



BLACKPOOL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP GROUP

NOTES FROM MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 28, 2014 AT THE HILTON, BLACKPOOL

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
ATTENDEES			
Martin Long (chair)	Naphens	Adam Taylor	Duxburys Commercial
Jane Littlewood	Rabbit Design/Wyred Up	Kila Redfearn	Winter Gardens
Philip Owen	Barclays	Colin Taylor	Illuminations Ambassador
Nicola Atanassova	Visit Blackpool	Steve Singleton	Cuadrilla
David Hardy	Champion Group	Lindsay Campbell	Rowleys
Peter Rawlings	Tower Employment Services	Chris Walne	Chamber of Commerce
Caryn Steele	Balloonatics	Nikki Hart	Blackpool Food Partnership
Susanne Johnson	Johnsons of Bond Street0	Amanda Pickup, Natalie Dobson	Blackpool Sixth
Chris Maine	DPA Packaging	Joe Bannister	Bishops Chartered Accountants
Tony Morgan	Superfast Lancashire	Kevin Bambury, Mike Buck	Pixel Work Design
Lawrence McBurney	Cassidy & Ashton	Paul Farrell	PHX Training
Philip Helm, Nick Bell	Tyson Construction	Sally Snowden	Lettings Solutions
Coral Horn	Pink Link	Yvonne Cooper	Blackpool Job Centre
Daryl Platt, Michelle Riley	Blackpool & The Fylde College	Ruth Eastwood, Colin Johnston	Grand Theatre
Nick Taylor	Hilton Hotel	Mick Grewcock	Burbage Group
Stuart Livesey	Consultant	David Houston	Trinity Hospice
Karen Lambert, Simon Brooke	Happy Creative	Louise Logan	Careers Academy
Paul and Karen Friday	Future Focus Energy	Andy Dobson	Atlas Sailing
Vicky Reynolds	Ashworth Treasure	Pete Watson	G Casino
Vito Cinardi	Litigation Solutions	Martin Booker	Fleetwood Town FC
Jane Cole, Bob Mason	Blackpool Transport Services	Steve Pye	On Blackpool TV
Wendy Swift	Blackpool Teaching Hospitals	Nigel Kilgallon	Pleasure Beach
Philip Crowther	Helms Briscoe	Yusuf Musa, Salim Patel	Winning Pitch
Jonathan Cropper	Kingswood Supplies	Jane Kelly	Sandcastle Waterpark
Shaun Bennett	Links Signs and Graphics	Jon Paul Jackson	Jacksons Coaches
Roger Mellor, Andrew Jackson	Glasdon	David Clewes, Susie Gallagher	Store It
Neil Foulkes	HSBC	Mark Yates	Brooks Collectables
Gerry Lynch	Gem Associates	Nick Leach, Phil Saunders	RBS
Joe Bullock	Whitbread	Simon Booth	Astute Motoring
Norry Ascroft	Entertainer/Consultant	Sarah Marsden-Hughes, Craig Evans	Voiteq
Mike Hardaker	Moore and Smalley	Drew Davidson	Corporate Travel Management
Shirley Hunt	Cranstone Hotel	Becky Wells	One Blackpool
Ruth Patton	Pattons Community	Caroline Hoover, Mike Smith	Kilgour
John Barnett	Stardream/The Wave	Caroline Sagar	Compass North West
Andy Fraser	Blackpool Granite	Andy Atkinson	Voucher Packs
Steve Gill, Graham Arnold	Fylde Promotional Merchandise	Erica Crompton	Big Foot Events
Justin Allitt	Lytham Coffee Co	Duncan Bennett	Organic Insurance
Paul Wilcock	Montpelier	Michael Spencer	Print Loft
Sharon Gailey	People First	Dawn Maher, Cheryl Fairhurst	Fylde Coast Carers
Chris Taplin	Rethink Design	Joan Blackburn	Spire Hospitals
OBSERVERS/GUESTS			
Philip Welsh, Peter Legg, Paula Clark	Blackpool Council	Paul Maynard Simon Renwick	MP for Blackpool North & Clevellys
APOLOGIES			
Paul Linderman	The Berkeley	Alex Tang	Chinese Buffet
Cassie Forshaw	Merlin Entertainments	Mike Walton	AKS
Bev Robinson	Blackpool & The Fylde College	Michael Williams	Winter Gardens
Linda Markey	UR Potential	Anne Catterson	Common Purpose
Duncan Hodgson	Left Coast	Damien, Helen Broughton	Danbro
Nigel Seddon	The Elgin	Dale Lawrenson	Natwest
Ian Fogg	Business In The Community	Sarah Rhodes	Rhodes Media
David Chapman	Linksgate Leisure	Pam Swain	BADN
Neil Jack	Blackpool Council	Ian Collins	Sainsbury's
Elaine Purves	Rossall School	Jim Firth	Genting Casino
David Cam	Consultant	Debbs Lancelott	Hounds Hill
Darren Webster	Blackpool Zoo	Matt Watts	Lancashire Cheesecake Co
Graham Wood	WEC Group	Chris Hibbert	Henco
Ashley Dribben	Metcalfs	Cassie Troughton	Heart FM
Barry Howard	McDonalds UK	Rob Knighton	Eclipse
John Keen	RKMS	Alison Gilmore	Imperial
Claire Smith	Number One Hotels	Rob Green	Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre EDC
Kate Shane	Blackpool Tower	Bev Wood	BWD
Richard Lefton	Lefton Group	Susan Bamber	De Vere
Steve Whitehouse	FTS	Mark Porter	Longfellows
Pauline Lai	The Mandarin	Cameron Scott	Cam Scott Leisure
Elliot Davies Evans	deCraft Show	Carmen Conquer	Aspired Future

1. Welcome and apologies

Martin Long (chair, Napthens) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the last meeting/Matters arising

The notes of the meeting held on September 26 were agreed as a correct record. No matters arising

3. Paul Maynard, MP

Paul Maynard, MP for Blackpool North and Cleveleys, addressed the meeting on a range of local issues. He urged the businesses in the room to take a proactive role in influencing the regeneration agenda in Blackpool, and particularly by lobbying the Lancashire LEP. The session was then opened up for questions from the audience.

Martin Long (chair) thanked Mr Maynard for giving up this time to address the meeting. He said that Gordon Marsden, MP for Blackpool South, would be invited to address a future meeting of the BBLG.

4. National College

Daryl Platt, Executive Director for Commercial Development at Blackpool & The Fylde College, presented on the new National College that was to be developed in Blackpool.

He said that the College was already a leading provider of training to the offshore oil and gas industry, and this latest development would be instrumental in providing young people with the skills required to take advantage of developments in onshore energy on the Fylde Coast.

He said the site for the new building had not yet been identified, but it was hoped that it would be open by January 2017.

Mr Platt said that the location of the energy headquarters in Blackpool would have significant positive impacts for the regional economy and would help to drive investment.

The full presentation can be viewed at the www.bblg.co.uk website under Reports/Publications.

5. World Host for Blackpool

Sharon Gailey (People First) and Paula Clark (Blackpool Tourism Academy) gave a presentation on the plans to roll out World Host training across Blackpool's visitor economy.

It was noted that one of the key objectives was for Blackpool to become the first seaside town in the UK to become a World Host destination.

Ms Gailey said that the Sandcastle Waterpark had already become the first business in Blackpool to achieve the accreditation. Further details on how businesses can participate from paula.clark@blackpool.gov.uk

The full World Host presentation can be viewed at the www.bblg.co.uk website under Reports/Publications.

6. Carers' Trust – Work Experience

Dawn Maher and Cheryl Fairhurst from the Carers Trust Fylde Coast Carers Centre gave a brief presentation on work experience opportunities for carers. They said that by providing these opportunities, businesses could get a range of benefits in return. Any business interested in providing work experience opportunities to carers should email Cheryl.fairhurst@carerstrustfyldecoast.org

7. Business Partnerships Report

Philip Welsh tabled his report in advance of the meeting. He brought the following items to the attention of the meeting:

Blackpool Football Club Concert – July 2015

Concert details likely to be announced on Monday 1 December. PW said the BBLG members would be able to purchase tickets a day ahead of the tickets going on public sale. He said he would circulate details of this offer once the concert was announced.

2015 Shows

Noted that Jesus Christ Superstar had now been confirmed for the Opera House between March 10 and 14 next year

Christmas Parking Offer

PW said that Blackpool Transport Services had now offered a “two for one” bus and tram offer in the run up to Christmas to complement the discounted parking offer for Christmas shoppers. The offer is available all day every Saturday and Sunday from November 29 to December 21, and from 6pm on last night shopping Thursdays from November 27 to December 18. Full details at www.blackpooltransport.com

Town Centre Survey

PW encouraged businesses to participate in a survey on people’s perceptions of Blackpool town centre. He said the survey deadline had been extended to Friday 5 December. To complete the survey, go to www.letusknow.org.uk/towncentre

Yates’s Site Development

PW said that the planning application for the hotel/restaurant development on the derelict Yates’s site in Talbot Square had been submitted on behalf of Premier Inns and Beefeater Restaurants.

Give A Little

PW encouraged businesses to contribute to the annual Give A Little Christmas campaign if possible. He said that the BBLG had been significant supporters of the appeal in the past, ensuring more than 1,000 children from vulnerable families received Christmas presents each year. He said any business interested in donating should contact him at Philip.welsh@blackpool.gov.uk

8. Any Other Business

Mentoring opportunities: Steve Pye invited businesses to get involved in mentoring opportunities with young people in Blackpool. Anyone interested to contact Steve at: steve.pye@email.com

9. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 7.45am for 8.30am on Friday 30 January, 2015, at the De Vere Heron’s Reach, Blackpool.