

Boston Big Local Meeting, 18th February 2014 1pm

Fenside Community Centre

Present

Ivan Annibal - Big Local Rep
Gordon Hunter – Lincolnshire Community Foundation (LTO)
Rachel A Lauberts – Facilitator
Mick Taylor- TaylorITEX CIC (LTO)
Ziedonis Barbaks
Mike Bartlett
Nathan Bryant
Rodney Bowles
Mandy Exley - LCVS
Paul Gleeson
Ricky Green
Paul Kenny – Boston Mayflower
Robert Lauberts
Tim Norman
Betty Padgett
Shirley Richardson
Dylan Taylor
Richard Tory
Caroline Wallis

The meeting commenced at 1.05pm.

Apologies – Apologies received from: Alan Taylor, Ralph Pryke, Lisa Stevenson, Paul Stevenson and Jo Finlow.

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record, proposed RT, seconded MB.
2. Website – Update
RAL and RG updated the group on the progress of the website building; Mark Breen's suggestions have been carried out, and seasonal logo's designed, the group were asked to vote on the logo's to be used: Spring logo, winter logo, approved. Candy stripe logo for summer and autumn logo with small leaves also approved. Other suggestions for improvements include a Google analyst tool to record traffic and adding the logo to the tab, and creating a user form. An editorial team volunteered their services to include RAL, IA, NB, and CW. Possible links to BBC and BVEP suggested to keep residents abreast of what's on in Boston, and to make our website a living site.
4. Boosting the Local Economy (BLE) – Champions, Two members of the group have volunteered themselves as Champions: - RL and MB. The group have been

chosen by the Local Trust to be part of a pilot scheme to find ways in which we can boost the economic development of the town. The elected champions would network with the other pilot areas sharing ideas and good practice. RL and MB agreed to write up the reports. The group approved the nominations of RL and MB by unanimous vote.

GH updated the group on the meeting with Sue Foster (UnLtd) regarding the BLE programme plan. The budget is now £10,000 to be spent on themed visits to Falmouth – maritime, Whitby – tourism, Stroud – Transition town/local food and Kings Lynn – New Hanse League. Hosting return visits, training, workshops, social inclusion, street food festival. Monies should be received before the end of this financial year and spent within 9 months. BLE Champions and BBL facilitator to attend all visits, other members of the group to attend with particular expertise or interest in themes which will benefit BBL. RAL to arrange structured activities/visits. As places on the visits would be limited IA asked members to forward requests for the visits to RAL stating the reasons why they wish to attend and how their inclusion on the visit would benefit the remit of BBL. IA suggested we issue a press release regarding BLE when the programme is approved.

5. Financial Update – amendments

A further amount of £105 for printing costs, and the cost of Mr Robot Head and Kaleidoscope circa £30 (Showcase items) should be added to the accounts. MT to amend.

6. Insurance – MT has investigated levels of insurance cover and the costs, the group discussed; employer's liability, contents, money, libel/slander and personal accident cover. Approximate cost £350. RL proposed that MT be entrusted to continue his research and purchase the appropriate insurance for the needs of the group, motion seconded and carried by group. RAL and RL to be trained in First Aid at Work through the Boston Greenscapers, PK suggested that at least one member of the group are trained in Health and Safety – training courses run by Boston Borough Council.

7. Action Plan – IA presented the group with the BBL plan skeleton updated from the last meeting. IA explained that the plan needed to contain; a clear view/vision of what our area will look like in 10 years time, we had already identified 4 key areas and a list of priorities. Our overall outcomes would be based on the Egan principles of a sustainable community and we should adopt a project management system utilising Prince 2 Principles. IA outlined the timescale for the draft plan to be written by the end of March when it will then go out to public consultation before final submission to Local Trust at the end of May. A discussion followed regarding the vision and whether it reflected the aspirations of the residents in our area or gave ownership to residents providing facilitation and thus enabling them to aspire to realistic and attainable goals. It was decided that various groups be formed to undertake the writing of the plan as follows: RAL will attend sub group meetings, where appropriate, to guide and oversee. Vision: PG, RAL, RL. Principles: RT, RAL. Delivery: MB, ME, RAL. Communications strategy: NB, RG, MB, RAL, CW, and DT.

RAL to continue writing BBL profile and abcd research. MB and PK to draft policy document and look at Quick Wins.

A.O.B. –

- a. The group gave a mandate for GH and RT to investigate CIC's and CIO's on behalf of the group and it was agreed in principle that £1,000 should be allocated to enable the establishment of the appropriate organisation most suited to our needs.
- b. RAL presented the group with feedback from the Money Matters seminar attended by RAL, RL and TN. Notes and materials will be downloaded to the website.
- c. MT updated the group regarding progress with Star People and awards made in Boston.
- d. RAL informed the group about a free online course in Citizen Journalism being offered by Cardiff University and will forward the link to all group members.

Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 13th March 2014, 6.30pm at Black Sluice Lock Cottages.

The meeting closed at 3.30pm.