



BLACKPOOL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP GROUP

NOTES FROM MEETING HELD ON JULY 26, 2019, AT THE GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
ATTENDEES			
Martin Long (chair)	Napthen's	Lizzie Beckford	Pink Link
Simon Hamer	Create Care Training	Simon Smith	Natwest
Duncan Wilding	PHX Training	Julie Hooper	GB Music Events
Ian Mallam	Digitav	Stephen Knowles	Eric Wright Construction
Sam Bell-Docherty, Ashley Docherty	Skool of Street	Samantha Ashcroft	Headway
Mike Coole	Groundwork	Phillip Parramore	Guidedotyou
Philip Owen	Consultant	Alistair Baines	Cassidy & Ashton
Cassie Fairclough	Global	Vanda de Freitas, Aimi O'Donnell	Positive Steps
Andrew Heydeman	Inspira	Debbi Hodson	Blackpool Sixth
Robert Heys	Blackpool FC	Terry Hodkinson	Blackpool Carers
Bev Robinson, Claire Lee	Blackpool & The Fylde College	Mick Grewcock	Burbage Holiday Group
Andy Charles	Business In The Community	David Cam	Under Sheriff, County Palatine
Neil Farley	Westinghouse	Julie Hutson	Key Accounting Solutions
Simon Coxhill	Chadwicks	Robert Owen	Blackpool Pleasure Beach
Helen Livesey	The Business Clinic	Pauline Lai	Mandarin, Wok Inn
David Houston	Trinity Hospice	Mairead Platt	Brabners
Kevin Donnelly	XP Web Services	Pat Naylor	Homestart
Hamish Hamilton	Vistage	Nicola Stott	Viva Blackpool
Ruth Eastwood, Andrew Howard	Grand Theatre	Vicky Clegg	Blackpool Transport
James Walsh	Northern Neon	Steve Singleton	Cuadrilla
Jane Hugo	Streetlife	Tracey Litherland	Funny Girls
Tony Pickavance	Jackson Bacon	Philip O'Brien	Mount View Estates
John Holmes	Swallows	Danny Dalton	Brightprint/Music & Mayhem
Andy Mellor	Primary Futures	Matthew Edwards	Mort and Pal
Andy Percival	Blackpool In Bloom	Lyndsey Kaye, Dan Tuck	Abelglass
Rich Burnett, Greg Goodall	AWOL TV	Julie Casson	DWP
Jake Adams	The Mina Group	Tracey Clarke	Toyland
Paul and Robert Dewick Day	Bella Vista	Geoff Mason, Daynor Harris	Chamber of Commerce
Greg Myerscough	RBS	Mark Ferris	F&S Contract Furniture
Heather Morrow	Blackpool Museum	Sammy Moor, Anthony Monks	Atlas
Kerry Higginson	GP Strategies	Johanne Agnola	UCLAN
Linda Halliwell	The Village	Paul Hardy, Claire Hynes	Napthens
Angie Hesketh	DWP	Phil McVan	Consultant
Phil Bonell	Training Works	Richard Baguley	GDR PR
David Chapman	Linksgate Leisure	Frances Thorpe	Welcome Deaf Awareness
Stacey deRome	Boulevard Hotel	Lowri Williams	4Wall Entertainment
Pam Isherwood	Renaissance	Grahame Latus	Enterprise Answers
John Child, Stephanie Smith	Sandcastle Waterpark	Sham and Jack Sangha	Silicon Talent
Mark Croasdale	Whitehead & Howarth	Rob Morland	Barclays
Sue Williams	Aspired Futures	John and Jaki Armstrong	Majestic N-W
Peter Hargreaves	Blackpool Tech Hub	Paula Davies, Karen Woolton	Radio Wave
Wendy Hope	Stanley House Hotel & Spa	Chris Aiken-Graham	FSB
Jane Littlewood	Rabbit Design	Robert Haynes	Firth Architects
Geoff Moore	Blackpool Carnival/Canberra Hotel	Lindsay Campbell, Paul Best	Campbell & Rowley
Shaun Bennett	Links Signs & Graphics	Elaine Smith	Friends of Stanley Park
Emma Threlfall	Hounds Hill	Alex McIntyre	Property Scene
Nichola Howard	Launch Events N-W	Anthony Brookes, Stephen Booth	CLEVR Money
Andrea Wallace	Wyre Council	Samantha Dawson	Children's Author
OBSERVERS/GUESTS/HOSTS			
Alan Cavill, Carolyn Primett	Blackpool Council	Rt Rev Jill Duff	Bishop of Lancaster
Peter Legg, David Slater	Blackpool Council		
APOLOGIES			
Nicole Billington, Rob Green	Airport EZ	Chris Hibbert	Henco
Kristen Durose	Red Star Wealth	Fiona Reid	Fiona Reid Solicitors
Philip Helm	Tyson	Steve Williams	Force Technology
Jill Gray, Tina Cooper	Blackpool Sixth	Emily Hawkins	UCLAN
Chris Maine	DPA Packaging	Robert Wilson	Bob Wilson Photography
Sara Dewhurst	Sandgrown Spirits	Jade Gregory-Haselden	Lancashire MIND
Steve Thompson, Neil Jack, Philip Welsh	Blackpool Council	Yvonne Fenney	Consultant
Damian and Helen Broughton	Danbro	Tom Mercer	Handelsbanken
Jonathan Barnes	Santander	Effie Sharp	Randstad Education
Matt Watts	Lancashire Cheesecake Co	Helen Hudson	Print Plus
Nigel Patterson	Blackpool Museum	Darren Webster	Blackpool Zoo
Steve Whitehouse	FTS	Ian White	Stay Blackpool/Chorlton Hotel
Reece Bywater	Booker	Alison Ramskill	Platform Two CIC

Roger Mellor	Glasdon	Anne Catterson	Common Purpose
Paul Friday	Future Focus Energy	Sue Ridyard	St Mary's
Catherine Best	Best At Solutions	Janet Atkins	Trinity Hospice
Andrew Wareing	Voucher Packs	Sofia Chezene Theophilou	SFPF Awards
Bev Wood	BWD Design	Danny Thompson	Freedom Media
Nicola Atanassova	VisitBlackpool		

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. Blackpool Grand Theatre

Ruth Eastwood (Chief Executive, Blackpool Grand Theatre) welcomed the BBLG members to the theatre. She gave an update on the 125 birthday celebrations, fundraising campaign, and on the summer/autumn programme including the upcoming Around The World in 80s Days summer show.

4. Preparing Young People For Work

Andrew Heydeman (Opportunity Areas Programme) gave a presentation on the work that is being undertaken to help young people find employment. He said the programme encouraged employers to work with young people to help inspire them in the world of work.

Andrew's presentation can be viewed at www.bblg.co.uk under Reports/Presentations

5. Inspiring Hope For Blackpool

Rt Rev Dr Jill Duff (Bishop of Lancaster) spoke to the group about the regeneration of the town and some of the many initiatives that would help inspire the business community and the people of Blackpool.

6. Blackpool Leisure Services

Chris Knight (Blackpool Council) and partners gave a presentation on how employers could support their staff in pursuit of health and fitness.

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

7. Skills Support For Business

Sara Gaskell (Lancashire Skills & Employment Hub) gave a presentation on the continued ESF-funded programme for employers including Skills Support for the Workforce, the NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training) project and Skills Support for the Unemployed.

She set out details of the People Plus programme which helps people move into work by enabling them to gain skills to make them employable, providing them with real work experience of helping them on to a traineeship or apprenticeship.

Businesses interested in the community grant funding element of the ESF programme, use the following link: <https://www.wea.org.uk/lancashire-esf-community-grants-2019-2021>

Sara also spoke about the Lancashire Skills Pledge. The aim of this initiative is to support businesses to find out more about a set of current skills and training support. Businesses simply need to sign up to the pledge and they will be contacted by an expert advisor.

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

8. Blackpool Business Expo

Nichola Howard (Launch Events North West) spoke about the forthcoming expo event, taking place at The Village Hotel, East Park Drive, Blackpool, on Wednesday 25 September.

Further details can be found in Nichola's presentation on the www.bblg.co.uk website under Reports/Presentations.

9. Business Partnerships Report

Philip Welsh's report was tabled in his absence.

Alan Cavill (Blackpool Council) drew the group's attention to the new investment and place marketing campaign, Blackpool: The Place For Business.

He said businesses were being encouraged to act as advocates for the campaign, which focuses on key strengths of the Fylde Coast, highlighting business successes and building on the expertise of local industry to attract further inward investment.

BBLG members Local are being urged to support the campaign in the following ways:

Like, share and comment on the content on:

LinkedIn: **The Team at BusinessinBlackpool**

Twitter: **@Blackpool_Biz**

Download, use and share the Blackpool Business Location Guide at

www.businessinblackpool.com

10. Any Other Business

Swallows Fund-Raising

John Holmes gave the group a brief overview of a charity bike ride that was underway to mark World Head & Neck Cancer Day. He said that a team was riding 170 miles from Bridlington to Blackpool to raise funds to buy a £125k laser machine for the Blackpool Ear, Nose & Throat unit.

The charity's Just Giving page can be found at:

http://campaign.justgiving.com/campaigns/charity/theswallows/donation?social_utm_term=iz2ft tcb5

Children's Author

Samantha Dawson gave a brief overview to the group on her success as a children's author after undergoing a transplant operation. She has now written three books in a series called Rainbow Dust, with the title now published and released on Amazon. She invited group members to share her book on their social media channels.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Scheduled for 7.30am (breakfast) for 8.30am (meeting) on Friday 27 September at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool.