

## BRIDLINGTON LEARNING AND SKILLS FORUM

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13 JULY 2016 AT 9.30AM AT BRIDLINGTON BUSINESS CENTRE

- Present:** Liz Philpot – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Bridlington Renaissance  
Mike Heslop-Mullens – Bridlington Town Council  
Adrian Brown – Pure Training Solutions  
Chris Matson – Job Centre Plus  
Andy Levitt - Headlands School  
Sophia White – Christ Church Community Services  
Elliot Hakner – Active Humber  
Helen Swales – Shores Centre  
Lucy Wilkins – National Careers Service  
Vicky Neilan – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Bridlington Renaissance
- Apologies:** Sue Revell - Shaw Trust  
Helena Moss – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Education, Employment and Skills  
Julia Thompson - WEA  
Sara Fletcher – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Education and Skills Partnership  
Melanie Brown, East Riding College  
John Dixon – Christ Church Community Services

1. **Minutes of last meeting/matters arising**

Minutes approved as true record.

2. **Community Led Local Development**

LP briefly explained the CLLD journey so far for those who were new to the group. Funds for a development stage have been secured and the current step is preparing a detailed development strategy to support a second stage bid for between 3 and 7 million euros to look at supporting business growth and moving people closer to employment. The proposal is to cover Scarborough and Bridlington and the area in between and will involve funds from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Social Fund (ESF).

Several officer team meetings have been held with representatives from both Bridlington and Scarborough and the following priorities were set for the CLLD programme:

**ESF – People, Skills and Employment**

- Promote social inclusion through engagement activity
- Develop the skills of the potential workforce
- Increased Labour Market Participation
- Improve the capacity of individuals to respond to economic opportunities

## **ERDF – Business, Jobs, and Economic Growth**

- Improve conditions to support sustained economic growth
- Stimulate business growth and job creation

The group was asked to go away and suggest ways to address the priorities and send them back to Vicky by 22 July – if this deadline is not possible to keep to comments will still be incorporated into the strategy after this date.

A strapline has also been devised for the programme – ‘connecting people with opportunity’ and key words identified ‘inspire, engage, innovate’.

A provisional date has also been set for the next Local Action Group meeting, 28<sup>th</sup> July during the afternoon in Hunmanby. Information will be sent out confirming this within the next few days. The draft local development strategy will be tabled at this meeting for people to comment on and contribute to.

It was agreed by the group that looking at the ESF element required a back to basics, pre learner approach looking at engagement through fun, social and leisure activities before trying to broach training and employment with many potential clients.

Another element all were agreed upon was the need for a one stop shop / community hub – somewhere to access the full range of support and information which can be used by clients and staff.

AL is keen for Headlands to be involved – he can identify clients (potential NEETs) at an early age and refer onto community provision such as that provided by Active Humber and Christ Church. Students could carry out volunteer work during school time in order to motivate them and show them that they have skills which employers are looking for.

A suggestion by the group was that, when looking at the possibility of extending the Wheels to Work Service it would also be worth considering adapting the scheme to include push bikes and electric bikes for use by those wanting to work more locally within the town. A scheme of this sort could help those living at one end of the town access work at the other end.

Following the EU Referendum outcome, as contracts were signed prior to the vote, we are to carry on progressing the CLLD development. The only change to the expected programme may be a reduction in the term – it is currently due to run until 2020. Updates will be shared as and when we know more.

### **3. Journey to Employment Mapping Exercise**

A template devised at the last meeting was handed out to look at mapping what provision and support is available at each different level on the route to employment. The idea is that, once populated, this will allow us to identify the gaps and help focus the work of the CLLD programme and support the priority actions. Each provider is asked to populate the template as best as they can with details of what they can provide – each completed template will then be combined to show the bigger picture. Please can all feedback by 22 July – any information received after this date will still be included.

Also WEA provided case study information to support potential projects. For instance some of their learners been unable to progress even if courses are paid for due to not being able to fund childcare or transport. All were asked to consider their client groups and consider whether they have examples which could be used to support some of the needs and priorities identified. Again please provide by 22 July if possible.

#### 4. **Partner Updates**

Headlands School – had a very successful Ambitions Day for Year 9 students. 85% of the students who took part said that they found it very useful. 30 employers took part covering a wide range of sectors and roles although they are always keen to engage more local employers. There will be mock interview days and a careers fair again this year too looking towards November / December.

National Careers Service – free for anyone over 18 to access – qualified or unqualified, employed or unemployed. Staff are based in the job centre but do go out to work in the community too. They are not restricted to seeing people just once. Quite new to Bridlington so are very keen to network, build relationships and develop partnerships. They also have a facebook page which they want to update as regularly as possible if anyone has any updates they want Lucy to share.

Shores Centre – have lots of ideas to share regarding possible projects to be developed under the CLLD programme.

Christ Church Community Services – have secured funding from HLC for next year so can deliver most of the same provision. Still waiting to hear about funding for mental health support.

Pure Training Solutions – Generally developing links with businesses. Provide a range of courses from pre entry level to level 3 or 4. The level 2 door supervisors course is still very popular.

Active Humber – provide a mentoring programme for 18-24 year olds through talent match, looking for referrals if anyone is working with someone interested in sport and leisure. Can provide a pathway from first assessment right up to employment. Work mostly with those who have been unemployed for 12 months or more – case by case assessment so send referrals direct to Elliot. There will also be another confidence building course delivered in Bridlington at the new leisure centre – dates will be sent out to the group once confirmed.

Bridlington Town Council – small grant scheme is opening again – applications to be in during August.

#### 5. **Dates for next meetings**

Wednesday 21 September 9.30am

Wednesday 30 November 9.30am