



BLACKPOOL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP GROUP

NOTES FROM MEETING HELD ON JULY 25, 2014 AT THE WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
ATTENDEES			
Martin Long (chair)	Napthens		
Jane Littlewood	Rabbit Design/Wyred Up	Michael Williams, Kila Redfearn	Winter Gardens
Vicky Reynolds	Ashworth Treasure	Justin Allitt	JD Allitt
Joe Boniface	Boniface Architects	Philip Crowther	Helms Briscoe
Stephen Thorpe	CME Medical	Joe Bullock	Whitbread
Steve Pye, John Rudkin	3e partnership	Graham Wood	The WEC Group
Philip Owen	Barclays	Sean Crofts	Premiere Recruitment
Shaun Bennett	Links Signs & Graphics	Jane Kelly	Sandcastle Waterpark
Philip Helm	Tyson	Caryn Steele	Balloonatics
Mike Hardaker	Moore & Smalley	Jon Paul Jackson	Jackson Coaches
Michelle Riley, Daryl Platt	Blackpool & The Fylde College	Richard Lefton	The Lefton Group
Karen Lambert, Simon Brooke	Happy Creative	Steve Singleton, Sam Schofield	Cuadrilla Resources
Nick Taylor	The Hilton	Jacqui Lane	Dramatic Potential
Annie Ogilvie, Sue Kennerley	Blackpool Transport	Kenny Mew	Blackpool Tower
Alistair Baines, Lawrence McBurney	Cassidy & Ashton	John Keen, Mike Smith	RKMS
Eileen Ormand	Blackpool BID	David Houston	Trinity Hospice
Clare Taylor	Duxburys Commercials	Andy Higgins	The Mailing Room
Gary Smith	A4E	Jim Firth	Genting Casino
Sue Scott	Natwest	Yusuf Musa	Winning Pitch
John Barnett	Stardream/The Wave	Stuart Livesey	Consultant
Gary Smith	A4e	Alex Tang	The Chinese Buffet
Susan Bamber	De Vere	Susie Gallagher, David Clewes	Store It
Andy Fraser	Blackpool Granite	Ian Fogg	The Prince's Charities
Nancy Fielden	Rossall School	Mick Grewcock	Burbage Holiday Group
Graham Arnold	Fylde Promotional Merchandise	Elliott Davies-Evans	Decraft Show
Chris Hibbert	Henco	Dean Fitzmaurice	Colossal
Lee Macfarlane	West Coast Hire and Events	Howard Plant	Blackpool Car Parks
Paul Friday	Future Focus Energy	Lee White	Cubbies
Neil Sutch	RBS	David Chapman	Linksgate Leisure
Jon McLeod	Blackpool Sixth	Mark Yates	Brooks Collectables
Kimberley Barrett-St Vall, Gareth Birch, Robert Richards	Napthens	Ruth Patton	Pattons Community
Simon Booth	Astute Motoring	Rob Green	Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre EDC
Brett Davis	Rowleys	Debbs Lancelott	Hounds Hill
Pauline Lai	The Mandarin	David Cam	Consultant
Carmen Conquer, Helen Atkinson	Aspired Futures	Vito Cinardi	Risk Intel
Rob Knighton	Eclipse	David Jones	Thirty30 Media
Wendy Swift	Blackpool Teaching Hospitals	Claire Smith	Number One Hotels
Martin Boekweit	First Group	Jenn Newton	Sea Life
Matthew Titherington	Madame Tussauds	Gary Lovatt	Federation of Small Business
OBSERVERS/GUESTS			
Professor Peter Styles	Keele University		
Alan Cavill, Philip Welsh	Blackpool Council		
APOLOGIES			
Neil Jack, Peter Legg	Blackpool Council	Bev Wood	BWD
Andrew Jackson, Roger Mellor	Glasdon	Jeremy Smith	Lytham Coffee Co
Nicola Atanassova	Visit Blackpool	Kate Shane	Blackpool Tower
Neil Foulkes	HSBC	Barry Howard	McDonalds
Darren Webster	Blackpool Zoo	Michael Hyman	Leonard Dews
Gerry Lynch	Gem Associates	Paul Crossley	Kenrick and Co
Rob Walker	Yes magazine	Sarah Rhodes	Rhodes Media
Dale Lawrenson	RBS	Robert Owen	Blackpool Pleasure Beach
Helen and Damian Broughton	Danbro	Shirley Hunt	Cranstone Hotel
Gareth Carr	DWP	Chris Maine	Direct Paper Supplies
Paula Davies	The Wave	Peter Swann	Sands Venue
Jayne Hart	Hart's Amusements	Pam Swain	BADN
Sue Kendrick	Blackpool Airport		

1. Welcome and apologies

Martin Long welcomed the group to the meeting and extended a particular welcome to new members and guests.

2. Minutes of the last meeting/Matters arising

The notes of the meeting held on May 30 were agreed as a correct record.

3. Shale Gas: A view on exploration and extraction

Professor Peter Styles from Keele University gave an extended presentation on shale gas exploration. The presentation addressed a number of issues relating to:

- Previous fracking explorations and programmes in the UK and abroad
- Chemicals used during the “fracking” process
- Environmental Issues
- Water contamination
- Visual impact of wells
- Seismic activity

Professor Styles then took part in a Q&A session with the audience.

A summary version of the professor’s presentation can now be viewed on the www.bblq.co.uk website under “Reports/Publications”.

Note: The presentation was also filmed by Small Business TV (part of Steve Pye’s 3E Partnership). Details of how to view this will be circulated separately.

4. Federation of Small Businesses – 40 Years On

Gary Lovatt, Regional Chairman of the FSB, gave a short presentation on the 40th anniversary of the federation. He outlined the various benefits of being a member of the FSB and gave details of other services – such as lobbying - that were provided on behalf of the small business community.

Full details of the presentation will be made available on the www.bblq.co.uk website under “Reports/Publications”.

5. Blackpool Growth Deal

Alan Cavill (Blackpool Council) gave a short briefing on the Growth Deal that had been secured in negotiation between the Government and the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership. It was noted that Blackpool had been allocated a significant amount within the deal.

Further details of the schemes that will benefit Blackpool can be found in the Business Partnerships Report for July (this can be found on the www.bblq.co.uk website)

Full details of the Lancashire Growth Deal announcement can be found at this link: <http://www.blackpool.gov.uk/News/2014/July/Growth-deal-heralds-new-era-for-Lancashire-economy.aspx>

6. Business Partnerships Report

Philip Welsh tabled his report in advance of the meeting. There were no items raised during the meeting itself. On behalf of the group, the chair thanked Mr Welsh for the comprehensive nature of the report.

7. Any Other Business

Recruitment Survey

Simon Brooke (Happy Creative) asked for business assistance in completing a survey on methods of recruitment in Blackpool. It was agreed that a link to the survey would be distributed immediately after the meeting.

Rail services consultation

Martin Boekweit (First Group) gave the group notice of a Department for Transport consultation exercise that was underway relating to rail services in the North West including Blackpool over the next 10 years.

He said that the consultation exercise, which closes on August 18 sought views on the rail franchise specifications to be provided for Transpennine Express and Northern Rail in February 2016.

The consultation paper can be viewed here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/future-of-northern-and-transpennine-express-rail-franchises>

Cllr Tony Lee

Mark Yates (Brooks Collectables) notified the group of the death of Cllr Tony Lee, who had served in the Waterloo ward of South Beach since 2007. Mark said that the councillor had been a great supporter of the local business community and asked if a suitable message of condolence could be sent to his family. This was agreed by the chairman.

Thanks

The chair thanked Professor Styles for his presentation; Michael Williams and his team for hosting the meeting at the Winter Gardens and Lytham Coffee Company for sponsoring the coffee at the meeting.

8. Date and time of next meeting

Next meeting scheduled for **7.45am for 8.30am, Friday 26th September at Pleasure Beach**. Breakfast and car parking arrangements to be confirmed.