

Dynamo Board Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: Monday 11th February 2019, 4.30pm

Location: tombola, Wylam Wharf, Low St, Sunderland SR1 2JR

ATTENDEES

Charlie Hoult (Chair), Graeme Fletcher, Graham Jordan, Nicky Turnbull (replacing Jon Ridley), Laura Kemp, Mark Norris, Stu Lynn, James Beard, Alastair Irons, Becky Strachan, Phil Jackman, Andrew Besford, Simon Roberson, Anne MacDonald, Chris Latimer (Sage), Dawn Dunn, Steven Young (Accenture), Dean Bennison (Visualsoft)

Minute taking: Sarah Thackray

Apologies:

Siobhan Fenton, Paul Watson, Lindsay Phillips, Matt Oakley, Alan Welby, Antony Hall, Mike O'Brien, Sandra Thompson, Fay Cooper, Mark Larsen, Deni Chambers, Amy Stabler, Janet Ross, Alison Shaw, Clare Nicholson

BOARD UPDATES

Dynamo Recruitment

Second Engagement Manager confirmed, start date 4th March. Dawn Dunn, previously North East Finance.

IC3 Funding

Funding for IC3 project approx £10k likely as a result of NE LEP funding for the business case. Funding is towards consultation around IC3 through the Dynamo cluster and wider sector. Outline business plan to be completed by June. Charlie sits on IC3 project Board.

Hotspot

On track with deadlines. Sponsorship now increased to £19,825 + VAT. Will be able to receive Innovation SuperNetwork funding towards 45% of selected costs, approx £4k.

Finance

Overview and update

Advisory Board Workshop (March 11th Board meeting - extended timings)

The workshop will provide our Board members with the opportunity to shape priorities and future direction of Dynamo's clusters to ensure they are focussing on industry requirements and regional priorities. Board members will be invited to get involved in specific clusters to maximise their success.

3-5pm: 11th March at Sage

Action: CN to send appointment and agenda to follow.

CLUSTERS

CYBER SECURITY (Phil Jackman)

- Attended this month's Teesside CISP meeting with a view to them being part of the cluster.
- Attended North East Fraud Forum and Graham and Phil are presenting at their cyber event 5 March.
- Several possible speakers for CyberFest.
- Anne and Phil visited Teesside and have agreed the Curve for CyberFest on 11 September, for up to 120 people, half day.
- CyberFest 12th Sept at Urban Sciences Building, Newcastle Helix
- Bookings coming in for Awareness event on 12 Feb. 24 booked on. Aiming to create a fact sheet for cyber to circulate in the region.

- Security industry group – 18th March/1st July
- Scale up presenting at Digital Festival
- Met with Mark Larsen at Accenture. They like the North East Cyber Resilience Rapid Incubator (NECRRI) idea. He will speak to the management team and if we can go ahead, going to visit LORCA office to build a business case.

NECRRI

Proposal: To develop an initiative in the North East long the lines of the London Office For Rapid Cybersecurity Advancement (LORCA) <https://www.lorca.co.uk/>

The region has the possibility to create something similar, using a work space (Proto, Sunderland Software Centre, Tus Park, universities, other), the National Innovation Centre For Data (NICD), Legal and General (building new space around Newcastle University) and Accenture. This could focus on emerging cyber opportunities around data manipulation and IoT.

- Tech Nation- cyberlink. Phil meeting with Jamie Hardesty.

SKILLS (Giselle, Graham J, Anne Macdonald)

- Talent Matching Service update – delay beta phase until the summer intake – testing with tombola/Bede gaming?
- Skills cluster – first 2019 scoping workshop held in January. Postponed February meeting to conduct 1-1 intelligence gathering meetings with a range of stakeholders including Tombola, Gill Teasdale Atom Bank, Emma Garrick, Deni Chambers, Becky Strachan, Bede Gaming. Essential to scope this out before leaping into action to determine how best Dynamo can add value in a complex and crowded marketplace.
- Next meeting on Tuesday 12th March 9.30-12.00pm (extended) to identify current best practice initiatives across the region.
- Meeting planned with Michelle Rainbow and Laura Kemp to discuss our skills strategy

DIGITAL CONSTRUCTION (Anne Macdonald)

- Running Panel at Northern Power Futures event on 11th Feb.
- Discussions with Becky over the Think Tank planned for April
- Provisional dates for events - knowledge and research sharing focus with a range of host organisations: BIM Academy/North Uni/NBS/T&T/Waterstons.
- 14th March
- 8th May
- 9th July – NBS have offered to host this meeting.
- 3rd October
- 2nd December
- Planning for Innovation Day 2019. Northumbria Uni to host? Anne meeting Charlie Hamilton plus Waterstons to capture learning and next steps for 2018 projects and plan for 2019.
- Met with Bowmer and Kirkland to discuss their ongoing value from membership and their enthusiasm for the Innovation day's project and outcomes
- If interested in the Northern Powerhouse mission to Atlanta – see Dynamo [newsletter](#) if interested.

GOVTECH - NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CENTRE (Andrew Besford)

- Now called the National Leadership Centre (previous names used by central gov have been Public Services Leadership Academy and Centre for Public Services Leadership). The idea of the Centre is to support public leaders who will progress to be agency chief execs etc. within the next few years.
- We are making the case there should be a digital/cyber/data track which we could host in the North East.
- Working with Amy Stabler leading on next version of proposal from Newcastle University Business School and NICD including case studies etc, and continuing to build consensus across university
- We are looking for a high profile “figurehead” to support our offer. Charlie has mentioned to Ed Vaizey MP
- Planning to share with Kris Murrin (Cabinet Office) shortly and then seek a meeting to discuss

- Cabinet Office have put out a tender out to build the 'Networking, Information and Community Service' - a platform / web presence and community for the Centre (relates to whole of National Leadership Centre, not just to our 'pitch') - would any Dynamo members like to make a proposal to create this?
https://www.digitalmarketplace.service.gov.uk/digital-outcomes-and-specialists/opportunities/8984?utm_id=20190208

EARLY-STAGE WORKSTREAMS

SHARED SERVICES (Simon Roberson/Laura Kemp)

Meetings with relevant board members and other businesses are underway, with many more planned over the coming weeks.

We had hoped to hold the next cluster meeting at the end of February, but mid-March is more realistic. This will be a chance to look at the common themes cropping up in discussions to agree which are the most important/have potential to make an impact, to take forward. The cluster group will include all those previously involved, with the addition of a few board member organisations.

Initial thoughts are for a springtime Think Tank, open to Dynamo members, to explore how best to achieve the cluster objectives – in April time

One recurring theme is attracting the right talent, including graduates – changing the perception that jobs in shared services don't lead to prosperous careers. Need to decide if there an opportunity to do something at the conference in June, perhaps as a supplementary event at lunchtime or the end of the day, for students. (Will they still be at there in June?)

Some notes coming from Deni around Dynamo membership for students and benefits to be offered, incl. student targeted events and activities.

Student showcase area at Dynamo 19 – how will this work.

Action: CN to speak to Alistair and Becky and other Universities about how to engage them. And whether there are other fringe workshops

DIGITAL ENTERTAINMENT (Laura Kemp)

Very early stage discussions and scoping – this cluster is potentially huge, incorporating everything from video games and online gambling to heritage, culture and sport. The challenges faced by/opportunities open to these organisations differ greatly and the direction this cluster needs to take is not yet clear. Meetings will continue over the coming months, with the aim of an initial cluster meeting later in the spring

Action: Laura to meet Siobhan Fenton at Teesside re. gaming training

Action: Becky to intro Laura Kemp to cultural/digital entertainment people at Northumbria University.

FINTECH (Mike O'Brien/Anne Macdonald)

Will be led by our new Engagement Manager Dawn Dunn.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (Anthony Hall/John Marrin)

Will be led by our new Engagement Manager Dawn Dunn.

WIDER ACTIVITIES (Anne Macdonald)

Meetings help with a number of new to Dynamo organisations this month who are interested in membership including Thought Works and Ctrl Hub.

Also met with NGI to discuss collaboration opportunities for 2019

Dynamo team attending the NE LEP's SEP Update event on 14th Feb

New Dynamo office now open in Hoults Yard

New team induction process underway

Attended Northern Power Women dinner on 31 Jan - looking at regional best practice in gender equality and skills

EVENTS

DYNAMO ADVISORY BOARD WORKSHOP – Monday 11th March at Sage. Anne to prep agenda to be circulated. We would like to encourage as many board members as possible to attend this important session to steer Dynamo's future direction.

Action: Anne to create agenda for circulation

PANEL EVENTS 2019

Any of the Board organisations looking to host and collate a panel event from April onwards? Any interesting topics we can cover?

Suggestion – Newcastle City Council – via Ed Banks. If not April then next one.

Action Laura Kemp to contact.

THINK TANK

Digital Construction Think Tank – April – Details TBC by Anne/Becky

DYNAMO DINNER 2019

Thursday 14th March, BALTIC Gateshead

Bruce Daisley, VP, EMEA for Twitter, confirmed as guest speaker

Bookings now launch – 79 confirmed so far including Dynamo VIP guests and sponsor table.

Mincoffs confirmed as one of the co-sponsors (5th year in a row).

Opencast now confirmed as additional co-sponsor

Bruce is coming through the day to talk to students from UTC and RGS.

DYNAMO 19

Thursday 20th June 2019, University of Sunderland

Title: Roadmap for the Region's Tech Sector

Sage confirmed as Headline Sponsors.

Sunderland City Council now confirmed as Host City Sponsors

Call for Papers going out in the next week.

Immersive tech and Emerging Tech panels.

Dynamites 'Hall of Fame' case studies

Sponsorship pack now ready and will be circulated. Change the structure this year: Gold, Silver & Bronze packages.

Phil Jackman leading on a 'report' prior to the conference around the previous 5 years of the region and moving forward. Springboard to bring to wider group.

Speakers Dinner – looking at the National Glass Centre. Details to follow.

Tombola have offered to host this at their building.

Action CN to follow up on this

MEMBERSHIP

New members

NTE Ltd - £450

Cheviot Insured - £40

Synergi IT - £450

TOTAL - £940 + VAT

Lost members

Future Skills Vision - £40

Lhasa Ltd - £200

The Tin Limited - £200

Keystone Law - £40

Intelligencia Training Limited - £200

Roundhouse Digital Ltd - £200

Mo Chowdhury (Akzonobel) - £40

Vengrove Real Estate Management - £800

South Tyneside Council - £450

Nissan - £2,000

RTC North Limited - £450

TOTAL - £4,680 + VAT

Northumbria Uni have increased their membership from Supporter to Terabyte (£2k)

Total members: 142

Total revenue: £66,610 + VAT

Should see an increase in the number of new members signing up as a result of the cluster managers and additional engagement now.

AOB

- Phil Jackman – Business Membership Groups – see attached. Request for board members to advise on any additional groups to be added to the list.
- Startup Safari – run by Richard Duncan, one of our members running this alongside Newcastle Startup week and is looking for organisations to be involved. It's an Open-Door Event which opens up the world of entrepreneurship and allows everyone to deep dive into the local startup scene, experience the startup lifestyle and create meaningful connections. Startup SAFARI is a platform to foster exchange and show how startups work, what motivates them and inspire people to start their own business, invest in them or join them on their journey. Richard is working with Sunderland Software City under the North East Digital Festival [See slides](#)