**VCSE Network Meeting Minutes Date:** 28 May 2025 **Time:** 10:00 AM
**Chair:** Kerri Harold – VCSE Collaborative Coordinator

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

* **Chair:** Kerri Harold welcomed all attendees and acknowledged half-term and staffing changes.
* Apologies were noted (names to be added separately to final minutes).
* Minutes from the last meeting had not been circulated due to staff changes; Kerri will ensure they are sent.
* Jeannie (Moorlands Community Centre – Development Manager)
* Esther (East Riding Theatre – Theatre Administration Officer)
* Aaron (Health and Wellbeing Advisory and Connector Service – Social Prescriber)

**Action:** New members to share contact details via chat for updates.

**Collaborative Update**

* Final stages of **Travel Inclusion / Community Transport** project.
* Identified that **6%** of medical appointments missed across the patch; **80% due to transport issues**.
* Pilot project launched with **Bridlington Community Lift** (Beverley Community Lift managing), aiming to reduce missed medical appointments.

**Actions:**

* Kerri to report on pilot progress.
* Continued focus on Bridlington and Withernsea (Coastal) as priority areas.
* Members encouraged to flag issues for collaborative consideration.

 **Rural and Coastal Inequalities (Luke Medcalf)**

* Discussion around **funding inequalities** and **intersectionality**.
* Emphasised the importance of **transport data** in influencing broader inequality funding (e.g. Sport England).
* Interest in collaboration on data and narrative around coastal disadvantages.

**Action:** Collaborative to integrate this perspective in strategic planning.

**Upcoming Showcase Event – 4 June 2025**

* Location: **Beverley Barn**, Long Lane, Beverley.
* Over 40 stalls including small grassroots groups and national organisations.
* **Greek street food** and **Beverley FM** radio coverage confirmed.
* Attendees may be asked to participate in live interviews.

**Actions:**

* Promote event across networks.
* Share VCSE UK website resources.
* Reach out to Smile for support/questions.

**Review of Meeting Format and Platforms**

* Discussion led by Cat to gather feedback on:
	+ Preferred platform: agreement to move from Zoom to **Teams**.
	+ Content preferences: mix of **speakers**, **strategic updates**, **open discussions**.
	+ Balance of local vs thematic content.

**Suggestions:**

* Add regular **consultation and commissioning updates**.
* Share collaborative board insights.
* Consider adding updates from different cohorts or locations.
* Put **speakers at end of meetings** to allow choice in attendance.
* Continue promoting cross-learning from diverse topics.

**Actions:**

* Amend meeting agenda structure accordingly.
* Book speakers for 12 months in advance and communicate schedule.
* Explore options for a **focused subgroup** or special session.

**Future Events**

* Plans for **three locality-based events** (North, East, West) later in the year.
* Events to be developed in partnership with infrastructure charities.

**8. Partner Updates**

* **Luke Medcalf (Active Humber):**
	+ 4 vacancies available.
	+ White Ribbon work ongoing – Luke to stay involved in some capacity.
* **Kate Urwin (Energy Doctor):**
	+ Energy advice project now live.
	+ Training sessions and referral process available.
	+ Will attend local events upon request.
* **Cllr Nick Coultish (ERYC):**
	+ CAB contract retendering noted – discussions ongoing.
* **Sam Bell (Homelessness Project):**
	+ Funding extended for Bridlington-based homelessness service.
	+ Open to referrals across East Riding.
	+ Additional Saturday hours planned over summer.
* **Elaine Agar (Dementia Awareness):**
	+ Success of recent dementia event.
	+ New brain health worker engaging in early intervention work.

**9. AOB and Close**

* Reminder: those wanting to be guest speakers at future meetings should contact Kerri or Cat.
* Positive feedback on meeting format and cross-sector learning.
* Next steps: develop annual speaker calendar and follow up on pilot project outcomes.

 **Minutes and Apologies**

* ✅ **Action:** Kerri to circulate the minutes from the previous meeting as they were not yet distributed.

**Collaborative Updates**

* ✅ **Action:** Kerri to report back on the progress of the **Bridlington Community Lift pilot** (community transport initiative).
* ✅ **Action:** Members to flag any local issues or challenges, especially from Bridlington and Withernsea, to be considered by the Collaborative.

**Rural and Coastal Inequalities**

* ✅ **Action:** Collaborative to integrate feedback and data into strategic discussions to influence external funding decisions (e.g., Sport England).
* ✅ **Action:** Kerri and Active Humber to coordinate further on relevant transport and inclusion data.

**VCSE Showcase Event – 4 June 2025**

* ✅ **Action:** Members to share event info with networks and encourage attendance.
* ✅ **Action:** Kerri/Cat to resend the **VCSE UK website** link and relevant resources in post-meeting email.
* ✅ **Action:** Attendees to be prepared for possible **Beverley FM interviews** at the event.

**Meeting Format & Platform**

* ✅ **Action:** Move all future meetings from **Zoom to Teams**; provide support to any attendees who may need help accessing Teams.
* ✅ **Action:** Review and **revise the agenda structure** based on member feedback:
	+ Include space for strategic updates, open discussion, and collaborative feedback.
	+ Consider placing **speakers at the end** to allow optional attendance.
	+ Add **consultation and commissioning updates** as a regular agenda item.
	+ Feature updates from Collaborative Board members or sector-specific themes.
* ✅ **Action:** Smile to develop and share a **12-month speaker calendar**.

 **Locality Events**

* ✅ **Action:** Plan and schedule **three locality-based events** (North, East, West) for late 2025.
* ✅ **Action:** Collaborate with infrastructure organisations to deliver sessions and workshops.

**Speaker/Partner Opportunities**

* ✅ **Action:** Members interested in being guest speakers (e.g. Elaine on dementia) to contact Kerri or Cat to be added to the schedule.
* ✅ **Action:** Cat to follow up on suggestions for future speakers and theme ideas.

**Transport Consultation**

* ✅ **Action:** Kerri to follow up with Cllr Meredith and John Pockley to explore a potential pilot consultation and child-led advocacy on road safety and transport.
* ✅ **Action:** Smile/ and East Riding Council to coordinate on setting up further workstreams or a potential **transport subgroup**.