

## Radstock & Westfield Big Local Partnership - Meeting Notes: 26.07.24

Present: RH (chair), RW, LK, LC, JF

Apologies: MM, BC, SB, SH, BB

### 1. Declaration of interests – to happen within the meeting

### 2. Spend Out:

We have £61,500 remaining to grant.

- Of this £21k is earmarked for two Dragons' Dens.
- £40k remains for our Small and Big Fund.

A number of investment opportunities are known.

All activities that are paid for by grants must be completed by Mar 2026. Ideally earlier (Local Trust recommend Sept 2025 to allow for slippage)!

### 3. Small Fund is open, up to £1,000 per grant:

- **Natural Theatre** – have expressed an interest in applying for continuing their Adult Creative Wellbeing sessions at Hope House Centre.

Partnership want to know more about the demographics of the current project users (M/F; Age; How the referrals take place) also how slow is the project growing? Also is the intention to continue it at Hope House?

- **Cookery Classes** – An individual has met worker to express interest in applying to trial some cooking sessions to teach nutrition and simple recipes.

Partnership want there to be a firm plan, a firm target. Want to see how it ties in to other partners and not compete.

- **Radstock Museum** – Have expressed interest in applying. Not specified.
- **Writhlington Village Hall** – Have expressed interest in applying. Not specified.
- **Radstock Band** – LK declared an interest.  
Aiming to increase the store of equipment so they can include more people – and make the project more viable longer term.
- **Writhlington Next Door Nature** - Might be interested in an application in partnership with Connections. They're coming to the end of their budget by March 2025. LC and RW will be meeting with them shortly.

### 4. Big Fund, applications are by invitation only:

- **Westfield Parish Council** – RH declared an interest.  
WPC have enquired whether they can apply for £25k – towards changing

rooms at Westhill recreation ground. Further information was provided.  
Partnership interested to hear more about it, and to see how it compares in impact to other potential Big Fund applications.

- **Natural Theatre** – enquired whether they can make the case to us for funding to secure the Radstock Fayre for 2025 (about £6k required), and to develop a legacy group and plan to work towards its longer term future (yet to be costed up).  
Partnership are interested in hearing how much it would cost to prepare the plan. Also what costs of the Fayre are covered already.
- **Natural Theatre** – enquired whether they can make the case for funding towards the Youth Theatre (roughly £5k)  
Partnership want to see more information: What is the plan for the project, what are the costs?
- **Little Lost Robot** – have provided an informal update, (1st official report due in Sept). – The summary of the update being essentially, the projects have started, referral system in place, working with other stakeholders, participant number starting to grow.

Partnership response, good to hear it's progressing. Would like to receive monthly informal updates.

5. **Dragons' Den 11:** Planning for November. The Methodist church may not be ready for our requirements (we will need the church space which currently is unavailable), so the CIC suggests Westhill again for convenience, which should allow us to plan earlier. Will check availability with their management. Communications will go out once the date and place is confirmed.

## 6. Local Trust support:

Offering two free tickets to the Locality convention in Manchester, 12-13<sup>th</sup> November. It's a convention about the volunteer and charity sector. There will be key note speakers, practical workshops, visits to local organisations, networking opportunities.

JF informed us of the final Local Trust survey that is being sent out individually to partnership members to share their experiences of the Big Local programme.

## 7. AOB

None