

KENT INVICTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
EAST KENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUP (EKEDG)

WEDNESDAY 30 MAY 2018 AT 10.00AM

The Boardroom, Jenner Construction Ltd, Century House, Park Farm Road, Folkestone

1. Welcome and Apologies

Members Present:

Ray Johnson - Chair

Dan Deed –Woodley Coles

Mike Marsh - Barclays Bank

Mark Minus – MHA

Jonathan Clarke – Morgan Jones

Kimberley Anderson – Discovery Park

Graham Hammond – Shepway District Council

Karen Dean – Brachers LLP

Philip Clapham – Smith Wooley

Ella Brocklebank – Jenner Construction

Lee May – Brachers

Andrew Cruttenden – Martello

Tarih Bolton – Martello

Munya Badze – KCC

Gareth Jones – Enterprise Co-ordinator

Apologies:

Jo Rossi – Locate in Kent

Daniel Sangiuseppe – Castlewood Hotels

Katherine Harvey – Shepway District Council

Steve Wisbey – NIC Instruments Ltd

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Agreed.

3. Outstanding Action

- RJ reported that Steve Wisbey NIC Instruments Ltd was still looking for a new site and if anyone hears of anything to be in touch. RJ wondered whether the Westbourne site might be good.
- It is proposed that Vattanfall Windfarm will present to the Group
- LM to do talk on planning at the meeting on 26/09/2018
- RJ asked whether KA needed help with her charity steering group and she confirmed no input was required.
- Thanet District Council – Louise Askew would be back in September and be attending meetings again.

4. Chairman's Comments and Report

RJ said there were a few items to report.

- RJ sends regular emails – had everyone received the Otterpool Park email and that Jo James would be attending.
- Attended Kent Vision Live Breakfast meeting – Kent & Medway Business Fund had money available.
- Attended opening event at Port Lympne for the new Moroccan Courtyard. RJ also informed the group there was accommodation overlooking the tigers enclosure and that these rooms are booked up to October already.

5. Update/discussion – Munya Badze/Gareth Johns Enterprise Coordinator, KCC

EKEDG members introduced themselves to MB and GJ.

MG presented to the group and said that he would share slides:

They are funded by the Department of Education to inspire future generations and support students. There is a real skills shortage and 3 years ago Nicky Moore set up a careers and enterprise company, taking in:

- Research
- National Framework
- The Gatsby Benchmark
- Enterprise Advisors

The aim is to support schools, measure and report impact.

The Department of Education have issued Careers Guidance booklet which is the bible for schools.

They aim to put every year group from year 7 into a working environment every year to create a career strategy for the children.

From September 2018 every school has to use the Gatsby Benchmarks (leaflet handed to each member of the EKEDG group).

Schools will have career leaders.

By 2020 or schools will have an Enterprise Advisor.

At the moment they are working with 47 schools in Kent. They are looking for Enterprise Advisors to support schools, share resources and activities across the network.

GJ introduced himself. He works for 365 IT Support. In the IT business they want kids to come through apprenticeships rather than going to University. They ran an afterschool club for IT. It was a 6 week course. Wrote to schools about it and all fell flat. He met the Careers and Enterprise Company and decided to get involved. GJ got Hartsdown Academy in Thanet which is quite a challenging school.

They started doing careers themed weekly assemblies which involved the children and these went down very well, they have had a hospitality week and a healthcare week. There is going to be a construction week in September.

14/06/2018 – Skills 30/30 run by FSB. This will involve 30 business people and 30 children. The first hour would be networking and the second hour would be business speed dating. This was for 6th Form student to try to inspire them.

Another project they had run was children bringing in favourite family recipes and GJ's business and the school's media studies department were working with the children to put the book together which will then go on sale to raise money for charity.

GJ asked if anyone would like to become an Enterprise Advisor to attend FSB.

GJ said that as an employer they give employees 5 days a year to give to this sort of thing.

JC said that it was a fundamental problem of children not knowing where they were going on leaving school. He said that he has also noticed that certain schools are not always keen to promote certain colleges.

There is a real needs issue and that if a child goes to college and drops out it becomes a needs issue for that school so it gives them more reason to hang onto a child rather than encourage college.

The aim is from year 7 giving them more exposure, thereby giving them more options.

KA said having 2 children herself, that children need guidance from a younger age and it is important to meet professionals from a young age. At Discovery Park they have a steering

group and they bring teachers in to train them on high tech lab equipment and then the teachers can bring the children in to teach them.

TB reported they had two children in doing work experience, one doing surveying and the second doing creative design and that the girl doing creative design by the end of the week had designed own house. TB asked about schools getting involved in Otterpool Park.

RJ said about work experience structure and that going to different employers for a couple of days at a time would give them more experience in different sectors.

GH confirmed that East Kent College were involved with Otterpool.

Slides relating to the presentation have now been distributed to the group by RJ.

6. Update/discussion – GDPR – Brachers

LM confirmed that SH was unable to attend due to imminent maternity leave but passed a copy of slides around the group and confirmed he would email these. RJ passed on best wishes to SH.

7. Sector Update

Nothing to report

8. Other projects update

Nothing to report

9. Any other business & topics

EB reported a lack of skills in the construction industry and about the need to get careers advisors on board.

A careers contact for skills is Paul Winters. There is a conference next Tuesday skills/funding. MB said he would share the contact with KA.

In Jo Rossi's absence RJ reported Locate in Kent now had a new CEO Gavin Geary. They had a new website. They were looking for case studies why to work in Kent (please get in touch if this is something you would be interested in). They have a new brochure and media campaign. Also what would be usual to group members to learn from her. She will be doing a presentation at the meeting in September.

Date of next meeting

25th July 2018 – Jonathan Clarke hosting, although he shall now be away, so the meeting will now take place at East Kent College Folkestone which Jonathan has assisted with.