



## Bradford & District Community Economic VCS Forum

### Notes of the meeting Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020

**9:30 to 11:30 am at CNet**

**Present:** Tony Dylak (Royds) (Co-chair); Carlton Smith (Bradford Trident); Rachael Memmott (Specialist Autism Services); Martin Carter (Manningham Project); Mary Dowson (BCB Radio); Rhys North (WYCAS); Joel Fagborun (Peacemaker International); Ian Brewer (Bradford District Credit Union); Katherine Wyatt (Carlisle Business Centre);

**In attendance:** Cassandra Walker (Locality); Mark Clayton (CBMDC); Jamie Saunders (CBMDC); Urfan Faqir (University of Bradford); Wendy Collins (CNet) (minutes)

**Apologies:** Nasim Qureshi (INCIC) (Co-chair); Liz Hemsley (Prospects Connexions); Soo Nevison (Community Action);

Item	Details	Action by
1.	<b>Welcome, introductions and apologies</b>	<b>Chair (TD)</b>
2.	<p><b>Minutes of last meeting and matters arising</b></p> <p>Item 4: Tony asked for any feedback on the consultant database. This can be found at <a href="https://cnet.org.uk/bradford-district-assembly/community-economic-forum">https://cnet.org.uk/bradford-district-assembly/community-economic-forum</a> under 'Directory of VCS Support Consultants'.</p> <p>Item 8: Creative People and Places Director and City of Culture Bid Director will be invited to the next meeting. Co-Chairs and Wendy to organise this.</p>	<b>Wendy / Co-Chairs to invite</b>
3.	<p><b>Economic Strategy Update – Mark Clayton, Policy Officer, CBMDC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mark will send Wendy the delivery plan to be circulated again. Mark requested that any additions to this around work being done already be sent to him: <a href="mailto:mark.clayton@bradford.gov.uk">mark.clayton@bradford.gov.uk</a>.</li> <li>• Mark showed the group a presentation by Steve Hartley; this will be shared with forum members.</li> <li>• There will be no Council staff cuts this coming year but Council tax is being raised again.</li> <li>• Shipley and Keighley are potentially receiving Towns Fund money. This is linked to the 2040 Vision and will have an economic focus but is also about improving place.</li> <li>• Upcoming developments: Bradford Live should be opening in early 2021; the old police station site at the edge of City Park is being developed as an office block; and the new Bradford market is underway.</li> <li>• As part of the Transforming Cities Fund £25 million of transport money is earmarked for Bradford and will be used partly to prioritise pedestrians in certain areas of the city centre.</li> </ul>	

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4.	<p><b>Keep it Local – Cassandra Walker, Locality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with Ian Westlake on a new procurement strategy, pre-procurement guides and a new social value policy.</li> <li>As part of the Keep it Local programme Locality will be delivering workshops on sustainability for VCS organisations. These will be held on Monday 24 February, 10am-1pm at Margaret McMillan Tower (<a href="#">more info</a>) and Thursday 5 March, 10am-1pm at Keighley Central Hall (<a href="#">more info</a>).</li> <li>To sign up for the Locality newsletter email Cassandra on <a href="mailto:cassandra.walker@locality.org.uk">cassandra.walker@locality.org.uk</a>.</li> </ul>	
5.	<p><b>Sustainability – Climate, Energy, Emissions reduction and adaptation, resilience and a Safe, Circular, inclusive Economy – Jamie Saunders, Policy Officer, CBMDC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In January 2019 Bradford Council signed up to the Climate Emergency Declaration, pledging to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and overall negative environmental impact. Leeds City Region signed up to the declaration in Summer 2019, pledging to emit 0% carbon by 2038; Bradford Council has adopted this target.</li> <li>Work toward this will include some big systems change, working with other councils, as well as looking at how Bradford Council works with communities in a meaningful way, prioritising the needs of the most vulnerable.</li> <li>The circular economy was discussed briefly; it could be worth looking at this further at a future meeting. The Council now has a Circular Economy Team.</li> <li>Any examples of work around reducing environmental impact being carried out around the region can be sent to <a href="mailto:climateaction@bradford.gov.uk">climateaction@bradford.gov.uk</a>.</li> <li>Bradford Council is taking this work seriously; they are looking at how they support the VCS with climate impact assessments, as well as other matters.</li> <li>Joel asked how the Declaration will affect farmers: they will become more custodians of the land, maintaining it for its value as an environmental asset.</li> <li>Some ideas for how CEF can take this forward were discussed. A workshop, or series of workshops, around the subject, were suggested. Could invite someone from the Resource Efficiency Fund to present to the group. Co-chairs and Wendy to organise with Jamie for this summer.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Wendy / Co-Chairs to organise with Jamie</b></p>
6.	<p><b>Graduate Workforce Bradford programme – Urfan Faqir, Employer and Placement Services Advisor, University of Bradford</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urfan's presentation will be shared with the group.</li> <li>Funded by Office for Students.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aims to improve graduate employment rate, especially for BAME and mature students and those with disabilities, and understand barriers to employment.</li> <li>Want to work with community groups to learn more about issues and barriers. Hold alumni events where alumni speak about working in Bradford. Any events where alumni can be invited to speak in BD3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 please contact Urfan on <a href="mailto:u.faqir@bradford.ac.uk">u.faqir@bradford.ac.uk</a>.</li> </ul>	
7.	<p><b>Member news and feedback from representatives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ian mentioned two events being held by the Anti-Poverty Events Group to mark Safer Internet Day. These are being held in Bradford on 11 February and Keighley on 13 February on the theme of Safeguarding and Fake News. More information: <a href="#">Bradford</a> / <a href="#">Keighley</a>.</li> <li>Joel mentioned that to mark the International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM an event is being held in the Council Chambers on 6 February, 10.00 am – 12.00 pm. For more information email <a href="mailto:fgm@peacemaker-international.org">fgm@peacemaker-international.org</a>.</li> </ul>	
8.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jamie mentioned that it could be worthwhile to invite the manager of the Industrial Centres of Excellence, Alex Willards, to present at a meeting.</li> </ul>	<b>Wendy / Co-Chairs to invite</b>
9.	<p><b>Future meeting dates (all held at CNet 9.30 to 11.30 am)</b></p> <p>Monday 20 April 2020  Monday 6 July 2020  Monday 5 October 2020  Monday 18 January 2021</p> <p><b>Meeting closed at 11.40 am</b></p>	