

# ‘Building a better borough’

Redcar and Cleveland’s Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 – 2021

## Annex E – Creating a vision



## Part of the 11 Million Takeover Day, November 2007

### Creating a vision

The boroughs first Community Strategy had a vision 'To make Redcar and Cleveland an attractive place to live, visit, work and invest.'

This vision was felt to be outdated and we wanted to make it more exciting and modern with the boroughs young people describing how they see Redcar and Cleveland looking in the year 2021. So questions to encourage them to think about the future included:

- what would make them more likely to stay here when they grow up
- what kind of facilities and activities they would like to see
- what kind of jobs they would like
- what do they want to look like

The outcome desired was to create a 'vision' statement that reflected their views on the future of the borough.

### Participants

Students from Eston Park School, Nunthorpe Secondary School, Freebrough Specialist Technology College and Ryehills Secondary School took part in the project. The students were from Year 9 and 10, 6 female, 6 male.

The students worked on the project for 17 hours each.

### Session 1 – 08.11.07

During the first session, the students became familiar with what the Sustainable Communities Strategy was about. They were encouraged to think about what they would like to see in Redcar & Cleveland in the future. They compared that it is like where they live now, to what they would like it to be like in the future, and what would encourage them to live and work here in the future.

Area	Bad Things 2007	Good Things 2007	Future
East Cleveland	Graffiti Chavs-acting drunk, walking round with bottles of wine Drugs Smoking litter (Cigarette ends, empty packets) Street corners Someone killed on the train tracks No Chinese shop No leisure centre Have to travel to Saltburn by bus to get train to	Churches BMX Park Chemists Parks Football club Youth Club 6 Pubs 3 Pizza Places Golf course New School (Freebrough) Food Shops Church Hall Rally School Chippy	A fancy Park like the one in Redcar A Shopping centre Have places for smokers A Clean environment Clean public toilets More activities to keep children and young people off the streets Restaurants Safer places to walk Alternative Youth

	Middlesbrough/Redcar-takes hours Buses expensive		club for older kids More bins Starbucks Small cinema Bowling Arcades A train station Different kinds of jobs Improve Brotton Carnival
Nunthorpe/ Ormesby/Eston/ Normanby (west)	Not much to do Litter Have to go to Middlesbrough to do shopping/go to cinema Traffic Industry pollution Graffiti Low-quality shops	Playing Fields Ormesby Hall and woods Eston Hills	Better shops Things to do for young people Safer to go out at night Improved environment/air quality Less traffic More wildlife Cleaner industry Jobs in local industry
Central Redcar	Fireworks going off early Too many pound shops Too many charity shops Cinema scruffy Amusements Untidy Beach	The Beach! New Marske Woods Skatepark Kirkleatham Centre	Pretty Lights New Cinema Develop the Boating Lake Build an Extreme Sports centre Put new housing and shops at Coatham

The young people then created storyboards to reflect their views, to be used in the animated film.

### **Session 2 – 15.11.07**

The students practiced their animation skills, to enable them to develop their animated films. They also continued developing their storyboards

### **Session 3 – 24.11.07**

Whole day making sets and filming. The students had to make changes according to what they were able to produce using the “Claymation” media.

### **Session 4 – 29.11.07**

Completing filming and post-production.

## Evaluation

The project was hosted by Eston City Learning Centre, and they evaluated the project.

### ANIMATION WORKSHOP (B) Report by Alan Brennan

Background information: -

Tutors - Paul Coates, Judi Libby & Alan Brennan

Dates - 8th, 15th, 24th and 29th November 2007

Venue - City Learning Centre Eston

Brief - To create an animation based on participant views of their environment in 2021

Organisational comment from Anne Lillystone (Deputy Director of the City Learning Centre Eston):-

“From my point of view, the animation workshops were organized through Arts Development with one particular contact who, subsequently, left the service prior to the start of the project. The actual organiser was under the impression that the workshops were at different times etc. which did cause a few organizational problems and budget adjustments. These were resolved by staff, both internal and external to the CLC, being flexible.”

### ANIMATION WORKSHOPS : Programme

Leader : Judi Libby

Support : Alan Brennan and Paul Coates

Week 1 :

The Project explained

Animation explained

Preliminary work

Week 2 : Practice animation : Caterpillar; walk and speech

Completing the Storyboard

Saturday Event

Pre-start - view iMovie of their practice work

1. Check Storyboards
2. Make all scenes, characters and props
3. Animate - camera angles etc
4. Record narration/dialogue

Have all the raw materials to make their film.

Week 4 : Putting it together

1. Show how to use iMovie
2. Put film together
3. Additional music and sound effects

Show the final productions to each other for comment and amendment.

Before Christmas, publish films on Redcar & Cleveland Partnership website.

Session 1 :

- (a) background to the project
- (b) getting to know each other
- (c) background to animation
- (d) begin storyboarding

Comments : seemed to go really well; a nice group of kids willing to get fully involved

Problems : One group was not represented

Session 2 :

- (a) getting to grips with the hardware and software  
(Mac computers and Canon digital video cameras; Mac OS and "I Can Animate")
- (b) practise animating - caterpillar, walking, talking
- (c) complete storyboard

Comments : Students had to learn a completely new operating system and the software for the project. They took to this really well and in no-time at all were ready to animate. They found the animation difficult especially walking and talking. The talking was so difficult that the use of narration was seriously considered by all groups. Most storyboarding seemed to go really well and they all had good ideas

Problems : One group reduced to only 1 person

Session 3 : Making the animation

- (a) Re-cap of aims and objectives
- (b) Collecting resources, building sets, characters and writing narrations
- (c) Making the animation
- (b) Recording the narration

Comments : I had hoped for preparation in their own time. One or two had had a late night and so were a bit dopey first thing. Group of one received excellent support. Found it much more difficult than they expected, especially getting the animation right and to fit with narration i.e. too fast or too slow; one group of two boys not really as engaged as you'd have hoped On the day, I thought they worked really well and from a superficial view had done some really good work, however, in the cold light of another day, I was a bit worried about how it would look finally. A fair amount of tweaking seemed to be needed.

Problems : maintaining motivation throughout a whole day; completing task properly and not letting them tail off; not being fully prepared at the start of the day. Length of time for model and set building when part of an already time-consuming process

Session 4 : Finishing off

- (a) Re-cap of the project
- (b) Analysis of what we had and constructive criticism
- (c) Learning how to put the whole thing together in iMovie
- (c) Attending to criticisms, making new scenes, recording narrations and putting a final version together

Comment : They really pulled the stops out and knuckled down to producing an end product that they were proud of. Support for single student was again excellent. Students asked for certain tweaks to be made by Paul and myself

Problems : At 4pm, only 2 students had turned up, at 4.30 we only had 4 students. again, more time was needed; two students

Additional : The two girls from Eston Park came back in their own time (Wed 5th Dec) and completed their animation.

## OVERALL COMMENTS

Looking back at the project and reading the student evaluations the following points need to be made:-

Students : were, by and large, well motivated, enthusiastic and a pleasure to work with. Group size was mentioned by them, as a factor that contributed to them not being able to complete as much as they wanted to

Support : all adults who provided support (paid and unpaid) were very positive and helpful and made a significant contribution to the final student productions

Time : I thought we would have plenty of time but the project would have benefited from having more time spent on preparing to animate (developing storyboard, making models and sets), a point brought out by the students evaluations.

ICT facilities : The CLC provided excellent facilities by way of the Mac computers and digital video cameras to produce high quality work. Pupils rated the "I Can Animate" software to be very good. I was disappointed that we had to transfer work to a second programme (iMovie) to complete the project. Finally, the CLC's colour printing facilities helped to enhance student work.

Personally : I was pleased with the way the project developed but have to learn the following:-  
- to explain more clearly the need for making lots of animated clips and for not attempting to film the animation in one continuous shot  
- to consider more time for storyboarding, writing the narration, and making sets and models.  
- more practice with actual animation

## ANIMATION WORKSHOP (B) : Evaluation

Background information :-

Tutors - Paul Coates, Judi Libby & Alan Brennan

Dates - 8th, 15th, 24th and 29th November 2007

Brief - To create an animation based on participant views of their local area in 2021

## Evaluation

Q1. Overall, how would you rate the course?

excellent very good ok poor

Q2. What parts of the course have you enjoyed the most?  
E.g. making your models, making the sets, using the computer programme etc

Q3. What parts of the course have you found to be the most difficult?

Q4. What did you think of using Mac computers?  
excellent very good ok poor

Q5. What did you think of the "I Can Animate" software?  
excellent very good ok poor

Q6. What did you think of using "iMovie" to edit your work?  
excellent very good ok poor

Q7. Were you been given enough support and information to be able to complete the task?  
yes no

Q8, Were the tutors supportive and well-informed?  
yes no

Q9. What do you think of the CLC as a venue for the project?  
excellent very good ok poor

Q10. How can we improve future courses to make them even more successful?  
Space for a comment

If you would like to make any other comment, please do so here. Thanks  
Space for a comment

Thank you

Summary of Evaluation (attached)

Q1

Excellent - 7; Very good - 2

Q2

Everything; Macs and animating; Macs; making models; making models; making sets and software; making models and sets

Making models and using Macs; making models and sets;

Q3

Making figures walk; making the set; making the models; making the models; making the models ; walking and model making; moving characters; animating the models; making models and sets

Q4

Excellent - 7; very good - 2

Q5

Excellent - 5; very good - 4

Q6

Excellent - 7; very good - 2

Q7

Yes - 9

Q8

Yes - 9

Q9

Excellent - 9

Q10

More time; nothing maybe bigger groups; nothing; nothing; make computer programmes simpler.

My initial comments:-

Model making very popular!!

I Can Animate could be bettered?

Very successful from participants point of view.

### **Next Steps**

The films were collaborated and edited with support from the team at Eston City Learning Centre. Completion was in December 2007.

The film will be available on the Redcar & Cleveland Partnership website in 2008, and used to launch the Sustainable Community Strategy.