



## BLACKPOOL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP GROUP

### NOTES FROM MEETING HELD ON MAY 29, 2015 AT BLACKPOOL PLEASURE BEACH

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
<b>ATTENDEES</b>			
Martin Long (chair), Malcolm Ireland	Napthens	Peter Jefferson	Visionistic
Jane Littlewood	Rabbit Design/Wyred Up	Stuart Briggs	Northern Rail
Jill Gray, Natalie Dobson	Blackpool Sixth	Nigel Kilgallon	Blackpool Pleasure Beach
Karen Lambert, Simon Brooke	Happy Creative	Steve Gill, Graham Arnold	Fylde Promotional Merchandise
Steve Pye	Video Marketing Agency	Chris Curtis	FSB
John Child	Sandcastle	Mike Hardaker	Moore & Smalley
John Magee, Amanda Elliott	Freeport	Kevin Donnelly	XP Web Services
Rosey Rihani	Legal Practitioner	Barry Howard	McDonalds UK
Neil Foulkes	HSBC	Erica Crompton, Kevin Reilly	Big Foot Events
Stephen Bolton	Lancashire Business View	David Chapman	Linksgate Leisure
Matt Watts	Lancashire Cheesecake Co	Rachael Wilkinson	ABL
Peter Jefferson	Visionistic	Marina Frankel	Lancashire HR Solutions
Mike Phelan	Blackpool & The Fylde College	Kimberley Barrett-St.Vall	Napthens
Nicola Atanassova, Mandy Tythe-McCallum	Visit Blackpool	Colin Taylor	Illuminations Ambassador
Coral Horn	Pink Link	Carley Harrison	Santander
Rob Knighton	Eclipse	Lesley Heatley	Inenco
David Chapman	Linksgate Leisure	Anne Morley, Tim Fielding	BBE Law
Paul Crossley	Kenrick and Co	Louise Logan	Careers Academy
Taraq Albatikhi	Pleasure Beach Concession	Bev Wood	BWD
Stuart Livesey	Consultant	Ian McGawley	Sainsburys
Paul Farquhar	Life Coach	Mark Fox	Coral Island
Charlotte Gili-Ross	Ribby Hall	Sarah Marsden Hughes, Natalie Gorman	Voiteq
Paul Hough	Think Creative	Mick Grewcock	Burbage Group
Wendy Harrison	Café Fresch	David Clewes, Susie Gallagher	New Market
Gerry Lynch	Gem Associates	Kristen Durose	Red Star Wealth
Norry Ascroft	Entertainer/Consultant	Andy Dobson	Atlas Sailing
Helen Atkinson	Aspired Futures	Gwen Hunt, Karen Miles	Colossal
Vicky Reynolds	Ashworth Treasure	Paul and Karen Friday	Future Focus Energy
Yvonne Cooper	Blackpool Job Centre	Alex McIntyre	Property Scene
Vicky Rogers	Candy House Entertainment	Nina Parker	Blackpool Food Partnership
Rebecca Murdoch	Total Finance	Yusuf Musa	Winning Pitch
Karl Ashton	Montpelier Group	Deborah Terras	UR Potential
Robin Ross	Artist/Lights Ambassador	Jeff Smith, Lyndsey Kaye	JSM Building Solutions
Simon Booth	Astute Motoring	Louise Logan	Careers Academy
Vito Cinardi	Litigation Solutions	Cassie Troughton, Tracy King	Heart FM
Nick Taylor	Hilton	Karen Woolton	The Wave
Chris Hibbert	Henco	Ruth Patton	Patton's Community
James Maddison-Neill	Marks and Spencer	David Houston	Trinity Hospice
John Barnett	Stardream/The Wave	Phillip Parramore	8 Business Networking
Mark Gillingham	Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre EDC	Wendy Swift	Blackpool Teaching Hospitals
Philip Saunders	NatWest	Joe Bullock	Whitbread/Premier Inns
Susanne Johnson	FSB/Johnsons of Bond Street	Steve Singleton	Cuadrilla
Julia Eastwood	Artisan Tiles and Interiors	Craig Evans	Voiteq
<b>OBSERVERS/GUESTS</b>			
Philip Welsh, Peter Legg	Blackpool Council	David Slater	Blackpool Council
<b>APOLOGIES</b>			
Ruth Eastwood	Blackpool Grand	Neil Jack	Blackpool Council
Cassie Forshaw	Merlin Entertainments	Shaun Bennett	Links Signs and Graphics
Chris Maine	Dpa Packaging	Spencer Walters	CCES Telecoms
David Brennand	Boathouse Project	Zera Remtulla	Laila's
Bev Robinson, Daryl Platt	Blackpool and Fylde College	Lee-Anne Brooke	Haven
Bob Mason	Blackpool Transport	Eileen Ormand	Town Centre BID
Sarah Rhodes	Rhodes Media	Steve Hill	Mencap
Philip Owen	Barclays	Michael Williams	Winter Gardens
Lindsay Campbell	Rowleys	Graham Wood	WEC Group
Andrew Jackson, Roger Mellor	Glasdon	Damian, Helen Broughton	Danbro
Justin Allitt	Allitt Estate Agency	Neil Sutch	RBS
John Keen	RKMS	Michelle Smith	Carers' Trust
Nikki Hart	Blackpool Food Partnership	David Hoyle	Happy Days Childcare
Anne Catterson	Common Purpose	Chris Taplin	Rethink Design
Jonathan Cropper	Kingswood Stationers	Matthew Rose	TISS
Philip Crowther	Helms Briscoe	Alan Lockett	PHX Training
Richard Lefton	Lefton's Group	Doug Garrett	Close Link

### 1. **Welcome and apologies**

Martin Long (chair, Napthens) welcomed members and thanked Pleasure Beach for hosting the meeting.

### 2. **Minutes of the last meeting/Matters arising**

No issues to report.

### 3. **UR Potential**

Deborah Terras gave a presentation on the work of UR Potential, a not-for-profit organisation working with young people across the Fylde Coast.

Deborah said that UR Potential had started with just two people. Now based in premises on Central Drive, it employs around 30 people.

She presented a number of statistics relating to the achievements to date:

- Working with 200 organisations that provide volunteering opportunities
- 1500 young people supported into volunteering
- Around 750 adults trained to get into employment over a five year period
- £11m contribution by young volunteers based on the number of hours that they have worked on voluntary activities over those five years

Deborah said that the business community could help in a number of ways: By supporting the annual awards ceremony to be staged at the De Vere on Friday 4 September; acting as business mentors to motivate young people; providing placements and volunteering opportunities.

In return, businesses could get access to volunteers, put forward employees for volunteering and enhance the social impact of the business.

Business opportunities for the awards ceremony range from £1500 (including table for eight) for sponsorship of the overall ceremony to £250 for sponsorship of individual awards.

For more information, contact [Deborah.terras@urpotential.co.uk](mailto:Deborah.terras@urpotential.co.uk)

**Note:** Deborah's full presentation can be viewed at [www.bblg.co.uk](http://www.bblg.co.uk) under Reports/Presentations

### 4. **Healthier Catering Awards**

Rachael Wilkinson (ABL) gave a presentation on the work that is being carried out in Blackpool to encourage healthier eating.

She said that in many cases, the changes were simple, but capable of having a significant impact.

For example, one hotel had offered 20 items on its breakfast menu, all of which were fried. After registering with the Healthier Catering scheme, 19 of those items were no longer fried and the business was saving £360 through reduced use of cooking oil.

She said that the awards scheme was essentially about:

- Making healthier options available in food outlets
- Helping businesses to save money
- Helping businesses to make a commitment to social responsibility

Rachael said that any food outlet with a food hygiene rating of three or above was eligible to register for the scheme. She said a number of BBLG members including Sandcastle, Blackpool & Fylde College, Blackpool Sixth and Blackpool Victoria Hospital were all working towards the awards.

The next awards event will be staged in September. Any businesses interested in joining the awards scheme, contact Rachael at [RWilkinson@ablhealth.co.uk](mailto:RWilkinson@ablhealth.co.uk)

**Note:** Rachael's full presentation can be viewed at [www.bblg.co.uk](http://www.bblg.co.uk) under Reports/Presentations

## 5. **Blackpool Arts Scene**

Robin Ross (artist and illuminations ambassador) gave a presentation on various art initiatives in Blackpool. He said that one of the most recent ones involved four new art panels that had been created for the 2015 Illuminations display.

He said that one of his ambitions was to bring visitors to Blackpool for art-based weekends where they could get involved in painting, drawing and photography.

Robin urged businesses to sign up to LeftCoast, the organisation delivering an ambitious programme of arts and cultural activity across Blackpool and Wyre.

Robin also gave an update on the work he had done in Cuba with various creatives. He said he had since been invited back to Havana to print with Cuban artists and had launched a crowd-funding initiative to fund the trip.

He showed a short film about his work which can be viewed at this link: <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1526300540/the-cuban-journey-continued>

Any business wishing to support Robin's trip, email: [robin@robinross.co.uk](mailto:robin@robinross.co.uk)

## 6. **Employment Law Update**

Kimberley Barrett-St. Vall (Napthen's) gave an employment law update. She covered various areas including:

- Holiday pay
- Zero hours contracts
- National Minimum Wage
- Statutory sick pay
- Long term sickness absence
- Shared parental leave

Kimberley invited any businesses who wanted free advice for up to 30 minutes to contact her. Email: [kimberley.barrett-st.vall@napthens.co.uk](mailto:kimberley.barrett-st.vall@napthens.co.uk)

**Note:** Kimberley's full presentation can be viewed at [www.bblg.co.uk](http://www.bblg.co.uk) under Reports/Presentations

## 7. **Business Showcase**

Erica Crompton showcased her business, Bigfoot Events, based in Bispham.

She said the business specialised in providing party bands, tribute acts, themed entertainment, comedy nights and interactive entertainment.

Erica said that the business catered for indoor and outdoor festivals, university balls, corporate functions, weddings, private parties, holiday resorts and live venues.

She then introduced the group to her company's latest party "props" – a full-size animatronic T-Rex dinosaur that could be hired for themed events.

**Note:** Erica's full presentation can be viewed at [www.bblg.co.uk](http://www.bblg.co.uk) under Reports/Presentations

**8. Business Partnerships Report**

Philip Welsh tabled his report in advance of the meeting.

He drew the group's attention to the following items:

The Blackpool Challenge

Invitations to be sent out to businesses inviting them to the launch of this new initiative to improve educational attainment in Blackpool. The event will be staged at 4.30pm on Monday 22 June at The Winter Gardens

Blackpool Sixth Employer Event

Also to be staged on Monday 22 June. He said it was an unfortunate coincidence that the event clashed with the Blackpool Challenge event and asked that those businesses that had already committed to the Sixth Form event to remain loyal to that.

Property Scene Ball

Business support required for annual event to be staged at the De Vere on July 3. All proceeds to go to Cancer Research in memory of local estate agent, Jim Broomhead. Any business wishing to support the event by purchasing tickets or by donating prizes, contact Alex McIntyre, email [alex@thepropertysceneblackpool.co.uk](mailto:alex@thepropertysceneblackpool.co.uk)

Trinity Hospice

He thanked those businesses that had responded to the request for help from Trinity Hospice in establishing a better system for running its charity retail distribution hub. He said it was heartening that so many businesses responded to the request in such a short time.

**9. Any Other Business**

No other items of business. Martin Long thanked the various speakers.

**10. Date and time of next meeting**

Scheduled for 7.45am for 8.30am on Friday 31 July at the Winter Gardens. Further joining instructions to follow