

# Dynamo Board Meeting Agenda

**Date & Time:** 15 January 4.30pm – 5.30pm

**Location:** The Quadrus Centre, Boldon Business Park, NE35 9PF

## **ATTENDEES:**

Anne Macdonald, Charlie Hoult (Chair), Graham Jordan, Phil Jackman, Simon Roberson, Jennifer Thompson (for Jane Turner), Matt Oakley, Graeme Fletcher, Alastair Irons, Stuart Lynn, Heather Heward (in place of Michelle Rainbow), Alison Shaw, Bob Paton, Mark Larsen, John Marrin

## **Minute taking:**

Clare Nicholson, Sarah Thackray

## **Apologies:**

Keith Dickson, Michelle Rainbow, Sandra Thompson, Paul Watson, John Fitzgerald, Becky Strachan, Antony Hall, Alan English, Rob Hamilton, Chris Wade, Mike O'Brien, Anthony McMenzie, David Carroll, Giselle Stewart, Jen Hartley, John Hunt, Lindsay Phillips, Neil Hemming, Richard Waterhouse, Peter Murphy, Deni Chambers, Robert Bing, Janet Ross, Allan King

## **Board Updates**

**Dynamo Hotspot** (formally Dynamo Yearbook)– in development with North East Times. £21k sponsorship confirmed. (Waterston's, Newcastle College, NBS, Accenture, Capgemini, Mincoffs, Opencast Software, Blu Sky, Opencast Software, Newcastle University)

All Dynamo clusters to feature. Launch of publication @ HOL IC3 event on 29<sup>th</sup> Jan.

**House of Lords** – 29<sup>th</sup> January 6.30pm-9pm. Email invitations have been sent out. 18 acceptances so far. Postal invitations sent out on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January. Aiming for over 100 attendees.

ICE VIP Lunch – invites sent out on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January to the VIP list -

**Dynamo 'Talent Matching Service'** – Next group meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> Jan. Pilot still planned for early 2018.

Members to contact Nicola Short direct if would like to participate [nicola.short@gradvert.com](mailto:nicola.short@gradvert.com)

**Action:** Looking for organisations who may have candidates from recent recruitment rounds to put into the pot. Also want SMEs who may want access to talent.

**Action:** Volunteers to help with the development. Some board member organisations already involved/offered to help.

Launch date – potentially June around the conference, and soft launch in May.

## **Finance**

- Overview and update
- Minus £5k for 2017 but still up £20k surplus over the last 4 years
- Funding – LEP for IC3 (£130k), Northumbria Uni (£5k), Innovation Supernetwork (£100k each year for 3 years) – will know more within the month about funding bids.
  - Business plan presented in November can be carried forward if we receive the money.
  - Matt Oakley thinks we could focus on Robotics and AI as a focus – perhaps a new cluster if funding is forthcoming? Nissan, shared service centres etc.
  - Alison suggested medical technology – cluster potential – Centre for ageing and health, universities.
  - Stuart thinks focus on 2-3 clusters and not fragment too much. But again don't want to get lost in solely BIM and lose focus on other clusters.

## CLUSTERS & SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

### CYBER

- The group has set 5 objectives, 15 actions and 66 tasks as a way forward for the work stream. These are set out in the presentation that will hopefully be agreed by the board and Accenture today.
- Following this agreement, meetings have been set up with the theme leads to agree time lines and resources.
- The start of the roll out is planned for a Think Tank on 20 Feb.
- The group will be presenting at Newcastle Startup Week in May.
- Might want a [cyber@dynamonortheast.co.uk](mailto:cyber@dynamonortheast.co.uk)

Presentation from Phil Jackman

**Action:** Circulate post event to board

### SKILLS

#### North East Futures UTC

- Principal Dan Sydes is now in post.
- Focus currently is recruitment of students to meet Dept. for Education targets.
- Charlie is leading the Operational Team on this.
- Currently we have 40 applicants, mainly at Year 10 (to start GCSEs).
- We are messaging aggressively and would ask for Dynamo members (board and others) active support here – re-tweeting etc.
- Leading campaign message is ‘Every child will have an industry mentor’ – so please would Board Members sign up to this and get some of their team members to. ‘Ask’ is a minimum of 6 hours per school year.
- Number of sponsorship opportunities available – programmes, rooms, equipment all up for grabs to be named after Dynamo Members!
- Next UTC meetings – 17<sup>th</sup> Jan, 19<sup>th</sup> Feb, 12<sup>th</sup> March – open evenings to anyone who may want to apply/has kids who may want to apply.
- Monthly events each month ongoing.
- More funding needed
- 50% of schools in the UK offer Computer science. A level and 2/3 offer GCSE ICT.
- Need to keep those applied warm to ensure they stay on board.

#### Code Clubs

- Alastair Irons update
- Undergraduates into schools primary/secondary – Students into Schools module for computer science. Aim is to support teachers.
- 14 students engaged at University of Sunderland to go into schools in semester 2.
- Alison suggests other Universities also get involved.

**Action:** Alastair/Phil to meet with Siobhan at Teesside about this.

**Action:** Simon asking that Alastair suggests students become bare foot volunteers if they are interested.

## **BIM Cluster and IC3**

- International Centre for Connected Construction (IC3) project planning continues with high profile House of Lords Reception on 29<sup>th</sup> Jan. Dynamo board members are invited to attend and help showcase the strength of the digital sector in the NE to our Westminster audience.
- HOL reception to launch vision for IC3 – 29<sup>th</sup> Jan – all board invited.
- £180k LEP Innovation Project Development Fund grant applied for in December and additional information being provided to support the application. Outcome on funding success expected end Jan 18.
- IC3 project has finally been signed off by Northumbria University's Vice Chancellor as lead education partner.
- Planning underway to create a programme of cluster meetings and events for 2018. Next BIM cluster will be held at Turner and Townsend on 5<sup>th</sup> February.

## **FINTECH (Pete Murphy)**

- Supporting Pete Murphy and Mike O'Brien to set up a Finance Cluster.
- Date of first cluster group meeting is 25<sup>th</sup> Jan at JHC Financial.
- Seeking one or two quick win projects to help get the group off the ground
- Stuart Lynn suggests we have a voice on key changes i.e. in banking etc.

**Fintech meeting info: 24<sup>th</sup> Jan @ JHC office Newcastle** - This is the first get together of the Dynamo Fintech Cluster. We are a group of businesses and academic institutions in the North East who are keen to find ways to collaborate in the Fintech arena to the benefit of all involved, as well as to the benefit of the North East economy. We believe that by working together we will be able to pool our ideas and skills to create new and innovative solutions and services for the Fintech market. As a way of kicking this off, JHC will describe the Figaro API and the Neon product. The API gives access to just about all the services that a wealth manager, asset manager or stockbroker (Ex only, Advisory or Discretionary) needs to run their business. Firms with collectively more than 150 Billion GBP of assets under management use it currently and products and services could be marketed to these firms immediately. More widely, products and services could be built on it to offer to the whole of the UK, European and World financial services market which is the model we are using for our Neon product. There is room for many more Neon like products using this platform and we expect that our discussions will give rise to novel ideas of what could be achieved. Please forward other subjects for discussion, ideas for market opportunities, or people to invite, to me at [peter.murphy@jhc.financial](mailto:peter.murphy@jhc.financial)

## **DIGITAL MANUFACTURING (Robert Bing)**

TBC

## **SHARED SERVICE CENTRES (Simon Roberson)**

### **Aims**

Cluster aims align with Dynamo's aims: Collaboration, Innovation, Skills and Noise.

### **Objectives**

- Address negative image of the sector (public perception of call centre work)
- Raise awareness of career pathways and range of opportunities in the sector
- Improve communications and encourage collaboration between organisations with shared services functions in the North East
- Encourage sharing of best practice between other organisations in the sector regionally

- Explore opportunities for apprenticeships in relevant shared services disciplines to develop skills the sector needs for growth
- Develop a more joined up approach to schools/education engagement to support awareness raising and skills development in the sector
- Explore opportunities to support Dynamo's talent matching programme for graduates and apprentices

#### **Initial working group**

- Simon Roberson, Rachel Hancock and Angela Howey at BT/EE
- Anne Macdonald, Dynamo

#### **Next steps**

- Agree objectives of the cluster - All
- Identify a list of other organisations to target to build a Shared Services Cluster (including EY, Sage, Accenture and others) – Please suggest names and provide contact details to Anne
- Arrange a follow up meeting at EE in Feb – Please suggest dates and venue to Anne

**Action:** Anne to share objectives with board- Clare to circulate

**Action:** Board to connect any colleagues with Anne who may want to be involved.

#### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (Anthony Hall/John Marrin)**

TBC

#### **EVENTS**

##### **DynamoNets**

- **15<sup>th</sup> January** – Invest North East England
- **19<sup>th</sup> February** – UTC, Crowne plaza
- **12<sup>th</sup> March** - Maven Capital Partners – Durham
- **Potential host** – Gateshead Council/NEICT

##### **Think tank**

- **20<sup>th</sup> February 2018** Cyber – details/venue TBC
- **April/May 2018?**

##### **Board Dinner 18**

Baltic confirmed for Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018

Sponsorship – Mincoffs £3k confirmed as co-headline. Approaching other co-sponsors.

Ticket price £87.50 + VAT

Speaker approached – Sandra Thompson, EY

Tickets booked to date: 4

##### **Dynamo 18**

Wed 20/Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018

Urban Sciences Building, Newcastle University

Sage are lined up as Headline sponsor once again - £10k pending

Sponsorship proposal will be drawn up and shared with all by end January.

Title: opportunity for growth/vision

Ageing scientist?

Hackathon idea – good addition – pick the hackathon use case related to the theme

Career Event on Wed 20<sup>th</sup> June with NTLT – Will be at a school in NT. Details TBC

**Action:** Any ideas for themes please send to Sarah Thackray

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **New members**

- Gradvert (comp)
- Advantex Network Solutions (£450)

TOTAL £450

### **Lost members**

- Catherine Eaton (Student £10)
- SRM (£450)
- Hainton Recruitment (£40)
- Urban Foresight (£200)
- OOT Ltd (£40)
- Tangent (£200)

**TOTAL £940**

Total members: 133

Total revenue: £58,010

## **AOB**

**Action:** circulate Digital Leaders DL100 – award nominations open to 2<sup>nd</sup> March

NoT Devolution workshop – we have been asked to circulate information on the NoT devolution outreach workshops. Jan 29

LEP Industrial Strategy – LEP manager Michelle Rainbow has asked if we can attend a workshop to update the LEP industrial strategy in light of the UK Government's Industrial Strategy. Jan 22