



BLACKPOOL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP GROUP

NOTES FROM MEETING HELD ON MAY 31, 2019, AT THE GRAND HOTEL, BLACKPOOL

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
ATTENDEES			
Martin Long (chair)	Napthen's	Sofia Chezene Theophilou	SFPF Awards
Emily Dixon	UCLAN	Helen Livesey	The Business Clinic
Rachel Riches	The Village	Jane Cole, Vicky Clegg, Jake Adams	Blackpool Transport
Stacey DeRome	Boulevard Hotel	Steve Singleton	Cuadrilla
Danny Dalton	Brightprint/Music & Mayhem	Norry Ascroft	Entertainer/Life Coach
Kila Redfearn	Blue Skies	Jane Littlewood	Rabbit Design
Pat Naylor	Home Start Blackpool	Robert Heys	Blackpool Football Club
Shaun Bennett	Links Signs & Graphics	Mike Berry	Consultant
Colin Taylor	Lights Ambassador	John Barnett	Starream/Radio Wave
Terry Hodgkinson	Blackpool Carers	Neil Farley	Westinghouse
Amanda Westgate	Big Impact Communications	Sheryl Armer	Adcroft Hilton
Lee Clinton	Chadwick Insurances	Jade Gregory-Haselden, Jess Hale	Lancashire MIND
Tom Mercer	Handelsbanken	Carole Houston	Enquir3 Ltd
Pam Isherwood	Renaissance	Claire Lee, Keith Middlebrough	Blackpool & The Fylde College
Krisztina Szigeti	Happy Creative	Julia Blackett	Sainsbury's
Ian Mallam	Digitav	Julie Casson, Angie Hesketh	DWP
Duncan Wilding	PHX Training	Ian White	Stay Blackpool/Chorlton Hotel
Peter Rawlings	Tower Employment Services	Peter Hargreaves	Blackpool Tech Hub
Phil Bonell	Training Works	Lee Petts	Lancashire For Shale
Sam Bell Docherty	School Of Street	Julie Hutson	Key Accounting Solutions
Lisa Swainson, Harry Sutcliffe	Just Mortgages	Simon Hamer	Create Care Training
Andy Charles, Matthew Meehan	Business In The Community	Richard Slater, Chris Pearson	Lancashire Business View
Debbs Lancelott	Hounds Hill	Geoff Mason	Chamber of Commerce
Nigel Sanders	Pure Air Group	Matt Watts	Lancashire Cheesecake Co
Janette Yates	Central Property Management	David Chapman	Linksgate Leisure
Ian Mellor	Sauerman	David Galvin, Paul Whitehead	Blackpool Housing Company
Nicola Stott	Viva Blackpool	Steve Burns	Think Forward
Steve Hill, Julie Torrance, Alan Lockett	People Plus	Graeme Neal	Phoenix Consultancy Services
Paul Dewick-Day	Bellavista	John & Jaki Armstrong	Majestic N-W
Lee Ferguson	Stonegate Pubs	Debbi Hodson	Blackpool Sixth
Grahame Latus	Enterprise Answers	Chris Jackson	Northern Rail
Alice Thompson	Well Spent Productions	Rick Bryan	Blackpool FC Community Trust
Connor Greer	Complete Computing Company	Geoff Moore	Blackpool Carnival/Canberra Hotel
Lee Dumbrell, Peter Hill	Sands Venue Resort Hotel	Mark Ferris	F&S Contract Furniture
Andy Dobson	Atlas Sailing	Vanda De Freitas	Positive Steps
Jake Adams	The Mina Group	Lee Parkinson, Stephen Cockerill	Northern Neon
Tracey Clarke	Toyland	Mike Hardaker	Moore & Smalley
Chris Aiken-Graham	FSB	Mike Coole	Groundwork
Lorraine Lipman	Barrister	Janet Atkins	Trinity Hospice
Robert Wilson	Bob Wilson Photography	Evie Bradshaw, Victoria Andrews	Grand Hotel/Elite Hotel Collection
Coral Horn, Lizzie Beckford	Pink Link	Andrew Woolley	The Growth Company
Robert Owen	Pleasure Beach	Damian Broughton	Danbro
Hamish Hamilton	Vistage Chair	Steve Whitehouse	FTS
Lindsay Campbell	Campbell & Rowley	Joe Best	EW Support
Chris Curtis	Swallows	Lindsay Taylor-Heath	Santander
Yvonne Fenney	Appointment Setter/Brand Ambassador	Terry Griffin, Chris Crawley	Napthens
Catherine Best	Best At Solutions	Sonja Clarke	Blackpool Entertainment Company
Julie Vincent, Rebecca Thompson	Winter Gardens	Shaun Gorringe	The Grand Theatre
Michael Pickthall	Pinpoint Management Consultants	Sara Dewhurst	Sandgrown Spirits/Lytham Gin
Mirela Kocsis	Hungarians Restaurant	Mick Grewcock	The Burbage Group
Helen Hudson	Print Plus	Bethany Hushon	AFC Fylde
Louise Logan	Career Ready/World Travel Lounge	Anthony Brookes	CLVR Money
Tim Fielding	BBE Law/Blackpool FC	Andy Green, Paul Friday	Future Focus Energy
Melanie Whitehead	Electric Sunshine Project		
OBSERVERS/GUESTS/HOSTS			
Philip Welsh, Steve Thompson	Blackpool Council	Neil Williams	Emergency Planning
Peter Legg, David Slater	Blackpool Council	Sue Challinor	Lancashire Police
APOLOGIES			
Bev Robinson	Blackpool & The Fylde College	Joanne Etherington	Lloyds Banking
Chris Maine	DPA Packaging	Peter Bennett	Assess Design Develop
Jonathan Barnes, Belinda Shore	Santander	Roger Mellor	Glasdon
Karen Cooper	BTS	Kevin Donnelly	XP Web Services
Chris Green	Santander	Helen Atkinson/Sue Williams	Aspired Futures
John Child	Sandcastle Waterpark	David Cam	Under Sheriff, County Palatine

Rob Green, Nicole Billington	Airport EZ	Sam Schofield	Cuadrilla
Ron Bell	Abbey Bell	Pam Swain	British Association of Dental Nurses
Phillip Parramore	Guidedotyou	Mike Lovell	Chameleon Finance
Katherine O'Connor	Northern Powerhouse	Neil Jack, Nick Gerrard	Blackpool Council
Nicola Atanassova	VisitBlackpool	Greg Myerscough	RBS
David Worsfold	The Hive	Andrew Wareing/Andy Atkinson	Voucher Packs
Chris Hibbert	Henco	Sham Sangha	Silicon Talent
Jill Gray, Tina Cooper	Blackpool Sixth	Emily Hawkins	UCLAN
Phil Owen	Consultant	Fiona Reid	Fiona Reid Solicitors
Steve Smith	Natwest	Darren Webster	Blackpool Zoo
Sue Ridyard	St Mary's	Vicki Ivanov	Candy House Entertainment
Paul Inman	Fresh Hotel Furnishings	Reece Bywater	Booker's
Nigel Patterson, Heather Morrow	Blackpool Museum	Maggie Cornall	Blackpool Coastal Housing
Andy Mellor, Effie Sharp	Primary Futures	Tom Metcalf	Little Touches
Andrea Wallace	Wyre Council	Tony Carr	Social Enterprise Solutions
Michelle Smith	Blackpool Carers	Julia Eastwood	Artisan Tiles & Interiors
Andy Percival	Blackpool In Bloom	Philip Helm	Tyson Construction
Audrey Sanderson	AKS	Bev Wood	BWD Design
Anne Catterson	Common Purpose	Alex McIntyre	Property Scene

1. Welcome and apologies

Martin Long (chair) welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the last meeting/Matters arising

Nothing to report.

3. Counter Terrorism Briefing

Sue Challinor (Lancashire Police) gave a brief update on counter terrorism initiatives across the county and various courses and briefing sessions that are available to local businesses. Agreed that details of the courses would be sent out to businesses with the notes of the meeting.

4. AFC Fylde Update

Bethany Hushon (Commercial Manager, AFC Fylde) gave a presentation on the growth and success of the football club, from its relatively humble beginnings as Kirkham & Wesham Football Club to reaching the National Conference and with the ambition of reaching the Football League by 2022.

She said that during May, the club had twice got to Wembley, the first time losing out to Salford in the Play-Off Final and the following week winning the FA Trophy, thus becoming the first club in history to win both the FA Trophy and FA Vase.

Bethany brought along the FA Trophy to show the BBLG members.

She went on to showcase the investment that has been made at the club's headquarters at Mill Farm, Kirkham, with training facilities, sports and education centre, hotel, bar and restaurants.

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

5. Time To Change

Jade Gregory-Haselden (Lancashire MIND) gave a presentation on the various initiatives underway to tackle mental health and wellbeing.

These included a wellbeing challenge, working with schools, and Time To Change, a campaign aimed at ending mental health discrimination in Blackpool.

She also outlined the services that her organisation could provide including workplace training and wellbeing coaching.

Jade's presentation and contact details can be viewed at www.bblg.co.uk under Reports/Publications.

6. Shale Gas Update

Lee Petts (Lancashire For Shale) gave a presentation on the issues surrounding the shale gas operations taking place on the outskirts of Blackpool.

He said that the production was “stuck on red” because of the Government’s imposition of seismicity levels that had been pitched so low compared to other industries that the process was frequently halted.

He said that when the operating company (Cuadrilla) recorded a seismic event of 0.5 local magnitude, it had to stop pumping for 18 hours, reduce pressure and check the integrity of the well before it could resume operations.

Lee then illustrated how far underground this seismic activity was taking place and the extent of the shock waves, comparing it to the equivalent of a melon being dropped on the ground.

Lee said that there had been a promise that these levels would be reviewed but, to date, that had not happened. He then hosted a series of questions from the audience.

7. Blackpool Carnival

Geoff Moore (Blackpool Carnival Community Interest Company) gave a presentation on this year’s carnival event, which is planned for the Waterloo Headland, South Promenade, over the weekend of July 19 and 20.

He said the carnival’s nominated charity for 2019 was The Swallows Head & Neck Cancer Support Group. Any business interested in supporting the event through sponsorship or advertising, email blackpoolcarnival@gmail.com

For full details of the event programme, go to www.theblackpoolcarnival.com

8. Disability Confident

Jane Cole (Managing Director, Blackpool Transport Services), gave a brief insight into an employer’s perspective on recruiting people with a disability into the workforce.

Jane said that if companies did not have disability on their board agenda then they were also ignoring diversity and the opportunity to bring innovation, productivity and talent to their organisations.

She introduced one of her team, Jake Adams, who spoke about his experience in joining the company.

Angie Hesketh (DWP) then introduced the Disability Confident scheme, which was launched by the Government in 2016. She said the key aims of the scheme were to:

- ❖ Engage and encourage employers to become more confident so they employ and retain disabled people
- ❖ Challenge misconceptions and increase understanding of disability and the benefits of employing or retaining disabled people
- ❖ Make a substantial contribution towards getting 1 million more disabled people into work over by 2027.

Angie then outlined the support that was available to local employers to support them on this journey. Full details of her presentation, including contact details for members of her team can be viewed at www.bblg.co.uk under Reports/Presentations.

9. Business Partnerships Report

Nothing further to add to the report distributed in advance of the meeting.

10. Any Other Business

Art Exhibition

Robin Ross drew the group's attention to an exhibition of his work to be staged at Shaw's Art House Café on Clifton Street, Blackpool, from June 27 to August 6.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Scheduled for 7.30am (breakfast) for 8.30am (meeting) at Blackpool Grand Theatre, Church Street, Blackpool, on Friday 26 July.