
REFLECTIVE NOTES

TOURISM FILMING: Thursday 21st July

- I met P1 at 1.30pm on Thursday at his house on Quay Walls – it's also a B&B which made me realise his interest in the tourism group. I felt quite uneasy about the workshop as it was the first one of this kind I had done.
- I had planned some preliminary activities to help plan the film shoot before we would go out to film and I had to run through the ethics procedure. He was happy with the ethics procedure and signed the forms.
- I explained what I was suggesting to do but made it clear that I would take my steer from him as it would ultimately be their film.
 - ▶ Researcher: "I've prepared a storyboarding type of activity before we go out to film but I'm happy to take my lead from you. What would you prefer?"
 - ▶ P1: "Let's just get straight out to film. I've already written a list of locations that I want to capture anyway and a list of issues I think are important"
- As he was keen to get out and film, I did a demo of Bootlegger and explained the concept to him. He was surprised that he was the one of will be filming as he thought I would do it.
 - ▶ P1: "Oh, I thought you would be filming and I would direct you. Or at least I would be interviewed or something?"
 - ▶ Researcher: "No, the idea is this tool is for the groups so you can go out and film on your own. I'm really only here for support"
- I immediately identified that this was an issue I had to address with other groups to ensure they knew what they were agreeing to take part in. I thought I had made it clear but more work needed to be done on that front.
- We set the app up and logged in using one of the bootlegger accounts and went out to begin filming.
- The initial few shots were taken multiple times. I was filming P1 who was providing a brief introduction which would be used in the film to say who the group was and what they were doing/why they were filming.
- Each time he began the video, he forgot what he wanted to say or he began to falter. This took up time on the clips, so he had to start again.
- The length of the Bootlegger clips had been discussed at the meeting and it had been clear that the group wanted shorter clips. Consequently I had set the shoot up to record 30 second clips.
- As soon as we began to film, we quickly realised that 30 seconds was too short. P1 felt he was under too much pressure to say what he wanted to say or capture the area in a shorter space of time.
- After P1 had tried the same clip a few times in a row, I logged into the website using my phone, and changed all the clip lengths to 60 seconds.
- I then handed the phone to P1 and we began to walk around the Quay walls filming as we went.

- The clip length made a big difference to the recording. The first clip P1 had been trying to record initially was done in the first attempt after lengthening the clip as he felt he was under less pressure.
- P1 was also recording voice overs onto the clips but it was clear he wasn't sure what to say, particularly at first.
- As we progressed around the walls, he became more confident using the phone and I was having to guide him on how to use the app less and less. At this point, I began to observe more and was less active in the process.
- He started to record more and more clips and captured a whole host of heritage sites and activities. With each one he provided a voiceover either about the history of that site or about its potential for future.
- Where he was speaking about the potential of a future site – he began to explore and imagine possibilities. He suggested things like a new visitor centre or to use parts of the walls as heritage attractions more specifically to draw people in.
- He also picked up on issues that affect tourism such as a large car park at the foot of the walls near to the train station. He spent a lot of time filming in this location, highlighting the issues but also the opportunities for future.
- At the end of the capturing process, P1 was happy with what we had captured but recognised that the planning was needed more than he realised. He was keen to see if he could download the app onto his phone and rec-capture some of the footage once he had a better idea of what he would like to say.
 - ▶ P1: "Yeah, I think I got some good footage but maybe it would have been better to plan a bit beforehand. I realised I didn't really know what to say sometimes so some of them might just be my ramblings. I think it'd be good if I could go back out and film – can I do that?"
- As I had set up the Bootlegger shoot beforehand due to time constraints, it would have been good to go through this process with each group so they could get a true sense of the platform and its potential. This is particularly true when thinking about the length of clips and the way the shoot was configured. Plus, I am currently the admin of the shoot but in a participatory process like this one, I shouldn't be and I will be looking to change this as soon as possible.
- I had chosen the templates and set how many clips of each kind I would like to capture but this wasn't stuck to and a better way to think about this is needed.
- P1 realised that the planning phase was important at the end of the process and I recognised that I should ensure that the groups plan
- There is a fine line between giving the group complete control and steering them in the best direction for them – I was giving too much control to them to be able to produce good enough results
- I noticed that as we were filming, the focus became less about planning as we went round the town and more about showcasing heritage assets – more thought is needed into how to make the most of the filming without losing focus
- At the end of the shoot, P1 raised the point that the process we had gone through was really about making him self-sufficient in using the app – this was not the way I had thought about it before but I realised he was correct and I need to make this more clear in the beginning of these workshops