

Bradford & District Community Economic VCS Forum

Notes of the meeting Monday 23rd April 2018

9:30 to 11:00 am at CNet

Present: Tony Dylak, Royds (TD); Nasim Qureshi, Inspired Neighbourhoods (NQ); Rachael Memmott, Specialist Autism Services (RM); Wendy Spencer, Airedale Enterprise Services (WS); Sam Keighley, Carlisle Business Centre (SK); Ian Brewer, Bradford District Credit Union (IB); Mary Dowson, Bradford Community Broadcasting (MD); Mark Nicholson, Equality Together (MN); Martyn Johnston, Chapel Street Studio (MJ); Javed Khan, CNet (JK); Janet Ford, CNet (JF); Wendy Collins, CNet (minutes)

Apologies: Carlton Smith; David Wilford; Jon Royle; Bruce Barnes

In attendance: Mark Clayton, CBMDC; Alison Milner, CBMDC

Item		Action by
1.	<p>Welcome, introductions and apologies</p> <p>Welcomed Nasim as new Co-chair.</p>	Chair (TD)
2.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising</p> <p>Anti-Poverty and Universal Credit Summit MN provided more information on the poverty event on Thursday 24th May at Manningham Mills: Bradford District Anti-Poverty and Universal Credit Summit. There will be a mix of key note speakers, including Local Authority and service users from other parts of country. The flyer will be circulated this week. There has been lots of interest from service users; around 50 people attended the last one.</p> <p>Anti-Poverty Coordination Group Neal Heard was attending the Anti-Poverty Coordination Group meetings on behalf of the Equalities Forum. JK is now attending these as an interim measure, but a suitable representative is needed.</p> <p>Minutes accepted as accurate record.</p>	

Item		Action by
3.	<p>Representative/member feedback and issues to take forward</p> <p>None</p>	
4.	<p>Economic Strategy Launch – Mark Clayton, CBMDC</p> <p>Phil Witcherley is the new Head of Policy and Performance at Bradford Council.</p> <p>The new Bradford District Economic Strategy has been launched and is based around four opportunities: Our Young and Enterprising Population; Our Distinctive Offer; Our Growth Potential; and Our Globally Connected District. The document talks of the role of the VCS throughout all four strands.</p> <p>The Producer City Board is now Bradford Economic Partnership. Dave Baldwin, Chair of the Partnership has agreed that there will be a place for a VCS representative, although the formal invitation to attend has not been received as yet. The next meeting is on Wednesday 2nd May – TD noted the date and time.</p> <p>There will be a series of delivery workshops around the Strategy, possibly with specific themes. One workshop could focus on the role of the VCS, where organisations could talk about what they are already doing and work out an action plan around what isn't happening that is important. This could then be passed up to the Economic Partnership.</p> <p>Dave Baldwin is strong on communications and getting the message out. He wants to collect stories through the Made in Bradford website: http://madeinbradford.co.uk/.</p> <p>Dave is happy to meet with and talk to people; he is in Bradford on Wednesdays.</p> <p>Mark is currently working on KPIs for the overall aims, which have to be a mixture of big and small.</p>	
5.	<p>The Purpose of CEF</p> <p>The Regeneration and Prosperity Forum (RAP) was renamed as the Community Economic Forum (CEF) as it was felt RAP no longer represented what the group is about: being named after a Council board it was felt to be too high level.</p>	

Item		Action by
	<p>TD posed a number of questions about how people want to see the group run and how to encourage wider participation. After some discussion the following four ideas were decided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meetings continue in the current format. 2. More themed meetings / events as these are better for smaller organisations as they can attend ones that are most relevant to them. It was suggested that the group focusses on just two or three themes. 3. Evening café social events for those who find it difficult to attend during the day. MJ mentioned that these have been useful for another group he is part of. 4. Action learning. SK mentioned that this is a useful mechanism. <p>CNet can set these things up but need support from the group in the running of them.</p> <p>There was a suggestion of holding the meetings and events in other areas of the district, again to increase participation. Members offered to host.</p> <p>The local authority is very keen to hear what this group has to say.</p>	<p>MJ to explore options</p> <p>SK/TD to explore</p>
6.	<p>Themed CEF Meetings</p> <p>Discussed in Item 5.</p>	
7.	<p>Update on new partnership structure – Alison Milner, CBMDC</p> <p>Every external Council review within the last year, whoever it was carried out by, has praised partnership working within Bradford district. Bradford District Partnership and Assembly are essential for providing a voice for the VCS. There is a need for robust, inclusive, and lean partnerships, and this is not happening yet.</p> <p>The new structure strengthens the Health and Wellbeing Board and now focuses on the wider determinants of health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Bradford District Partnership has three key delivery partnerships: Economic Partnership, Children’s Trust, and Community Safety Partnership.</p>	

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	<p>The HWB board has expanded and the BDP board no longer exists, but Strategic Delivery Partnerships are strengthened and feed up to the HWB. BDP had responsibility for the district plan, but this is going into HWB instead.</p> <p>SK mentioned that the HWB is now a more meaningful voice on a range of matters. It understands connections between people’s health and wellbeing and other aspects of their lives. There is now much wider membership on the HWB board.</p> <p>It is hoped the changes will encourage more partnership thematic meetings. In the past some structures have been siloed and issues would fall between them.</p> <p>The Made in Bradford website has been designed as an anchor website that organisations and people can link to using #madeinbradford as a tag. A University project is underway to shoot some videos in Bradford, and the hope is for people to shoot their own videos and tell their own stories. Ownership is the whole of Bradford District, but it does need an individual overseeing it.</p> <p>A feedback session with PS London and Brick Box was held and PS London have provided a report – Alison to send for circulation.</p> <p>The streamlining of BDP has led to reduced representation across the VCS. The need for increased representation will be discussed at an ASG meeting and taken to the Council for consideration.</p>	<p>Alison to send</p>
8.	<p>AOB</p> <p>None.</p>	
9.	<p>Future meeting dates (all held at CNet 9.30 to 11 am)</p> <p>Monday 9th July</p> <p>Monday 8th October</p> <p>Monday 21st January 2019</p> <p>Meeting closed at 11.10 am</p>	