

BRIDLINGTON LEARNING AND SKILLS FORUM

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15 FEBRUARY 2017 AT 9.30AM AT BRIDLINGTON BUSINESS CENTRE

- Present:** Mike Heslop-Mullens – Bridlington Town Council
Chris Matson – Job Centre Plus
Sue Revell – Shaw Trust
Melanie Brown – East Riding College
Vicky Neilan – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Bridlington Renaissance
- Apologies:** Simon Thomas – Job Centre Plus
Adrian Brown – Pure Training Solutions
Sophia White – Christ Church Community Services
Elliot Hakner – Active Humber
Liz Philpot – East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Bridlington Renaissance
Andy Levitt - Headlands School

1. Minutes of last meeting/matters arising

Minutes approved as true record.

2. DCLG Visit to Bridlington

Liz Philpot hosted a visit from a representative from the DCLG in Bridlington this month. The request came through following a presentation of the work carried out as part of the Coastal Communities funding – the touchscreens at Headlands School and the Tourism Training. Both projects were very well received as was the infrastructure works taking place within the town.

3. CLLD Development

Work is continuing on the full stage application for the Yorkshire Coast CLLD Programme, submission is required by 28 February. A Local Action Group meeting is taking place on 23 February from 1.30pm at the Piebald Inn at Hunmanby where members will be asked to endorse the full application. A session was also held on 10 February in Scarborough with around 20 LAG members to scrutinise and challenge the process so far, feedback will be given to the wider LAG at the next meeting.

Decision on the full stage application is not expected before the end of April to the beginning of May. Work will continue, as risk, in the meantime to develop the Local Action Group and establish an executive who will be the decision making body. Each member of the LAG will be asked to endorse their commitment before nominations will be requested for the decision making body. It is expected to hold a further LAG meeting during March to confirm nominations. Work will also continue dealing with queries and developing projects ideas with potential applicants with the idea of being ready to start delivery as soon as possible once we receive a contract.

If successful, the area (Bridlington and Scarborough) will receive a pot of close to £7 million to be given out as grants to help improve business growth and sustainability and get people more work ready. The money will come from two European pots – the

European Social Fund and the European Regional Development Fund – these funds have differing grants rates for each local authority area meaning a combined programme pot of around £12 million.

Scarborough will receive more funding than Bridlington. In Bridlington the amount of grant available is as follows: £1.3 million ERDF which requires a 30% match and £1 million ESF which requires a 40% match. Maximum and minimum grant sizes are still to be determined.

4. **Bridlington Employability and Skills Charter – Consultation with Businesses**

Draft questions were circulated for discussion. As agreed at the previous meeting, once questions are finalised, each representative will engage with 5 businesses to complete the consultation.

Comments included: removing the question asking how business is at present, adding more questions on awareness of business support, combining the last questions on skills into one and providing options where possible.

Action: VN to update the form to reflect the above comments and send to Melanie Brown and Chris Matson.

East Riding College have a Business Development Unit and MB is happy to ask them to trial the questions on behalf of the forum. The job centre is also hosting a jobs fair on Friday with around 30 stands so CM is happy to organise for employers to complete the forms.

Action: CM to organise for forms to be given out to employers at the jobs fair.

The college would be mainly dealing with agencies who take on apprenticeship such as care homes and trades. Shaw Trust would also be looking to target the care industry and agencies who recruit for factory work. The college also have an employer forum at their site in Beverley on a Thursday morning – this may have some Bridlington employers represented.

At the next meeting we can look through the responses from the jobs fair and make any amends before agreeing who will contact which employer.

5. **Partner Updates**

East Riding College

Are attending the DWP Jobs fair on Friday 17th Feb. They also have an Open Event between 4 and 7pm on Tuesday 7 March. They have also developed better links with Headlands School and have recently been in to speak to Year 11.

Job Centre

Are hosting a Jobs fair on Friday 17th February. They have over 30 providers including local employers and training providers. The event is open from 9.30 until 3.30pm and will be opened by the Mayor.

Shaw Trust

The Bridlington office is now only open Monday to Wednesday. From the 20th March they will be based in the Business Centre at Unit 25. They are going through the bidding process for the next work and health programme and referrals for the current programme end in March. Support can still be offered to those already signed up for a period of two years.

Active Humber

Had an open day on 1st February which 15 people attended. The purpose was to refer people on to the most relevant programme for their needs.

5. **Dates for next meetings**

15 March 9.30am

19 April 9.30am

17 May 9.30am

14 June 9.30am

12 July 9.30am

16 August 9.30am

13 September 9.30am

18 October 9.30am

15 November 9.30am