
REFLECTIVE NOTES

YOUTH FILMING: Wednesday 27th July & Thursday 28th July

- From the very beginning of contacting the working groups, P10 had been keen to work with me to produce a film. Originally she was away during the time I had suggested but no one else got back to me from any of the groups
 - The Chair put me in contact specifically with this group and once again, P10 was keen to take part. When I visited the steering group to arrange working with the groups, P10 instantly said she would be happy to meet with me
 - I had email conversations with P10 before meeting up and she had already started speaking with her contacts to arrange to visit different groups and people and had already started putting together a storyboard.
 - As I was in Berwick for the week, she asked if we could meet on the evening of 27th to chat over a few things so it was clear what was happening the next day. I met at her house and she offered me a drink and we sat in her garden to chat
 - The atmosphere was very friendly and I could see that we would work well together
 - I explained the process I'd gone through with the other groups but also said I was happy to take a steer from her about what she would like to do as she had already put a lot of effort into the planning
 - I demoed the app briefly so she could have an early feel for it and also went through the ethics procedure so it saved time the next day
 - P10 was quite wary of the technology as she felt that she wasn't "tech-savvy".
-
- The next day we met on the main street at 1.30pm. We met at the main guard in the centre of the high street. The Chair had suggested capturing some footage there but P10 was keen to explore options.
 - We met a young person called G who was a musician in Berwick. P10 knew her through various groups she was involved with and G had agreed to be filmed playing guitar as well as providing her opinion on youth facilities in Berwick
 - The Chair had suggested she could play guitar in the town centre, but P10 wanted to let G pick the location. G suggested a spot on the quay walls where there was a bench that overlooked Berwick and Spittal.
 - We walked up together and once there, G got out her guitar. She seemed a little shy, not about playing guitar, just about the way the filming process would work.
 - P10 was good at directing and asked if she would be able to play standing up resting against the bench so we could capture views over Berwick and also suggested asking some interview style questions to get her opinion about music facilities for young people
 - ▶ P10: "So if I just ask you some questions about young people in Berwick or about musicians and the space you have, just answer them honestly and it'll be brilliant. I'll

do them one at a time so they're all on different clips. And we can re-do them or start again at any point if you want to."

- I handed the phone to P10 and although she said she wasn't technically minded, it was clear she was familiar with using smart phones and such like as she seemed to use it quite naturally.
- I had to remind her of exactly how to use the app since this was her first time and I had demoed it the day before
- P10 began the filming and initially G played a song on guitar.
- After this, P10 asked G about what kinds of facilities were there already, what would she like to see in the future and those kinds of questions. G answered with ease and was clear and coherent – she spoke better than some of the voiceovers the working group had come up with.
 - ▶ G: "There's nowhere for us to play and sing and record. We go to the youth centre, but that's not just about music. There's a tiny little place we can go to record, but that's it and it's not ideal. We really want to record more of our own music but there's nowhere to practice either"
- The ease with which G answered the questions made me wonder if there should be more of a focus on interviews in the filming process more generally.
- After spending about 45 minutes with G, we parted ways and P10 and I went off to film some of the derelict buildings or sites with potential for youth facilities.
- P10 was very enthusiastic about the neighbourhood plan, the opportunities in Berwick and the use of the film to capture them:
 - ▶ P10: "There's so much potential! There's loads of space we could use for facilities for youth – they could have a skate park, music studios, dance studios, youth group facilities...there's so many possibilities!"
- At this point, P10 was filming areas and place around the neighbourhood more simply and she started to get to grips with the app very quickly:
 - ▶ P10: "Oh, I remember, I press the red button and that counts down"
 - ▶ P10: "Oh, that's good. So I can just line up the landscape with the overlay? That'll be helpful to make sure what I'm doing is okay then"
- As we walked around the area, P10's enthusiasm was great and she seemed to enjoy filming very much.
- There was a very old derelict building in the town which had been captured by a few of the different groups I'd worked with. P10 was particularly interested in it saying it would be great for a youth centre or some kind of youth facility. She was so enthusiastic that she was keen to get up close to the building to capture footage even when it was trespassing.
- We made our way to the river near to the council offices as P10 had arranged to meet another group of young people. They were on BMX bikes and skateboards and were hanging around the area to the front of the offices.
 - ▶ P10: "They're always down here. People tell them to move on or get annoyed with them even when they're doing no harm. And, they're only here because there's no where else for them to skate and ride"
- Although she had arranged to meet the group, they were quite shy in speaking to the camera and no-one wanted to be the first to join in.
 - ▶ P10: "Just do what you were doing. You don't have to speak on the camera. I just want to see what you all get up to and how good you are with your bikes and skateboards"
 - ▶ P10: "We can use this to show there's no facilities or areas for you to do this."

- With the reassurance from P10, the group began to go about their sports and started to perform tricks. P10 was able to capture it all on video and had even chosen a high area to film from to make sure she could “do it justice”
- Once the group had gained a little confidence, a few of them were happy to speak to the camera with P10 asking questions in the same way that she did with G
 - ▶ “There’s nowhere to go on our bikes. People don’t like us hanging around here [the Quay] but there’s no where else”
 - ▶ “We often get moved away but we’re not really doing any harm – they just think we’re up to no good”
 - ▶ “We could do with some facilities for us. Just like a skate park or even just somewhere where people won’t move us away from”
- As the young people gained confidence, and P10 built up a relationship, she began to direct them a little more to show off some of their tricks.
- P10 became very creative with the camera, exploring different angles and ways to film them.
- So we filmed a couple more derelict sites over the south side of the river where there is a lot of opportunity for development and then ended the session.
- Later that evening, we met in town again to go to an Army Cadets groups which P10 had arranged.
- We introduced ourselves to the staff and P10 led the way and decided what to film. We were able to view from the balcony and the leaders were happy for us to film the young people as they practiced drill – all of the young people have consent in place for this kind of activity
- After drill practice, one of the leaders called out a large group of young people and they came into the room with us.
- P10 began to tell them about the work and what she was hoping to do. She did the same thing with the interviews, asking them what their favourite thing to do in Berwick was and what they would want to change.
- She gave all of the young people a chance to speak and come up with an answer so everyone could contribute their views.
- After this session, we went to a café to reflect on the filming done so far
 - ▶ P10: “I think they [young people] were comfortable with being filmed. That first girl, the musician, she did it in one take. She’s used to all this technology, though”
- We also reflected on her own use of the technology and how she was very confident with the tool despite saying she wouldn’t be initially.
- P10 was keen to go film more in the future and had arranged with other youth groups and leaders to go along and capture more views with young people:
 - ▶ P10: “This is great. Now that I’ve had plenty of practice with you there, I’ll download it and get some more footage of the area. I’ll get others from the working group that couldn’t come today to do it as well.”