



BLACKPOOL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP GROUP

NOTES FROM MEETING HELD ON MAY 26, 2017, AT THE VILLAGE HOTEL, HERON'S REACH, BLACKPOOL

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
ATTENDEES			
Martin Long (chair)	Napthen's	John Barnett	Stardream/Radio Wave
Colin Johnston	Grand Theatre	Michelle Riley, Paul Dewhurst	Blackpool & The Fylde College
Ian Mallam	Digitav	Barbara Cummings	Spire Healthcare
Belinda Betts	Blackpool Museum Project	Jill Gray, Tina Cooper	Blackpool Sixth
Rachel Riches	The Village Hotel	Linda Ertwisile, Jonathan Richardson	Starboard Hotels
Leigh Ingleby, Andrew Heydeman	Inspira Mentoring/Enterprise Adviser Network	Helen Clay	Left Coast
Helen Hay, Sian Howarth	Blackpool Carers	Steve Burns	Think Forward
Natalie Dubois	Revolution	Philip Owen	Barclays
Michael Muschamp, Chris Calvert	Rushton's Accountants	Roger Mellor	Glasdon
Grace Bennett	Visla Online	Tom Willcox	Willcox PR
Peter Lui	Blackpool Chinese Community/Luxun	Paul Galley	Blackpool Entertainment Co
Frances Thorpe	Welcome Deaf Awareness	Catherine Stringer	Chamber Of Commerce
Helen Atkinson, Sue Williams	Aspired Futures	Robert Graham	Concept Building Solutions
Tracey Dunn, Duncan Wilding	PHX Training	Paul Rooney	Create Developments
Steve Whitehouse	Future Technology Services	Jane Cole	Blackpool Transport Services
Chris Oxley	Danbro	Jane Littlewood	Rabbit Design
David Houston	Trinity Hospice	Lawrence McBurney	Cassidy & Ashton
Carmen Parkinson, Helen Livesey	The Business Clinic	Paul Hardy	Napthen's
Richard Harrison	Geminus Training	Matt Waits	Lancashire Cheesecake Co
Ron Bell	Abbey Bell Consultants	James Evans, Chris Shaw	High Level Specialists
Kerry Higginson	GP Strategies Training	Alex Petchkarev	Blackpool Pleasure Beach
Vicky Reynolds	Ashworth Treasure	Barrie Thompson	China UK Business Centre
Tom and Max Nelder	Choice Hotels	Colin Taylor	Illuminations Ambassador
Jonathan Barnes	Santander	Paul Friday	Future Focus Energy
Dan Capper	MCM Medical	Ann Cowell, Fay Mclean	The Full Property Experience
Frank Heald	Voiteq	Stephanie Smith	Sandcastle Waterpark
Greg Myerscough	RBS	Tom Metcalf	Little Touches
Michael Pickthall	Pinpoint Management Consultants	Graham Wood	Consultant
Zoe Fleming, Claire Jackson	Roland Robinson & Fentons	Chris Shaw	RNS
Kristina Szigeti	Happy Creative	Andy Atkinson	Voucher Packs
John and Jaki Armstrong	Majestic N-W	Rachel Brown	Create Care Training
Andy Charles	Business In The Community	Chris Aiken-Graham	FSB
Claire Taylor	Duxbury Commercial	David McGing, Angelique Gonzales	Ibis Styles
Geoff Mason	Chamber of Commerce	Yusuf Musa, Saj Mahmud	Enterprise 4 All
Sam Schofield	Cuadrilla	Geoff Moore	Canberra Hotel
Michael Williams	Winter Gardens	Nicola Spencer	M&S Outlet, Freeport
Fern Bennett	Marks & Spencer	Norry Ascroft	Entertainer/Consultant
Alex McIntyre	Property Scene	Dave Preston	Offigo
William Wright	Cheetham Jackson	Debbs Lancelott, Mark Hickey	Hounds Hill
Mike Hardaker	Moore & Smalley	Paul Crossley	Kenrick's
Shirley Hunt	Cranstone Hotel	Lindsay Taylor-Heath	Santander
Bev Wood	BWD Design	Nigel Fort, Matthew Burrow	Blackpool Teaching Hospitals
Ashleigh Walmsley	Streetlife	Julie Holland	Viva Blackpool
Peter Rawlings	Lower Employment Services	Duncan Hodgson	Freelance PR
John Salisbury	RBS	Louise Logan	Career Ready
Paul Isherwood	Stressbuster Works	Peter Jefferson	Visionistic
Pam Isherwood	Renaissance	Amanda Daniels	Freeport
Paul Stephens	Blackpool Rocks	William Hill	Business Development Company
Paul Wilcock	Montpelier	Mandy Tythe-McCallum	Visit Blackpool
Chris Maine	DPA Packaging	Andy Mellor, Nick Chambers	Primary Futures
OBSERVERS/GUESTS			
Philip Welsh, Peter Legg	Blackpool Council	Nick Gerrard, David Slater	Blackpool Council
Chief Insp Lee Wilson	Lancashire Constabulary		
APOLOGIES			
Ruth Eastwood	Blackpool Grand Theatre	Michelle Smith	Blackpool Carers
Rob Green	Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre EDC	Viv Cuthill	Coaching, Facilitation and Research
Pauline Lai	Mandarin	Erica Crompton	Big Foot Events
Pam Swain	British Asscn of Dental Nurses	Aaron Swain	Chards
Chris Hibbert	Henco	Coral Horn	Pink Link
Tom Mercer	Handelsbanken	Rosey Rihani	RR Legal
Belinda Shore	Santander	Wendy Harrison	Café Fresch
Lindsay Campbell	Campbell & Rowley	Joe Tantram	Rawcliffe & Co
Tracey Wilson	Blackpool Food Partnership	Anne Catterston	Common Purpose
David Cam	Under Sheriff, County Palatine of Lancaster	Phil McVan	Carbon Bit
Neil Jack	Blackpool Council	Phil Bonell	Training Works
Robert Owen	Blackpool Pleasure Beach	Peter Bennett	Assess, Design, Develop
Richard Lefton	The Lefton Group	David Hoyle	Happy Days Childcare
Helen and Damian Broughton	Danbro	Stephen Thorpe	CME Medical
Sarah Rhodes	Rhodes Media	Mark Croasdale	Whitehead & Howarth
Kev Donnelly	XP Web Services	Ashley Moore	Event Assembly
Steve Godfrey	UK Fujitsu	Vicki Ivanov	Candy House
Steve Swallow	Portal Security	Fiona Reid	Ascroft Whiteside
Wendy Swift	Blackpool Teaching Hospitals	Robert Wynne	West Coast Rock
Barry Howard	McDonald's UK	Joe Orban	Otech
Bev Robinson, Claire Jameson	Blackpool & The Fylde College	Julia Eastwood	Artisan Tiles
Aneesa Neelam	The Hilton	Adam Carter	Scanlite
David Chapman	Linksgate Leisure		

1. Welcome and apologies

Martin Long (chair) welcomed members to the meeting.

A minute's silence was held as a mark of respect for the victims of the Manchester Arena bomb attack earlier that week.

2. Minutes of the last meeting/Matters arising

Minutes noted, no matters arising.

3. Primary Futures

Andy Mellor and Nick Chambers gave a brief presentation to the group to thank them for their involvement in the Primary Futures project. It was noted that the overall number of volunteers had risen from 60 to 600, with the business supplying around 150 to local schools. Mr Chambers said this support had made the Blackpool project an exemplar one and the work done in schools was proving to be truly inspirational for pupils.

4. Cyber Security

Paul Dewhurst (Blackpool & The Fylde College) gave a presentation in response to the recent cyber-attacks on major organisations including the NHS.

His presentation gave advice on how employers and their staff could protect themselves by taking a few simple measures.

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

5. Inspira Mentoring

Leigh Ingleby and Andrew Heydeman gave a presentation on the work of the Lancashire Enterprise Adviser Network.

Andrew set out the strategic context of the network in relation to the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership and its Skills & Employment Strategic Framework.

He said the Enterprise Adviser Network was now live in Blackpool. Its aim was to pair senior business volunteers with schools in order to create sustainable connections between local businesses, schools and colleges.

To date, 12 schools, colleges and the Pupil Referral Unit have committed to the network in Blackpool and there has been a good response from the business community.

Leigh said that the associated Employer Mentoring Programme was a national campaign connecting employer mentors with pupils. Inspira will manage delivery of the programme until August 2018.

Any employers interested in participating, email: leigh.ingleby@inspira.org.uk

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

6. Shale Gas Update

Sam Schofield (Cuadrilla) gave an update on the shale gas operations now underway at the Preston New Road site on the outskirts of Blackpool. He showed a short film illustrating the safety measures being utilised within the operations.

He also showed a second film, illustrating the portal that monitors any environmental effects. This can be viewed on the www.cuadrillaresources.com website.

Mr Schofield answered a number of questions from the audience:

He said that the company had a policy of local procurement. In this instance, the definition of “local” was the county boundaries of Lancashire.

He said that the protests at the Preston New Road site were incurring significant policing costs, but he did not think that the company should be responsible for those. He said there was a principle at stake that those responsible for causing the disruption should be made accountable.

7. Ignite Your Imagination

Richard Harrison (Geminus Training) gave a presentation on “Innovation Workforce” courses that are aimed at getting the best out of employees through innovation.

He said there were several discounted deals and incentives available for Lancashire businesses to put their staff through a series of half-day courses in the workplace.

Further details from richard@geminustraining.com

8. Post-Manchester Briefing

Chief Insp Lee Wilson (Lancashire Constabulary) gave an update on the security arrangements that had been put in place in resort following the Manchester bomb attack.

He said that armed police had been stationed outside Blackpool Tower and the Pleasure Beach and would probably remain in place for another week.

He assured the group that there was no specific threat to Blackpool – the police presence was more about reassuring the public.

He said that if any of the group were planning large events, they should make contact with the police and they would work with them on safety issues. He also reminded the group that they should remain vigilant and, if they spotted any actions or behaviours that were of serious concern, they should dial 999 or use the counter terrorism hotline.

9. Business Partnerships Report

Philip Welsh tabled his report in advance of the meeting. He highlighted the following items:

Viva Vegas Diner

Julie Holland (Viva) gave the group a “save the date” of Monday 12 June for the opening of the new Vegas Diner on the promenade. Official invitations to be sent out via Philip Welsh prior to the event.

Brian House Golf Day

David Houston (Trinity Hospice & Brian House) invited businesses to take part in the first charity golf day that was being staged to raise funds for the children’s hospice. It is being held on Thursday 13 July at Royal Lytham. Businesses interested in entering a team, contact Antonia.hawkins@trinityhospice.co.uk

Tyler's Story

It was noted that all tickets for the "Dress To Impress" charity event at The Village Hotel on September 8 had now sold out. However, there was still an opportunity for businesses to support the event with sponsorship and/or auction prizes. To help out, please email: tyler.wraith@outlook.com

10. Any Other Business Depart

Helen Clay (Left Coast) drew the group's attention to the production of Depart, which is being staged by the acclaimed circus artists, Circa, in Stanley Park from June 1 -4. Any businesses interested in looking at group booking options, contact Helen at helen.clay@leftcoast.org.uk

HR Update Event

Grace Bennett (Vista Online) reported that BBLG members were free to attend an employment law update session at Blackpool Zoo on June 8. Details to be circulated by Philip Welsh.

Philip Owen

Martin Long (chair) reported that Philip Owen, one of the founding members of the BBLG, had announced that he would be retiring from Barclays at the end of July. However, he would be continuing as a member of the group as an independent businessman.

Sheila Grewcock

Martin Long (chair) expressed condolences on behalf of the group to Mick Grewcock, whose wife, Sheila, had passed away earlier this month.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.30am for 8.30am on Friday 28 July at The Winter Gardens, Blackpool.