

Spirit of Little Hulton Festival August 2018 Carnival project

## **Little Hulton Carnival Project**

Little Hulton Big Local's vision is 'to Unite Little Hulton as a Community and to Enhance Local People's Wellbeing.' It has one million pounds to invest to achieve its vision, and does this in a variety of ways including celebratory events. On Saturday 18 August 2018, and in partnership with other local groups, LHBL delivered the Spirit of Little Hulton Festival in Peel Park <u>www.salfordcvs.co.uk/little-hulton-big-local</u>

As part of this event, young people from the Youth Unity Tuesday group delivered a carnival parade of mystical beasts. The parade was accompanied by musicians and dancers from Manchester School of Samba, who also did a second parade without the young people later in the afternoon.

Prior to the event, and over a number of sessions beginning in May, artist Sarah Oxley worked with the group to explore their ideas and create the carnival costumes and big make. This included the young people taking part in an arts play scheme during the summer holidays, where they worked with Sarah one day (supported by Bridget Hine who was shadowing Sarah as part of her role as a Salford Community Leisure summer arts worker) and Tangled Dance another day: a separate report from Tangled Dance is available.

Dancer Trixi Bold also worked with the group as part of the project, alongside writer Jane Bradley and Ben Turner who supported the overall project and delivered a session of drama games with Mike and James from Salford Community Leisure to help the group get to know each other better when there was an influx of new members. The group attended a performance of 'Out of Place' by mime artist Guerassim Dicbllev at Cobden Works as part of Walk the Plank's Elevate programme, building on the success of a trip to see a performance at the Lowry the previous year.

"It was good to get the group out to your site on Tuesday; I think they all enjoyed seeing the space and where you guys work from. The mime act (I LOVED) was a bit too much for a few of them, possibly just a bit young to "get it" but I think the majority enjoyed the show & the experience as a whole." SCL staff member

The group also wrote a collective poem about the mythical beasts they had created

Hi, I'm a cute lil' guy Believe me, my head can't fly Hi, I'm one, with two eyes I have one horn - JK, I just told a lie My body is as fat as a rat With skin as white as paper My legs are shaped like a cat and a bat And when I shake I let out a vapour

I'm big and bodacious with a hint of glamour If I meet the police I'll end up in the slammer I've got fur on my tum And fire in my bum And a face as blunt as a hammer

In the dark blue sea What could it be? Could it be me That smells like wee?

I can swim and walk on land I eat coconuts and sand I sleep all day and fly at night If you see me you'll get a fright

Ben Turner, Project Manager, Walk the Plank www.walktheplank.co.uk













































