



**Northern Jazz Promoter (NJP) ~
Saturday 16th April 2022
Zoom Meeting**

Present:

Steve Crocker: NJPNetwork Chair, JazzLeeds
Gill Wilde: Secretary, Grimsby Jazz Projects
Wesley Stevenson Newcastle Fest of Jazz & Imp Music
Rosemary Holmes JazzLeeds
Ian Darrington Wigan Jazz Music Continuum
Pete Woodman Marsden Jazz Festival
Laurie Stead Huddersfield Jazz
Ramesh Narayanan – JazzLeeds Trustee
Bob Walker Scarborough Jazz/ S. Jazz Festival
Oliver Bolton JazzLeeds
Stewart Smith Jazz North East

Apologies

Judith Waterhouse: Norvol Treasurer Wakefield Jazz
Pete Rosser Wakefield Jazz
Jez Matthews : Jazz at the Lescar/ Sheffield Jazz
Paul Thomas: Sheffield Jazz
Phil Lee RVJB
Chris Bye Chief Exec, Jazz North
Genevieve Lamb Parr Jazz Liverpool

Minutes of last quarterly zoom meeting Tues 2nd Feb 2022

Matters arising

Jazz Education link between jazz promoters and schools Ramesh Narayanan. Jazz Leeds have met with Art Forms (Leeds Council music Hub) and arranged during the autumn term a trial funded by Jazz Leeds of a 6-7 weeks project in a school. It will use a jazz curriculum tried and tested by Brendan Duffy (LYJO) using a teacher and 2 assistants finishing with a concert.at Christmas.

All those clubs interested in being involved in an Arts Council funded project linking jazz clubs to schools in their area are invited to a meeting on 4th June 2022 at the Wardrobe in Leeds. Grimsby Jazz Projects, Dove Jazz Club, Scarborough Jazz and Jazz Festival, JATP, Bradford, Jazz Leeds, Wakefield Jazz all expressed an interest so far.

Certificates of Sponsorship Wes Stephenson reported that the new Jazz North CoS system has worked well for them. They had 3 musicians from Holland 1 from Berlin the certificates were issued by Jazz North. Good advice was obtained from Ian Smith (DK Arts) with a checklist of information passed to Heather Spencer. The certificate cost £100. Immigration was not themselves sure of procedure and were sending musicians to the wrong

place so the correct information is important to make sure the Certificates are activated and the correct immigration gate is used.

Low Carbon Jazz more information requested from Jonathan Butters (not present)

New Business

Touring Costs Paul Thomas Sheffield Jazz submitted a paper on this subject based on finding solutions to the rising costs of touring for musicians travelling to the North from London, (and of course vice versa!!). Paul had commented that subsidy would be needed as club prices could not go up any further. He wanted to know from clubs their typical band payment costs, ideas for the best way forward with Arts Council and the role of JPN in this. This also links with a letter Nigel Price sent to Nadine Dorries signed by 68 professional musicians. (Copy available if you haven't seen it.) about the difficulties for small promoters of making ACE funding bids. Ros Rigby is to address this issue with the JPN board. Wes commented that this touring cost project was unlikely to get ACE funding unless it was focused on a specific theme (e.g. the low carbon jazz idea)

Agreed that it was important to encourage tours with a number of venues not just "one-night stands" though Bob Walker was concerned that it would affect clubs if bands performed too close by in other venues.

Wes believed it could work if venues were far enough apart. He proposed working up an idea that would involve around 7 northern (and possibly East Midland) venues that were well distanced and had similar view of the music working in partnership with bands to achieve tours. He was looking at a spreadsheet idea possibly initiated with the help of our NJO trainees – Steve C suggested starting with Christine Tobin Trio who were interested in building a tour around the Leeds 27th Oct date. Both Oliver and Stuart were willing to help with the spreadsheet model.

Laurie mentioned that Jazz at the Keys Huddersfield had recently folded due to this problem of touring costs.

Stewart mentioned a different approach of ticketing in a Glasgow festival – pay what you can, regular and "solidarity" – might be a way of raising more income from ticket sales.

*Action – Wes to work on a spreadsheet with Oliver and Stewart. Any promoters wanting to be one of the groups involved to let Wes know

Internship scheme (Wes Stephenson)

The NJP trainees ACE application was coming together. A seven-date tour for Marco Woolf at Manchester, Lancaster, two in Leeds, Wakefield, The Lescar, and Newcastle

The Action Learning sessions with Emily Jones have now been set. There is space for Host Promoters to also join the sessions. You would need to be at the first introductory session on Wednesday 4th May. Three festival visits are to be arranged for the trainees at Manchester, Leeds and Newcastle jazz festivals. Coaching sessions are also arranged for next stage and CPD sessions are organised and more informal sessions. If any other promoter wishes to contribute to these session please get in touch.

Rosemary requested to view the ACE application when it was complete.

Trainees Oliver said it was going well and was developing a greater understanding of jazz ecologically and economically. It was useful to be working with a younger band, and a considerable benefit to understand how much help is needed to run a club.

Stewart said it was a good experience working on the different aspects of the application, in the club and on social media.

Catch up

Pete Woodman Marsden Jazz Festival everything depended on the result of the ACE application for the Festival in June. Adjustments have been made as there will be no open-air stage in 2022, the main stage will be in the Church with New Stream concert being in Mechanics Hall

Laurie Stead Huddersfield Jazz have found a new venue starting Sunday 12th June 2pm at Smile -a new music venue. It will be in the upstairs cocktail bar with Snake Davis duo.

Bob Walker Scarborough Jazz There has been an upturn in audience numbers. They have been helped by a JN bursary of £500 to put on young players. Ian Chalk is coming over from York with his young musicians' group. Scarborough Jazz Festival was going ahead and the full programme will be out shortly.

Wes Stephenson Newcastle The Sound of Science Festival was very successful supported by money from 16 different sources, 300 tickets were provided and 260 went. 60-70% were new audiences with families and children among them. Some good things coming up in the Newcastle Festival of Jazz and Improvised Music ACE grant successful. Tickets will be available for NJP promoters to attend on Sat 1st October 3pm.

He is about to start a new bid for Jazz North East.

Steve Crocker Leeds

Ambitious evening programme for spring -so far audiences had held up well though people still wary about COVID. Regular northern band programmes and community jazz events also well attended. Instrumental and (new) vocal workshop underway but needed bigger premises. JazzLeeds putting on 10 events in the new Leeds Jazz Festival June 1-12 2022 and organising two days of the festival tent. Were pleased with partnership events with Howard Assembly Room. Funding support from Arts at Leeds and Leeds Inspired very welcome.

Information sent in..

Steve Bootland Bradford JATP

JATP has emerged from the pandemic pretty much unscathed. Audience numbers are down a little but still at a sustainable level. Of course, whether the sharp increase in living costs will have an effect remains, as for all of us, to be seen. In the meantime, we soldier on.

Phil Lee Ribble Valley Jazz and Blues

Our festival is April 29th to May 2nd. It is a smaller affair than most years - for obvious reasons - although we are delighted to have our Festival back "live" in any shape or form. Georgia Cecile's Quartet opens the Festival with a Friday night gig at The Grand. The main Saturday evening gig at The Grand is K.O.G. Kweku – born in Ghana and now one of Britain's rising stars. Throughout the Bank Holiday there is a huge variety of music available

– and much is free! There are 45 gigs in all – many in quite delightful venues such as pubs by rivers, churches, a zero waste and ethical produce shop and most of the pubs in central Clitheroe.

The result of the **poll on when and how people wanted to meet** was that 85% would be happy to meet online or in person, 15% want to meet online only

Saturday is the most popular date to meet with Friday being the second favourite. The most popular time was mornings. Suggestion was to make the next meeting online and the one after that in person – we can plan for future ones to be a mixture of online or face to face.

Agreed **Saturday July 16th 10.30am- online** for the next one and **Sat 1 October 3pm - in person- at Newcastle Festival of Jazz and Improvised Music**– that will also be our AGM

Meeting closed 11.45am