

Community Initiatives FPG Meeting Minutes

Time and Place: Tuesday 27th August 2019, 13:00-14:30, 1P02, City Hall, BS1 5TR

Present: Sandra Meadows, Diane Bunyan, Ronnie Brown, Penny Germon, Tim Temple, Steve Sayers, Joanna Holmes, Toby Howkins,

In attendance: Taylor Meagher, Diane Robinson,

Apologies: Sado Jirde, Tom Renhard, Ryan Munn, Fiona Gilmour,

1. **Welcome & apologies**
2. **Declarations of interest** – none declared
3. **Minutes and actions of previous meeting**

Action: Ryan to eventually produce visual representation of the Proposed Theory of Change.

Action: Ryan to discuss further with Penny re BIF impact on metrics. **Ongoing**

Action: Penny to discuss with one fund provider re how BIF connects up with community initiatives. Who does BCC work with at City Funds re grant funding, Di will figure out how to embed in short term and update Penny. **Evolving piece of work and Penny will bring an update soon. We need to see the overall picture including alignment.**

Action: Sandra to take to Board of who is looking at overall picture of alignment. Ronnie will be happy to contribute.

Action: To build a broader understanding how short term work fits with community aspirations and how medium term work can be used to have a broader understanding of the ecosystem of the City. **Ongoing.**

Action: Taylor to circulate the ToC as a final document after changes made. **Di to send to Taylor.**

Action: Taylor to get a clear document together to outline exactly what the funds are for and where they will go. What does the £250K do, how do we access it? Can we give grant only? This needs to be clear. How do we work with different funders? What the funds are and aren't. **Ongoing but FAQ document will be ready soon.**

Action: Taylor to connect Peter and Toby to engage with SME not just big business. They met and had a discussion on the business engagement group, fact finding really, no actions. Peter will use Toby as a gateway when he is ready. **Questions that need answering at a meeting next week, do we set up a service for pro-bono activity, who is brokering this, and what is the timescale. Could be part of DCMS funds.**

Action: Taylor to work with Joanna, Diane B, Tom, and Sandra and bring the document back for approval in 1 month. On the agenda. **Di picked this up and then it was placed on hold.**

Action: Sandra to share workshop information with Taylor to disseminate through groups. **Complete.**

Action: Taylor to ensure other groups are doing this, also add recurring agenda item to group agenda to say escalating info of what members have been doing outside. **Ongoing.**

Action: Taylor is sending an email out every month of what all other FPGs are up to. **Ongoing.**

Action: Taylor to add Board agenda item with Sandra/Ryan discussing funding alignment.

Action: Taylor to repeat this item onto next meeting 'Developing a fundraising and investment strategy' **Complete**

Action: Sandra to work with Sacha on a easier to read ToC as a diagram

4. Updates since last meeting

FPG Chairs met with Andy to discuss work programmes and how they are not consistent. The ToC is consistent across practical applications; but the remit for FPGs has changed drastically. We have to work within FCA regulations which have so far excluded FPG members on investment decisions. There is no embedded link on any investment work. The FPG has the skills and knowledge and needs to feed this into the Board.

- Can see importance of FPG but doesn't see the relationship with the Board at all
- Needs to see our actual important role to want to continue the role
- Feels quite lost with the group, feels a long time since we met and have lost track of what is happening
- Getting papers 45 minutes before the meeting means unable to engage
- Doesn't know what they are doing here and doesn't feel useful
- City Funds doesn't seem to merit the mechanism behind it
- Issue with power dynamic, no way of imparting any knowledge
- Increasingly top down
- Increasingly seems aligned with Bristol City Council (Mayor's Asset Group, Bristol Impact Fund)
- Could not answer any questions on City Funds when someone asked about funds
- We have interesting conversations and then go away, not informed to say or do anything outside of that
- Full time admin support is needed for connectivity and to link the groups and provide stronger support and engagement with the entire Board and FPGs
- Are we lobbying the Board to take on our views, or are they lobbying us?
- Where is City Funds trying to get to? Is the Board clear and we aren't? Or are there not clear goals

- We have processed 1 investment that falls within this groups theme, FCA rules are also dictated by what the investee wants and is comfortable with
- Once a client gets through the “black box” as it was and the investment is safe and they are no longer vulnerable.
- Where is the FPG at the front end of the investment decision? The design was set up before Jari arrived and now we need to agree where the position of the FPG is and we may need to redesign. We could ask the potential investee if they are comfortable with the information coming to FPG.
- We need to be a proactive influence
- Understand the decision on why investment is behind closed doors but we need to have impact
- Members were motivated at the start, and we wanted to avoid the talking groups where people are fatigued repeating the same things over and over, this can't be the same old stuff
- If the workshop is a consultation and where people put ideas in and have actual impact then it's worth the time
- There needs to be more context within the decided subjects for the workshop

Action: Taylor send mass email - What each subject hopes to achieve, as well as what FPG members want the 2 days to achieve, not too granular but what should we discuss within each subject

- Sacha invited the entire group to talk with him and influence the workshops. Di and Tim would like to meet.
- We need to be sharing more learning, NCGH is way ahead of other groups but with no information on what

5. Summary report to CIFPG

6. Grants and Fundraising

7. AOB

PG: Gatherwell have approached BCC re an opportunity and Penny would like to share their presentation with the group for their expertise.

Action: Taylor to give reason if any meeting dates are amended in future

8. Date of next meeting

Frequency to be decided at the workshops.