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# REFLECTIVE NOTES

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- The workshop was scheduled as part of one of the regular neighbourhood planning meetings. They had a very short meeting beforehand to clarify a few points before starting the workshop activities.
- I took a colleague to help out and we set up before the meeting started and during the initial neighbourhood planning meeting.
- We stuck picture on the wall at different stations around the room and as people began to come in to attend the meeting, they seemed quite intrigued by the displays.
- Once the meeting was over, P11, the Chair, handed over to me to begin the workshop
- I started by introducing the idea and concept of the work. They had all heard this before as I had regularly attended the meetings, but I felt it would be useful to repeat that before starting the activity to ensure everyone knew what the work was about.
- I also explained that, although I had been attending the meetings regularly, I would need to go through the ethics procedure for this work because it was part of the official research.
- After handing out the forms and information sheets, I ran through what they said and invited any questions. This whole process took longer than anticipated as the group had a lot of questions about the video. Not all of them were related to the ethics procedure but were important for them to feel comfortable in taking part.
- Once all the consent forms were signed, I began the workshop.
- I provided a demo of Bootlegger, showing them how to use the app and what the different functions would mean.
- I also showed them the instruction manual that I had developed for the group but said me and my colleague would be happy to answer questions and continue to support them in using the technology throughout the workshop.
- I didn't spend too long on the demo, feeling it would be more beneficial for them to learn through doing so I handed out the phones.
- The group split into 3 pairs and one group of 3 and each participant was given a phone.
- The first task was to navigate the film shoot on the phone, selecting the correct elements and interviewing each other in their pairs. The questions that were set were about neighbourhood planning broadly and had been chosen to ease them into using the app.
- All of the groups needed support at this point as they were very new to the app and not very confident with the technology. One group in particular required support:
  - ▶ P13: "I don't really understand what all these options are on this screen"
  - ▶ P14: "I've got to the bit where I film, but how do I record and what's all this [overlays] for?"
- I showed them and explained to them all of the functions and they began to interview one another.
- About half of the participants became confident using the technology after the first activity but the others were still quite unsure of the app – we continued to provide support throughout the rest of the activity.

- In the group of 3, one participant was not keen on being filmed so decided to observe the rest of the group
- One of the pairs, during the interviewing activity, struggled to understand how to use the camera on the phone, often holding it so that the person's face was cut out or it was focused on something different.
- As the first activity went out, the groups became more and more confident
  - ▶ P12: "This is okay this. I could use this all the time to film more stuff that I could then share on social media"
- When the groups began to look more confident, I started the second (and main) activity. This was involving the stations around the room.
- I directed each group to one of the stations, explaining that there was a range of material to look at including photos of the neighbourhood, simple city policy information, maps, and a list of prompt questions. I gave them 5-10 minutes at each station to interview each other about their views on that topic using the prompt questions and other material for inspiration.
- Three of the groups were confident with the technology following the first activity and only required support every now and again – usually when an error occurred with the app.
- One group required more support and I spent a lot of time encouraging and supporting them to complete the activity:
  - ▶ P13: "I don't know what to say"
  - ▶ Researcher: "Okay, well what do you think about transport in the area? The buses or the metro?"
  - ▶ P13: "Oh, well the metro is great but it's often delayed and the buses are okay but they keep changing the service. And..."
  - ▶ Researcher: "Well, let's video this – that's all your opinions and that's all you have to say"
- Often the participants felt uncomfortable being filmed or knowing what to say and wanted to prepare a little more beforehand
- One of the groups was very confident
  - ▶ P12: "We could do this with other groups"
  - ▶ P13: "Yes, we could build it into the consultation when we start that"
  - ▶ P12: "We should hold some workshops with different groups to build up more interest and to get people's opinions. It'd be particularly good for youth groups or schools even"
- The group as a whole said they enjoyed the workshop and could see the value but some, who were less confident with technology, had concerns:
  - ▶ P12: "I thought it was excellent. I'm thinking I could use it in future meetings, just record a snippet that we could share on Facebook"
  - ▶ P15: "It was good – it got you to think and focus on the issues of the area..."
  - ▶ P14: "But not just the issues...also the positives. Sometimes we're too focused on the issues but actually there's a lot of good stuff as well"
  - ▶ P13: "It got me to think about things from other perspectives. I was thinking about the transport – yeah it's great for me. But that I thought, what if I was a single parent with a buggy or what if I was taking the kids to school. It made me be a bit more reflective even though I struggled a bit with the technology"
  - ▶ P17: "I wasn't so keen on the graphic things on the screen – they were distracting. But you can turn them off so that's good at least"

- ▶ P16: "I got used to it pretty quickly. But I found the questions on the screen hard to read – the writing was too small"