Agile Approach

Agile methodology is an alternative to traditional project approaches. In agile methodology, project teams are able to assess all aspects and direction of a project during the entire process and it helps teams respond to unpredictability (Agile Methodology, 2008). Agile methodology is suitable for projects with an ambiguous scope that is likely to change throughout the duration of the project. Comparatively, in waterfall, the more traditional project approach, project teams only have one chance to get each aspect of a project correct. Whereas when using an agile approach, teams are able to continually revisit all aspects of a project throughout the lifecycle. Agile development approach has several important principles - comprehensive, consistent interaction among the developers/team and the business, face to face communication and small efficient development teams (All About Agile, 2007).

Scrum Methodology

Scrum is an agile development method. Scrum is the most popular and widely adopted agile method due to its simplicity and flexibility (All About Agile, 2007). Scrum concentrates particularly on how to manage tasks within a team-based environment allowing the project to be broken down into increments. With Scrum methodology, the team identifies the workload in a prioritized manner in form of a Product Backlog. The Product Backlog consists of all work that needs to be done in order to successfully deliver the final product. Time and work is then divided into short increments, known as sprints, typically one week or two weeks long. Once a Sprint has been delivered, the Product Backlog is analyzed and reprioritized if necessary, and the workload selected for the next Sprint (McLaughlin, 2015).

Why this Approach is Suitable

Agile methodology has been chosen as the most appropriate approach to this project by all team members and agreed on by the client. Agile methodology has been chosen primarily for its ability to allow us to continuously assess all phases of the product at any point in time. Agile will allow us to revisit passed phases to further develop on findings and research that can assist in improving the project’s development. For example, if the project has reached its second phase of development but the team decides that more time and effort needs to be allocated in this phase, agile methodology allows for these types of changes.

Agile fits well with the project and how we would like to approach it. For example, we will have weekly sprint meetings twice a week with the whole team to discuss progress of work and see how each team member is coping. These meetings give the team a chance to address any strengths and weaknesses we might come across during the course of the project. This satisfies the agile principle of face to face communication.

Scrum methodology will be used for the actual implementation of the project. This has been chosen mainly due to its flexibility and adaptability. Scrum will have the project team working in increments, the team will be required to create a Product Backlog and to start sprints. Breaking the project down into increments/short sprints will allow us to review our progress and remaining product backlog at the end of each sprint. If the project is tracking well, the cycle will then repeat until finished.

All About Agile. (2007, February 10). What is Agile? Retrieved 2015, from All About Agile:

<http://www.allaboutagile.com/what-is-agile-10-key-principles/>

McLaughlin, M. (2015, August 10). Agile Scrum Methodology. Retrieved from Version One

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