

Dynamo Board Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: Monday 14th January 2019, 4.30pm

Location: Baltimore House (next to PROTO) Baltic Business Quarter, Gateshead NE8 3DF

ATTENDEES

Anne Macdonald, Alastair Irons, Alison Shaw, Andrew Besford, Charlie Houlton (Chair), Chris Latimer, Dean Benson, Deni Chambers, Fay Cooper, Graham Jordan, Janet Ross, Laura Kemp, Mark Larsen, Mark Norris, Siobhan Fenton, Phil Jackman, Becky Strachan, Simon Roberson, Laura Partridge.

Minute taking: Clare Nicholson

Apologies:

Neil Guy, Sarah Thackray, Rob Hamilton, Sandra Thompson, Lindsay Phillips, Matt Oakley, Jen Hartley, Paul Watson, Neil Hemming, Jon Ridley, Amy Stabler, Graeme Fletcher, Ant Hall, Alan Welby, Mike O'Brien, Stu Lynn.

BOARD UPDATES

Dynamo Recruitment

- Welcome to Laura Kemp – Cluster Engagement Manager laura.kemp@dynamonortheast.co.uk
- Further interviews taking place for a second appointment w/c 14th January
- Alison Shaw – shortlisted for 'Mentor of the Year'.
- Clare - new job title - Dynamo Account Manager
- Comms from us as a team will see ERDF funding from ISN.
- Cluster Managers – office at Hoult's Yard from Feb. Place for the Dynamo team.

Hotspot

On track with deadlines. Sponsorship confirmed at £17,625 + VAT. Cover our costs. Will be able to receive Innovation SuperNetwork funding towards 45% of selected costs, approx £4k.

Finance

- Overview and update

Healthy and in a good place. Help from ISN for 2.5yrs

CLUSTERS

CYBER SECURITY (Phil Jackman)

Following the Think Tank meeting in November we have started work on a couple of ideas to generate cyber related business in the region. They have a bit more shaping to do.

The first is the development of a North East Cyber Resilience Rapid Incubator, in conjunction with Newcastle University, Legal and General and others, along the lines of the London Office for Rapid Cyber Advancement (LORCA).

The second is the development of a physical mechanism to allow local cyber related companies to sell service in a collaborative yet competitive environment, similar to the pre-competitive consortium used in pharmaceuticals.

We have 4 events lined up for CyberFest in September and NCSC has agreed to speak.

The next event planned is an Awareness event on Feb 12th. Invite only. Approx 20/30 people.

Business event in April – Anthony McMenzie leading on this.

June – school event.

#CyberFest – confirmed events Alnwick, PROTO, FSB, Newcastle University Urban Sciences Building.

SKILLS (Giselle, Graham J, Anne Macdonald)

We are reforming our Skills cluster, building on the significant achievements to date including the UTC. Meetings are planned with key stakeholders on 16th Jan, 13th Feb and 12th March to scope out priorities and determine how Dynamo can best add value to skills in the region.

The Jan event will be in workshop format and cover the following topics:

- What does 'skills' include and what are the region's priorities?
- What are other networks/key organisations doing on skills?
- How best can Dynamo add value to the skills agenda in the region with its limited resources but powerful industry reach?
- What should Dynamo's focus areas be for skills in 2019?
- Who are the key stakeholders we should work with?

Please get in touch if you are interested in getting involved.

CONNECTED CONSTRUCTION (Anne Macdonald)

There are 5 main priorities for the Digital Construction Cluster in 2019:

- Inputting to the International Centre for Connected Construction (IC3) Business Plan now that LEP funding has been secured, ensuring cluster members are able to help shape developments. Charlie will be on the Steering Board with this.
Becky Strachan update – first internal meeting. Business plan to be drawn up. Some other funding schemes being approached. Need to do some consultations within the BIM Cluster.
- Planning and delivering a programme of 4 Digital Construction cluster knowledge sharing and research events with speakers from leading BIM organisations across the North East. Maximise market opportunities.
- Supporting next steps and sharing outcomes of the 4 Innovation Day Challenges commenced at the Digital Construction Innovation Day in November 2018
- Planning and delivering a 2019 Innovation Day
- Continuing work to connect cluster members, grow cluster membership and encourage collaboration on projects

GOVTECH - CENTRE FOR PUBLIC SERVICES LEADERSHIP (Andrew Besford)

Newcastle University have now worked up the “pitch” and costings. This was reviewed in a meeting with all stakeholders on Thursday 10 January 2019. The agreement was that we should now go back to CPSL at the Cabinet Office and request a meeting to share with CEO Kris Murrin what we think we can offer. In the meantime, we will continue to refine the offer and include case studies etc. We also have some informal connections into the Cabinet Office who we can sound out about this before any meeting.

Had a very positive intro discussion with CEO of NHS Digital Academy (Rachel Dunscombe) who is also interested in the offering from a health perspective.

ACTION: Andrew to follow up with Alastair Irons (University of Sunderland) and Becky Strachan (Northumbria University) on NHS Digital Academy with a view to introducing to Rachel Dunscombe.

Health also has potential link to UTC agenda.

DATA (Andrew Besford)

Mark Larsen - Data cluster to reinforce some of our other clusters.

ACTION: Andrew to follow up with Alastair Irons (University of Sunderland) and Siobhan Fenton (Teesside University) on opportunities to contribute to data agenda.

ACTION: Andrew to follow up with Fay Cooper (DWP) – opportunities to collaborate following on from Data Jam event. DWP's Chief Data Officer (Paul Lodge) is based in Newcastle.

EARLY-STAGE WORKSTREAMS

SHARED SERVICES (Simon Roberson/Laura Kemp)

Simon – Northern Rose Fulbright – contact centre. Jen Hartley intro to them. DWP to add in. Then ready to move forward for first event for cluster. NGI pulled report together before Christmas.

ACTION: Anne to send NGI report to Simon and Laura

ACTION: Simon and Laura K to catch up

DIGITAL ENTERTAINMENT (Laura Kemp)

FINTECH (Mike O'Brien/Anne Macdonald)

Clear ideas what we want to do – just need the resources to get moving on this.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (Anthony Hall/John Marrin)

WIDER ACTIVITIES (Anne Macdonald)

Gateshead College - Nadine Hudspeth (Marketing Manager) and Deni Chambers keen to develop a strategic and longer-term relationship with Dynamo which is very positive. Also wish to get involved with skills cluster work. Currently agreeing a portfolio of activities and sponsorship for 2019.

Want to commit for the year – upfront commitment.

P+G - met with Nathaniel Ray and P+G management team before Christmas. Wish to connect more with other business in the region and have considerable digital resources and team at Cobalt offices. Putting together business case for Dynamo membership and hope to join a number of clusters at a later stage.

Innovation Super Network - A number of meetings held and planned with the ISN team to ensure Dynamo's team expansion and cluster activity growth runs smoothly and complies with funding requirements.

Meetings coming up with Thought Works (Ruth Harrison), Newcastle College and Teesside University.

EVENTS

PANEL EVENTS 2019

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

February: Tombola confirmed - may have a panel – TBC

April onwards...need hosts

ADVISORY BOARD WORKSHOP - MARCH 2019

Dynamo advisory board workshop to work through the overall Dynamo story and the detail of each of the clusters. Opportunity for members to get more detail on each of the workstreams and actively participate in shaping them. Will make session 2 hrs long to allow enough time to get into the detail and discuss.

Sage agreed to host

Clare will update the invite.

THINK TANK

Topic & Date for next Think Tank – any requests?

April - Digital Construction topic.

ACTION: Anne to liaise with Becky and then Clare for dates/logistics etc

DYNAMO DINNER 2019

Thursday 14th March, BALTIC Gateshead

Bruce Daisley, VP, EMEA for Twitter, confirmed as guest speaker – fee is a copy of his book for each attendee
Prof Sue Black from Durham Uni confirmed to attend.

Bookings now launch – 38 confirmed so far including Dynamo, sponsor table.

Tickets £90 + VAT (max 3 per organisation)

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

Additional co-sponsor package available – Any of our Board organisations interested in co-sponsoring?

Bruce is coming through the day to talk to students from UTC and RGS. Potential for additional students to attend. Limited availability which is to be confirmed by the UTC.

DYNAMO '19

Thursday 20th June 2019, University of Sunderland

Theme – Future roadmap for Dynamo and the Tech Sector.

Sage confirmed as headline sponsors.

Draft programme being finalised. Will include a Dynamites Hall of Fame, Innovation Showcase Panel, Emerging Tech panel.

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.

MEMBERSHIP

New members

Structured Start - £40

ST College - £450

Baltic Training - £450

North P&I - £450

TOTAL - £1,390 + VAT

Lost members

Performance Horizon - £850

Stormcast - £200

printed.com - £200

Leighton Group - £850

Flow Digital - £200

Viewpoint - £850

Bill Strachan - £40

TOTAL - £3,190 + VAT

Total members: 149

Total revenue: £68,740.00

Larger number of cancelled members due to the renewals as expected.

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

Clare is contacting attendees from events over last 6 months who are not members asking them to join.

Student membership – meeting on Friday - Deni, Becky, Teesside Uni.

AOB

Phil Jackman – Business Membership Groups

Is it worth talking to people outside of our own groups. Which groups are our board member of/aware of?

Joint groups to get together.

ACTION: Laura K to send list to Clare to circulate with minutes.

Dean – Visualsoft. Tees based. Digital clustering companies exciting from same campus. Learn through day, socialise evening. Skills academy, students learning from likes of google etc. Privately led with some public funding.

ACTION: Dean to send Clare brochure.