

NLDC Funding 2009/10 Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 13th January 2010 2.00pm at Felaw Maltings

Present: Pete Mason LSC
Nicky Bradford Suffolk County Council
Robin Hodgkinson SAVO/Suffolk Learning Consortium
Simon Waldron SAVO/Suffolk Learning Consortium
Bruce McGregor CSV Media
Sally Butcher Suffolk County Council

Welcome

Sally was welcomed to the meeting. She would be taking Steve Pike's place.

Minutes of the last meeting (6th October 2009)

These were agreed as a correct record.

Matters arising: Nicky reported that as the ACS Showcase had no space for market stalls, the idea of having an NLDC display was not progressed.

All other actions had been completed.

2009/10 Projects

Nicky handed out her written report. The first set of data collection had been sent off before the 1st December deadline. This had shown 284 learners overall, involving 14 different voluntary organisations, 86 VCS learners and 81 skills for jobslearners.

As of January 13th the figures for learners were:

VCS/Consortium projects learners	271
Suffolk County Council learners	220
Total	491

Thus with the project period not quite 50% completed we had accomplished over half the annual target (900).

Most of the projects were now underway. The Crossing in particular had been very impressive, already exceeding their target for the year. There were a few concerns:

- Some organisations were being slow particularly in getting their attendance sheets in. Robin though had given four late attendance sheets in at the start of the meeting and Robin confirmed that three Workwise course had been cancelled, so the situation was not as bad as suggested by the report.
- There were two organisations – WEA and Bicycle Doctor – that had yet to return their partnership agreements. Robin had spoken to Clive Mobbs at WEA before Christmas who was planning his courses. Robin had also spoken to the Bicycle Doctor who was having difficulty finding a venue to run the courses. Nicky suggested talking to Damien Ribbans at Genesis who had good premises.

ACTIONS: ROBIN TO RELAY INFORMATION RE. GENESIS TO THE BICYCLE DOCTOR

NICKY TO WRITE TO BICYCLE DOCTOR AND WEA TO INSIST THAT CONTRACTS ARE RETURNED BY THE END OF JANUARY OR THE FUNDING WOULD BE WITHDRAWN

A further organisation, Suffolk Volunteering Federation had yet to start work on their project but Robin confirmed that the new Volunteering Legacy Officer was starting in February, so work should commence soon after that. Their partnership agreement had been returned.

Nicky reported that the next reporting period would finish soon and it was agreed that Robin would chase outstanding paperwork to be returned by February 1st (see below). It was also hoped that organisations would nominate learners to go forward for Adult Learners Week awards. The deadline for this was closing soon. Nicky offered her support in helping groups fill in the form.

b) Decision on how to spend the surplus funds

With The Yard deciding not to go ahead with their project (see previous minutes), there was £4,000 surplus funds which had been re-allocated for capacity building. It was decided to use this for PTLLS training as a number of the tutors within VCS organisations did not have formal teaching qualifications. The cost of a place on a County Council course was £300, so we could allocate 13 places. The priority would be for existing tutors and places would be allocated on a first come-first served basis. Dates and application form were on the Suffolk Learning Consortium Website.

ACTION: ROBIN TO E-MAIL GRANT HOLDERS RE. FEBRUARY 1ST DEADLINE FOR PAPERWORK, ADULT LEARNERS WEEK NOMINATIONS AND THE PTLLS FREE PLACES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

Future funding for NLDC and arrangements post March 2010

There was no firm news about funding for next year, though the likelihood was that it could be roughly the same funding as this year and one should begin to plan on that basis.

A discussion ensued about a possible celebration event in May. This was likely to be a half day event (no lunch) to celebrate current projects + news of the following year's funding, but no workshops. A further smaller event might be held for those groups (particularly new to NLDC) to take them through the application process.

ACTIONS: SUB GROUP TO MEET AT FELAW MALTINGS 9.30AM ON FRIDAY 26TH FEBRUARY

SIMON TO FIND OUT ABOUT WHAT OTHER EVENTS ARE LIKELY TO HAPPEN IN MAY, PARTICULARLY IN ADULT LEARNERS WEEK, TO ENSURE THAT THERE ARE NO MAJOR CLASHES.

AOB / Information Round

Nothing to report.

Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be on Monday 19th April at 2.00pm at CSV Media.

The meeting finished at 3.45pm.