



## TADCASTER BUSINESS FORUM – FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS SCOPING PAPER

1. The CEF has funded the Business Forum for the past 2 years.
2. 2015/16 saw a series of successful Breakfast Network meetings and 3 evening Forums, held at the Riley Smith Hall, Tadcaster Albion and Everything Good Goes. One planned Forum event was cancelled in the run up to the Tour de Yorkshire. Additional business support was funded to allow Heidi Green from BSYNY to provide advice to new businesses. Analogous to the Forum and funded separately from NYCC and A4A was the CIC's Bright Sparks project which supported 4 new starts in the town.
3. 2016/17 saw the continuation of the Breakfast Network meetings but this became increasingly poorly attended and so was discontinued by the beginning of the Summer. The Business Forum however has continued to be a successful initiative with 3 Forums held at 21 High Street, Tadcaster Albion and the Coach and Horses. The Forum has worked with and alongside the emerging Tadcaster Traders Association and the TEMPT group.
4. The Forum itself provides a number of roles. The first and most important is the opportunity for businesses to get together and discuss the important issues of the moment, with inputs from stakeholders such as Selby District Council. Secondly, the Forum is a place for disseminating information to businesses. Thirdly, it is a focal point for gathering the views of businesses. Finally, it is a place for developing new initiatives, such as TEMPT.
5. CEF funding has meant that T&R CIC have been able to dedicate time to arranging meetings, supporting businesses, lobbying on behalf of the business community and developing initiatives, a prime example being the "Shape your Future" Careers Event being organised with Tadcaster Grammar School in March 2018.
6. However, it is recognised that ongoing CEF funding is not an option for this purpose. As a result, our proposal is that, for the year 2018/19, the Forum is continued to be supported by T&R CIC who will seek a new core funder of the activity. This will mean that, in the interim, the primary activity will be the organisation of the quarterly Forum meetings and liaison with the Traders Association (note that TEMPT is a separate initiative which will continue and be funded by a different set of stakeholders).



## Tadcaster & Rural

### Community Interest Company

7. The support of the CEF Partnership Board for the Forum over the past 2 years has been appreciated and welcomed. We ask that the CEF Partnership Board endorse the proposed approach and monitor progress over the year ahead.