

Bridlington Renaissance Partnership

2013 Annual Review 2012/13 and Forward Plan 2013/14

Learning and Skills Forum

Background and Activities 2012/13

Contacts for circulation of Forum information remain at around 30 organisations/representatives.

The work of the Forum in 2012/13 has continued to bring together a range of partners involved in learning, skills and employment, for people in Bridlington who are preparing to move on from, or are no longer in, statutory education. The continued impact of significant welfare and benefits reform, at a national level, has been managed by key agencies working at the fore front of implementing changes locally. Cuts to funding and/or contractual arrangements for several voluntary and community organisations have unfortunately seen the loss or scaling back of services for some of the people most in need of support in the community.

These sweeping changes have already had an impact on delivery of a range of services which support learning and skills provision, and importantly, support for the un-employed, although local organisations have continued to try to tailor their provision/services according to local needs. The Forum has provided an essential role in ensuring that gaps in local provision are identified, and that resources are used effectively between partners to provide the best opportunities possible in the local area.

Specific activities of the Forum have included :

October 2012 – Careers 4 U Event at Bridlington Spa

Promote “Raising the Participation Age” for 16-18 year olds, and options available post 16 yrs

Benefits Reform/Work Programme – development of networks between local providers to ensure awareness of changes, impact in local area, and provision of support between providers

National Careers Advice Service –provided at Bridlington Community Resource Centre

Work with local providers to respond to changes in delivery arrangements eg Connexions, Skills Funding Agency, etc.

Improved links with ERYC Youth Support Services

Identifying gaps in provision, particularly basic skills training/support

Forward Plan 2013/14

Developing intelligence for Bridlington ie Labour Market Information, and workforce planning

Respond to the Humber LEP Skills Commission Report “Lifting the Lid” with specific actions

Identifying gaps in provision, particularly basic skills training/support

Progression Pathways – map local pathways for progression in specific fields, initially considering ICT, Childcare, Business and Administration

Support Bridlington delivery of Talent Match Humber, through partner working with Humber Learning Consortium

Support careers events and activities in school/college settings

Improve links with businesses, and increase awareness of apprenticeship schemes and local careers opportunities

Improve links with/between 14-19 Local Area Partnership and local providers

Learn Bridlington – mobile display to promote all major learning centres in Bridlington, to be made available at key locations where potential learners visit eg Bridlington Children’s Centre

Provide opportunity for service providers to develop links with local partners to improve the effectiveness of delivery in the local area

Bridlington & Driffield Local Links (Community) Forum

Background and Activities 2012/13

Bridlington Driffield Local Links Forum has changed its name from the fore-runner of the Community Forum. This was agreed as better reflecting the new arrangement introduced last year for East Riding Voluntary Action Services (ERVAS) to provide support for the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) through community anchors across the East Riding, and in Bridlington & Driffield area particularly, through Bridlington Community Resource Centre. The Forum has continued to provide the opportunity for representatives from local VCS organisations and groups to meet quarterly.

In March 2013, a parallel group was set up at Driffield, to support groups more specifically based in that locality, but also through meeting on evenings, and alternative time of day that may help Bridlington groups to access the Forum.

The following topics have been covered during 2012/13 :

- East Riding Voluntary Action Services – improved support
- Speed Networking
- East Riding Financial Inclusion Strategy (consultation)
- Hull and East Yorkshire Credit Union
- Funding/Grant Opportunities/ERYC Grant Net Service
- Welfare Changes/Benefits Reform
- Spotlight on Partner Activities

Forum members are also supported by the new Local Links website where groups can register their details and receive updates and search for groups in their local area.

This year has seen more groups joining together and supporting each other. For instance British Red Cross has provided free training to the Hinge Centre.

Forward Plan 2013/14

To continue to influence and support third sector service providers to improve the quality, relevance and breadth of service provision in Bridlington and surrounding area.

To encourage collaborative working between the third sector service providers to avoid duplication and ensure a fuller service is offered.

To work together to identify barriers and gaps in provision and obtain feedback on existing provision.

To work closely with the council's Older People Project to ensure that funding is used to support and strengthen existing groups who can sustain their service in the long term.

To give small groups a voice and the opportunity to feed into the decision makers, a pathway is provided through the Community Partnership and Voluntary and Community Sector Group.

To encourage better communication lines and networking between groups and organisations and ensure relevant information is disseminated as widely as possible.

A long term aim is to get groups to identify issues and collectively work together, independent of influence from public services, to tackle it.

Business Forum

Background and Activities 2012/13

Bridlington Business Forum started to meet in 2012, prompted partly by the publication of the Planning Inspectors Report on Bridlington Area Action Plan at the end of August 2012. There had also been two meetings of a group aimed at “Making Bridlington Busy”, initially in response to the poor weather at the start of the season. This had generated interest among businesses, and other interests in working together to improve the Bridlington “offer”, both for residents and visitors, and it was agreed that the succession of that group be incorporated into the Business Forum.

Since meetings started in August 2012, the following activities have been progressed :

- October Business Breakfast as part of Wolds Business Week;
- Production of the “Dine Drink Discover” Eating Out in Bridlington leaflet;
- November presentation from York Nth Yorkshire & East Riding LEP Tourism lead representative;
- Report to the committee on the Bridlington property market for 2012 period;
- March East Riding Business Networking Event at The Spa, with guest speaker Wayne Hemmingway;
- June Business Forum networking event topics including Leisure World proposals, and Up-selling Bridlington.

Applications were made for Bridlington to become a Portas Pilot in both rounds, but having not secured one of the major awards, successfully applied for Town Team Partners funding of £10,000. Working with the King Street Market Traders Co-operative, and ERYC Markets service, a Town Team Partners group of town centre business reps was set up, to determine an action plan based on the original Portas Pilot proposals. Regular reports on progress are given at the Business Forum.

Bridlington Chamber of Commerce meetings have provided the opportunity for networking between local businesses, with the Coast and Wolds Business Awards Dinner held again at Bridlington Spa.

Local business interests have been represented on the Fisheries Local Action Group as the Holderness Coast FLAG has been fully operational, with the second stage of floating pontoons in Bridlington Harbour benefiting from FLAG grant.

Following the relocation of The Community Cop Shop to Quay Road, and integrated working between local community safety groups, Bridlington Neighbourhood Policing Team has continued to develop links with town centre businesses to tackle Bridlington Crime Profile, particularly with regard to retail crime. The Inspector has regularly attended Partnership Board meetings to ensure that partners are well briefed on the strategic approach to Neighbourhood Policing in Bridlington.

Careers 4 U event was held at The Spa Bridlington in October with over 30 exhibitors, and all Year 11 pupils from Bridlington and Headlands Schools attending. This has led to links with Headlands School through an employer engagement event in January, and a forthcoming event in July to be held at the school, and work placements being offered through the Renaissance Office for Year 11 pupils in June/July.

Bridlington Tourism Association held the annual Wolds Expo to support visitor economy businesses.

Forward Plan 2013/14

The Business Forum is due to set a detailed action plan in place through feedback from businesses at the next meeting in June, but will also pursue the following aims and objectives :

- Support the creation/retention of jobs to ensure Bridlington residents can work where they live;
- Work with learning providers to raise aspirations and achievements both in schools and for the potential workforce;
- Encourage enterprise in schools and colleges, and develop strong links with business;
- Actively promote Bridlington to attract businesses to the area;
- Identify local business needs, and promote solutions for business support;
- Increase business awareness of current and planned regeneration initiatives, and the opportunities they present
- Local Enterprise Partnerships – encourage local business leaders to take an active role
- Work with Scarborough area representatives on matters of joint interest eg Yorkshire Coast Tourism.

Town Improvement Forum

Background & Activities 2012/13

Over the last year the Town Improvement Forum (TIF) has continued to be a strong and influential group. The TIF has been involved in the following activities in order to support the terms of reference for this Forum and has:

- played an active role in bidding for Bridlington to become a Town Team Partner and the setting up of the Town Centre Partners (TCP). The TCP have developed an action plan and are currently starting improvements to King Street;
- discussed nuisance Seagulls and carried out a “Don’t feed the Seagulls” initiative in response;
- contributed towards the “Tomorrows Bridlington” marketing material;
- influenced proposals for projects under the LPT3 programme;
- contributed towards the forward plan for outdoor play areas in Bridlington;
- focused on “Grot spots”;
- commented and supported plans for RSPB Seabird Centre Development at Bempton;
- contributed to the development of public art for the Way of the Roses coast to coast cycle route;
- examined the second consultation draft of the SPD in detail;
- kept abreast of the Yorkshire Water “EU Bathing Water Directive” Capital Investment Project;
- had presentations by, and consultations with :
 - Promenades Shopping Centre Manager;
 - ERYC Parking Enforcement Manager;
 - ERYC Highways Enforcement Officer.

Forward Plan 2013/14

To continue consultations about, and monitoring of, the following:

The delivery of the Bridlington Area Action Plan through the Burlington Parade Town Centre Scheme, and input to design briefs for Strategic Public Realm projects;
Monitoring of street cleansing standards (including litter and dog fouling);
Development of initiatives based on the Town Centre Partners Project;
Town Centre improvements;
Way of the Roses Cycle Route public art project development;
Acting as the eyes and ears for local (streetscene) maintenance;
Evaluating and monitoring of Council projects;
Audit to identify “Eye sore” properties, to be prioritised for action;
Engagement of young people in the regeneration of the town;
Getting positive messages through appropriate publicity;
Seasonal initiatives.

Renaissance Town Team

Terms of reference

- To ensure the values promoted with the Urban Renaissance Town Charter are delivered in the Town.
- Allow all members of the Bridlington community the opportunity to learn about and be involved in the regeneration of the town.
- Raise the capacity of the local individuals to ensure they have the skills and confidence to deliver the aspirations in the Town Charter.
- Promote good urban design and architecture within the Town Centre Redevelopment area.
- Support projects which meet with the aspirations of the Town Charter.

Background & Activities 2012/13

This year the Town Team celebrated its 10th anniversary in December 2012 with a very successful celebration event at The Spa. The evening included presentations of the past, present and future of regeneration in Bridlington and gave local groups an opportunity to promote their good work through a “soap box” session, which proved popular. Over the last year the Town Team have been involved in the following activities in order to support the terms of reference for this Forum :

- Have been kept informed and involved in the development of the Area Action Plan for Bridlington Town Centre;
- supported a range of projects in the town and surrounding area including, Priory 900, anti-litter campaign, seagull awareness initiative;
- had a workshops to put forward ideas for Westgate Park Improvements;
- taken part in consultations on the East Riding Local Plan;
- had presentations on Sewerby Hall Restoration, Yorkshire Water Investment, Wayne Hemmingsway event and waste and recycling

Forward Plan 2013/14

The Town Team will continue to interact with all aspects of the regeneration process, and encourage residents to participate, to improve awareness of the development plans for Bridlington. Future topics for meetings will be:

Re-visit the 2005 Renaissance Town Charter
Audit to identify “Eye sore” properties, to be prioritised for action;
Community clean-up projects;
Provide opportunities to learn about new projects by coming to meetings;
Development of strategic approach to public art;
Bridlington Societies’ Show Case Part 2;
Contribute to the consultation process for re-development of Leisure World;
Foreshores development plan.