**Datcde67y6e:** 27 August 2025 **Time:** 11:00am **Location:** Online (Teams) **Chair:** Kerri

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

* Kerri Harold opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.
* New attendees introduced themselves:
  + **Laura Dibnah** – Senior Social Worker, Hull Royal & Castle Hill Hospitals.
  + **Elaine Holtby** – Team Manager, East Riding Carer Support Service.
  + **Tina Hilpert** – Community Engagement Officer, Home Instead.

**2. Approval of Previous Minutes**

* Minutes from the last meeting were approved with no actions arising.

**3. VCSC Collaborative Update**

* The **VCSC Collaborative contract** has ended after two years.
* Workstreams covered:
  + Community transport & travel inclusion – Led to the Bridlington Community Lift Project (recruiting 10 volunteer drivers).
  + Place-based work (Bridlington) – Links with Clear Hold Build project to address ASB, crime, and community cohesion.
  + Health forums – Facilitated two-way communication between VCSE sector and health providers.
  + Insight & data collection – Supported smaller organisations to become “commission-ready”.
* Future: While the formal collaborative has ended, momentum will be carried forward via the network.

**4. Organisational Updates**

**Growing Green/Blue Health Project (Anthony Hurd)**

* Training on nature connectedness, 16 Sept at Barlow Common, delivered with Cat Kings Outdoor Learning.

**Youth Voice & Volunteering (Detty Tyler)**

* Stepping back from youth volunteering work.
* Contact for youth voice: Dave Brown.
* Recruiting a Children & People Services Coordinator (deadline 10 Sept).
* Upcoming forums: Safeguarding Forum (23 Sept, focus on modern slavery & Solihull approach) and Domestic Abuse Forum (7 Oct).

**Alzheimer’s Society (Elaine Agar)**

* Launch of **East Riding Dementia Roadshow**, first event 17 Sept at Toll Gavel, Beverley.
* Focus on “Herbert Protocol” for missing persons.
* Informal event with dementia advisors, group activities, and partners including Humberside Police.

**ERYC / Community Vision Support (Sian Broughton)**

* Digital inclusion roadshows planned across East Riding.
* Developing a toolkit for organisations hosting youth volunteers.

**Skills Network Training (Cat Bradshaw & Kerri Harold)**

* 600 free online training places available for VCSE sector staff, volunteers, and trustees.
* Courses range from CPD to basic skills; certificates awarded.
* Support available for those lacking digital access (development workers and device gifting scheme).
* Members encouraged to share widely; spreadsheet and promotional materials to follow.

**East Yorkshire Community Transport – Bridlington Local Community Lift (Jane Evison)**

* **Context:**
  + Between April 2023 and March 2024, East Riding recorded nearly 151,000 missed hospital appointments.
  + Bridlington shows above-average DNA (Did Not Attend) rates, creating both poor health outcomes and NHS costs.
  + Contributing factors:
    - Patients often sent to Scarborough, York, Malton, or Hull hospitals (long, costly journeys).
    - Low car ownership in Bridlington.
    - Limited public transport, especially early mornings.
    - High deprivation levels restricting ability to pay for transport upfront.
* **Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme:**
  + Exists nationally but poorly promoted and difficult to access (paper forms, retrospective payment).
  + Only £1,000 claimed across East Riding in 12 months.
  + Northumbria operates a better, user-friendly version with strong uptake.
  + MP engaged, but change remains a national issue.
* **Bridlington Local Community Lift (BLCL):**
  + Set up with support from Beverley Community Lift (administration and expertise).
  + Aim: volunteer-driven car journeys for hospital and other essential appointments where no suitable transport exists.
  + Drivers: use own cars, reimbursed at 45p per mile, DBS checks funded.
  + Target: 10 volunteer drivers to launch scheme.
  + Funding secured from East Riding Round Table, Lord Feoffees, and potential wind farm grants.
  + Pot of money available to subsidise those unable to afford journeys.
  + Publicity campaign launching (posters, leaflets, local media).
* **Safeguarding & Training:**
  + Door-to-door only (not entering homes).
  + Volunteers encouraged to report safeguarding/welfare concerns.
  + Alzheimer’s Society offered dementia awareness training for volunteers.
  + Potential for wider safeguarding awareness input for all drivers.
* **Next Steps / Advocacy:**
  + Need stronger engagement with Hull NHS Trust (York/Scarborough more responsive).
  + Suggestion: develop case studies of DNAs to present to the Health & Wellbeing Board.
  + Brian Pickles offered to support with NHS data access and comms.
  + Leaflets/posters will be shared across the network once finalised.

**6. Any Other Business**

* **Flu & winter vaccinations** – reminder from Brian Pickles to encourage uptake.
* **Locality Network Events:**
  + **North Locality:** 14 Oct, Love Driffield.
  + **West Locality:** 13 Nov, Blackburn Leisure Centre (Brough).
  + **East Locality:** 18 Nov, Armstrong Centre, Beverley.
* **Annual VCSE Network Meeting (in person):** 24 Sept 2025, Beverley Cricket Club.

**7. Actions Agreed**

1. **Circulate contact details** of new members and speakers via chat and mailing list.
2. **Recruitment drive** for 10 volunteer drivers for Bridlington Local Community Lift (posters, social media, leaflets to be shared).
3. **Distribute dementia roadshow poster** (Alzheimer’s Society) via VCSE site and network.
4. **Promote Skills Network training** widely; spreadsheet and flyers to be shared with members.
5. **Brian Pickles to join Bridlington transport working group** and support data access/case study development.
6. **Explore funding and advocacy routes** (e.g. Mayor, ICB, health boards) to improve transport access and reduce DNAs.
7. **Share leaflets/posters** once finalised for Bridlington Community Lift to enable wide distribution.

**Next Meeting:**  
📅 **Tuesday 24 September 2025** (in person)  
📍 Beverley Cricket Club

Invites to follow the minutes.