



BLACKPOOL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP GROUP

NOTES FROM MEETING HELD ON MARCH 23, 2018 AT THE VILLAGE HOTEL, BLACKPOOL

| Name | Organisation | Name | Organisation |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| ATTENDEES | | | |
| Martin Long (chair) | Napthen's | John Barnett | Stardream/Radio Wave |
| Kila Redfearn | Blue Skies | Pam Isherwood | Renaissance |
| Tina Cooper, Sam Brown | Blackpool Sixth | Damian Broughton, Chris Oxley | Danbro |
| Paula Davies | The Wave | Julia Hutchings, Shelley Matthews | Drugline Lancashire |
| Beverly Smith, Stacey deRome | Hampton by Hilton | Dave Preston | Offigo |
| Amanda Westgate, Gemma Ashton | Big Impact Communications | Steve Singleton | Cuadrilla |
| Phil McVan | iEnergy Insights | Fay McLean | The Full Property Experience |
| Shirley Hunt | Cranstone Hotel | James Evans | HLS Supplies |
| Colin Taylor | Lights Ambassador | Helen Atkinson, Sue Williams | Aspired Futures |
| Barry Howard | McDonalds UK | Tracey Clarke | Toyland |
| Chris Maine | DPA Packaging | Vanda de Freitas | Positive Steps Into work |
| Geoff Mason | Chamber of Commerce | Mike Lovell | Chameleon Financial Planning |
| Ron Bell | Abbey Bell | Jane Cole | Blackpool Transport |
| Kristina Szigeti | Happy Creative | Simon Smith, Jon Halliday | Natwest |
| Chris Hibbert | Henco | Danny Dalton | Children's Entertainer |
| Paul Wilcock | Montpelier | Clare Taylor | Duxbury's |
| Andrew Wareing/Andy Atkinson | Voucher Packs | David Cam | Under Sheriff, County Palatine of Lancaster |
| Gary Edwards | Lateo Global Solutions | Leona Bulmer, Zoe Fleming | Roland Robinson & Fentons |
| Elaine Smith | Civic Trust | Mark Wilkins | Sandcastle Waterpark |
| Pam Swain | British Association of Dental Nurses | Phillip Parramore, Sunny Wang | Empathy at Home |
| Andrew Heydeman | Inspira | Richard Harrison | Geminus Training |
| Emma Beardsworth | VIP Chauffeur Car Hire | David Chapman | Linksgate Leisure |
| Jane Littlewood | Rabbit Design | Paul Crossley | Kenrick and Co |
| Terry Hodkinson | Blackpool Carers | Jane Hugo | Streetlife |
| Jenna Bezance | Revolution | Rachel Riches | The Village |
| Carlton, Roger and Toby Simpson | Coffeebrook | Nicola Atanassova | Visit Blackpool |
| Dan O'Connor, Conner Romain | World 360 | Chris Aiken-Graham | FSB |
| Steve Swallow | Portal Security | Tom Willcox | Willcox PR |
| Steve Burns | Think Forward | Dan Scott, Shirley Williams | PHX Training |
| John and Jaki Armstrong | Majestic N-W | Nicky Speakman | Code Galaxy |
| Shaun Bennett | Links Signs & Graphics | Stuart Livesey | Consultant |
| Keith Blackburn | Clifton Buying Group | Paul Hardy, Matthew Parr | Napthens |
| Tim Lemon, Michelle Riley | Blackpool & The Fylde College | Ian White | Chorlton Hotel |
| Mark Croasdale | Whitehead & Howarth | Norry Ascroft | Entertainer/Consultant |
| Anne Catterson | Common Purpose | Steve Williams | Force Technology |
| David Worsfold | Stimson Barfield | Fiona Reid | Ascroft Whiteside |
| Stephen Waterfield, Patrick McChrystal | Atlas | Mark Ferris | Contract Supplies Ltd |
| Belinda Shore | Santander | Mick Grewcock | Burbage Holiday Group |
| Lindsay Campbell, Heather Creasey, Hayley Salisbury | Campbell & Rowley | Carole Houston | Delphi Medical |
| David Houston, Janet Atkins | Trinity Hospice | Sean Lannister | Dahlia's Kitchen |
| Linda Palentine | UCLAN | Tim Gavell | The Gazette |
| Emma Whitlock | Keep Britain Tidy | Nigel Patterson | Blackpool Museum |
| Mandy Tythe-McCallum | VisitBlackpool | Mark Smith | Accountancy Services |
| Tony Raynor | Abbey Telecom | Robin Ross | Artist |
| Debbs Lancelott | Houndshill Shopping Centre | Colin Johnston | The Grand Theatre |
| Joe Boniface | Boniface Architects | Hayley Claber | Oyston Estate Agency |
| James Craft | Marks & Spencer | Scott Leadbetter | Cybele Velo |
| OBSERVERS/GUESTS | | | |
| Philip Welsh, Peter Legg, Nick Gerrard | Blackpool Council | Heather Morrow, Carolyn Primett | Blackpool Council |
| APOLOGIES | | | |
| Jill Gray | Blackpool Sixth | Peter Bennett | Assess Design Develop |
| Wendy Harrison | Café Fresch | Kimberly Barrett-St. Vall | Napthens |
| Tom Mercer | Handelsbanken | Paul and Karen Friday | Future Focus Energy |
| Andy Mellor | Primary Futures | Michael Cuddy | Michael Cuddy Chartered Surveyors |
| Tony Carr | Social Enterprise Solutions | Michael Williams | Winter Gardens |
| Christine Hodgson | Cap Gemini | Neil Jack, Alan Cavill | Blackpool Council |
| John Salisbury | RBS | Deborah Terras | UR Potential |
| Emily Hawkins | UCLAN | Susanna Harkins | Brilliant Trees Media |
| Michelle Smith | Blackpool Carers | Tom Metcalf | Little Touches |
| Vicki Ivanov | Candy House | Viv Cuthill | Coaching, Facilitation and Research |
| Philip Owen | Consultant | Greg Myerscough | RBS |
| Roger Mellor, Andrew Brown | Glasdon | Jon and Sarah Rhodes | Rhodes Media |
| John Child | Sandcastle | Steve Godfrey | Fujitsu |
| Ruth Eastwood | Grand Theatre | Carmen Parkinson, Helen Livesey | The Business Clinic |
| Elena Vasilieva | UCLAN | Andy Charles | Business In The Community |
| Julie Casson | DWP | Michael Muschamp, Chris Calvert | Rushton's Chartered Accountants |
| Susanne Johnson | Johnson's Emporium | Nicola Spencer | M&S Outlet |
| Marcella Cassisi | Lancashire Magazine | Bev Wood | BWD Design |
| Michael Pickthall | Pinpoint Management Consultant | Alex Cosgrave, Mark Duncan | The Belgian Life |

1. Welcome and apologies

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

2. Minutes of the last meeting/Matters arising

Minutes noted, no matters arising.

3. Blue Skies Hospitals Fund

Kila Redfearn (Blue Skies) gave a presentation and showed a short film on the work of the fund, which is a charity set up to support Blackpool Teaching Hospitals. She outlined a number of forthcoming events and gave an insight into how the funds raised could help patients.

A full copy of Kila's presentation can be found on the www.bblg.co.uk website under Reports/Publications. For further details, contact Kila at: Kila.Redfearn@bfwhospitals.nhs.uk

4. Enterprise Zone Update

Nick Gerrard (Blackpool Council) gave an update on the Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone. He said that the newly-agreed masterplan set out a vision to make the EZ a premier business location in North West, creating thousands of new jobs over the next 25 years.

He said that the plans included the creation of new infrastructure on the site, including a spine road to address problems of accessibility.

One of the key objectives was to protect the future of the airport itself and a business plan for the airport will be produced by mid-year.

The overall EZ masterplan and associated delivery plan will be presented to the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership around May/June.

A full copy of Nick's presentation can be found on the www.bblg.co.uk website under Reports/Publications.

5. Water ReFILL Campaign

Emma Whitlock (Keep Britain Tidy Group/Love My Beach) presented on a campaign to reduce the number of plastic bottles left on streets and shorelines by promoting a water refill system.

She said that ReFILL Fylde Coast was a simple scheme whereby food-serving businesses agree to offer free tap water refills if people bring in their own bottles.

The aim is that if less plastic bottles are purchased, there are fewer dumped on the streets and beaches, a problem particularly pertinent to Blackpool during the busy summer months.

Emma said that there are currently 27 water refill stations on the Fylde Coast and, nationally, Costa Coffee have signed up to the scheme. The Blackpool Gazette is supporting the campaign to get more local businesses to sign up. If you are interested in taking part, contact Emma at: Emma.Whitlock@keepbritaintidy.org

A full copy of Emma's presentation can be found on the www.bblg.co.uk website under Reports/Publications.

6. **CultureBlackpool**

Carolyn Primett (Blackpool Council) gave a presentation on a new campaign aimed at encouraging people to uncover the resort's culture and heritage offer.

CultureBlackpool has been developed as a partnership between VisitBlackpool, LeftCoast, the Winter Gardens, Grundy Art Gallery and Grand Theatre.

The campaign, which is being delivered under the banner of "The B-side At The Seaside", encourages both visitors and residents to explore the resort's rich architecture, heritage and internationally-acclaimed installations and events.

It is being supported by a range of ambassadors including the award-winning journalist John Robb, music star Little Boots (aka Victoria Hesketh) and artist Michael Trainor.

As part of the marketing activity, a special section is being developed within the VisitBlackpool website: <http://www.visitblackpool.com/culture-blackpool/>

A full copy of Carolyn's presentation can be found on the www.bblg.co.uk website under Reports/Publications.

7. **Big Sexy Bus**

Julia Hutchings (Drugline) gave an overview of the services undertaken by the Lancashire-based Renaissance programme.

She said that the organisation had taken on an old shuttle bus and was planning to renovate it to offer a mobile unit offering sexual health and harm reduction services to communities and targeted events. Julia said it would also be used to support the night-time economy in Blackpool town centre.

Julia said that as a result of lottery funding they had already been able to undertake structural body repairs to the bus, including new flooring. However, a further £20k was required to complete the project.

She said that in addition to financial support, they were also looking for support in kind through provision of items such as PCs and TVs; interior fittings; driving tuition for staff; help with promotion and branding; volunteer drivers and bus running costs.

A full copy of Julia's presentation can be found on the www.bblg.co.uk website under Reports/Publications. If any business is able to assist, please contact Julia at: jhutchings@druglinelancs.co.uk

8. **Business Training For Young People**

Richard Harrison (Geminus Training) gave a presentation on a new programme aimed at engaging young adults, aged 18-25, in key business skills. He said the Get Set Blackpool project was limited to 160 attendees, with the objective of getting around 40 of them to move on to become self-employed or start their own businesses.

A full copy of Richard's presentation can be found on the www.bblg.co.uk website under Reports/Publications.

9. Commonwealth 2018

John Barnett, Deputy Lieutenant, gave a presentation on behalf of Lord Shuttleworth on the significance of the Commonwealth 2018 celebrations. He reported that every town and city across the country had been invited to mark Commonwealth Day on March 12, with Blackpool Tower being lit up in the colours of the Commonwealth flag. More events are planned around the county in the run-up to the Commonwealth Games and the Commonwealth Heads of Government conference.

A full copy of John's presentation can be found on the www.bblg.co.uk website under Reports/Publications.

10. Business Partnerships Report

Philip Welsh (Blackpool Council) drew the group's attention to items contained in the previously-circulated report:

Blackpool North Station Re-Opening

He reported that Blackpool North Station will now re-open on Monday 16 April, three weeks later than originally planned.

He said that the first electric trains would arrive on Sunday 20 May from Liverpool and Monday 21 May from London Euston. An official launch/PR event was being planned at the station for the Monday to coincide with the arrival of the first London train.

More direct services are expected to be announced from September onwards.

Illuminations Ball

The annual Blackpool Illuminations fund-raising ball will be held at Viva Blackpool on Friday 13 April. Businesses are encouraged to support the event. For further information, contact: gerri.rowberry@blackpool.gov.uk

Property Ball

The annual Property Scene charity ball will be held at The Hilton Hotel on June 22. For ticket details and further information, contact alex@thepropertyscene.com

11. Any Other Business

Vote of Thanks

The chair thanked The Village Hotel team for hosting the event and also the various speakers for their presentations. The meeting was followed by a VIP tour of the new elephant facility at Blackpool Zoo.

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.30am for 8.30am on Friday 25 May, 2018, at The Grand Theatre, Blackpool.