of the meeting.
- Progress the Websites