



BLACKPOOL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP GROUP

NOTES FROM MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 30, 2018, AT THE IMPERIAL HOTEL, BLACKPOOL

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
ATTENDEES			
Martin Long (chair)	Napthen's	Terry Hodkinson, Michelle Smith	Blackpool Carers
Shane Grindey, Daniel Atkinson	Blackpool Transport Services	Nigel Sanders	pureairgroup
Nicole Billington	Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone	Frances Thorpe	Welcome Deaf Awareness
Rachel Riches	The Village	Mike Hardaker	Moore & Smalley
Jane Littlewood	Rabbit Design	Ian Reid	Disability First
Ron Bell	Abbey Bell	Kim Jackson, Rob Burns	Harry Ramsden's
Duncan Wilding	PHX Training	Angie Hesketh	DWP
Emily Edgar	AccessAble	Paul Wilcock	Montpelier
Mike Lovell, Alexandra Meadowcroft	Chameleon Financial Planning	Keith Stafford	RKMS
Shaun Bennett	Links Signs & Graphics	Ian White	Chorlton Hotel
Andy Charles	Business In The Community	Toby Simpson	Coffeebrook
Colin Taylor	Lights Ambassador	Kerry Higginson	GP Strategies
Kila Redfearn	Blue Skies Foundation	John Barnett	The Wave
Stephen Booth	CCATS	Elliot Davies-Evans	The Hex Group
Ian Mallam	Digitav	Shirley Hunt	Cranstone Hotel
Geoff Mason	Chamber of Commerce	Lindsay Campbell	Campbell & Rowley
Tom Mercer	Handelsbanken	Peter Brooks	Trusted Travel
Mark Nelson	UCLAN	Andy Percival	Lawson's Allotments
Jill Gray	Blackpool Sixth	Rick Bryan	BFC Community Trust
Vanda De Freitas	Positive Steps	Jack and Sham Sangha	Silicon Talent
Lizzie Beckford	Pink Link	Bev Wood	BWD Design
Joanne Etherington, Johnathon Townsend	Lloyds	Greg Goodall, Rich Burnett, Heather Hodson	AWOL TV
Wendy Jones	Atlas	Andy Dobson	Atlas Sailing
Debbs Lancelott	Houndshill	Emily Dixon	UCLAN
Krisztina Szigeti	Happy Creative	Rachel Bashforth, Sue Littlefair	The Washington Group
Yvonne Cooper	DWP	Robert Heys	Blackpool Football Club
Stacey de Rome, Lynsey Brown	Hampton by Hilton	Phillip Parramore	Guidedotyou
Stephen Knowles	Eric Wright Construction	Bev Robinson	Blackpool & The Fylde College
Kevin Donnelly	XP Web Services	Janet Doolan, Mandie Mansfield-Clark	Growth Lancashire
Junior Bent	Natwest	Belinda Shore	Santander
Roger Mellor	Glasdon	Jane Hugo	Streetlife
Helen Livesey	The Business Clinic	Danny Dalton	Brightprint/Music & Mayhem
Alison Patterson	Blackpool Pleasure Beach	Tracey Clarke	Toyland
Debbie Hodson, Tina Cooper	Blackpool Sixth	Effie Sharp	Randstade Consulting
Mark Croasdale	Whitehead & Howarth	Paul Crossley	Kenrick & Co
Steve Williams	Force Technology	Mick Grewcock	The Burbage Group
Paul Whitehead	Blackpool Housing Co	Mark Ferris	Contract Supplies Ltd
Nigel Patterson	Blackpool Museum	Chris Maine	DPA Packaging
Alex McIntyre	Property Scene	Geoff Mason	Canberra Hotel
Alex Cosgrave	The Belgian Life	Tom Hilton, Peter Smith	Intalinks
Michael Sheen	Greggs	Richard Baguley	GDR Public Relations
Samantha Bell, Aishley Doherty	Skool Of Street	Pauline Wigglesworth	Headstart
David Chapman	Linksgate Leisure	Keith Melling, Chris Crawley	Napthens
Carleigh Wilson	Abode Building Surveyors	Phil Owen	Consultant
Alison Gilmore	Imperial Hotel	Yusuf Musa	Enterprise4All
John Child	Sandcastle Waterpark	Paul Isherwood	Gamble Aware
Paul Friday, Andy Green	Future Focus Energy	Pam Isherwood	Renaissance
Andrew Wareing, Andy Atkinson	Voucher Packs	Michael Williams	Winter Gardens
Julie Hutson	Key Accounting Solutions	Stuart Livesey	Consultant
Dr Asif Sange	General Practitioner	Michael Pickthall	Pinpoint Management Consultant
David Stevenson, Sam Schofield, Steve Singleton, Laura Hughes	Cuadrilla Resources	Melanie Whitehead, Kieran McGuinness	Electric Sunshine Project
OBSERVERS/GUESTS			
Philip Welsh, Heather Morrow	Blackpool Council		
APOLOGIES			
David Cam	Under Sheriff, County Palatine of Lancaster	Andrea Wallace	Wyre Council
Rob Green	Airport Enterprise Zone	Chris Hibbert	Henco
Neil Jack, Peter Legg	Blackpool Council	Shirley Williams, Dan Scott	PHX Training
Pam Swain	British Association of Dental Nurses	Jonathan Barnes	Santander
John Salisbury	RBS	Carole Houston	Horizon
Andy Mellor	Primary Futures	Katherine O'Connor	Cities & Local Growth Unit
Victoria Ivanov	Candy House	Steve Godfrey	Fujitsu UK
Chris Curtis	Swallows	Michael Muschamp	Rushton's Accountants
Damian and Helen Broughton	Danbro	Andrew Heydeman	Inspira
Robert Owen	Blackpool Pleasure Beach	Anne Catterson	Common Purpose
Joe Boniface	Boniface Architects	Ray Eyre	Parkinson's
Darren Webster	Blackpool Zoo	Ruth Eastwood	Blackpool Grand Theatre
Sue Howorth	Family Business Network	Grahame Latus	Enterprise Answers
Wendy Swift	Blackpool Teaching Hospitals	Audrey Sanderson	AKS

1. Welcome and apologies

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

2. Minutes of the last meeting/Matters arising

Minutes noted. Noted that Robert Owen (Blackpool Pleasure Beach) had thanked the group for helping him to raise a total of £2,200 for the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Headway charity.

3. Welcome To The Imperial

Alison Gilmore, General Manager of The Imperial, welcomed the group to the hotel. She gave a brief update on the restoration of the disused Turkish Baths.

4. Resilience Pathway

A team from HeadStart Blackpool gave a presentation on the Big Lottery-funded programme which is aiming to build resilience among young people in Blackpool.

They showed a short film about the Resilience Revolution and then outlined plans to create a physical Resilience Pathway adjacent to the newly-constructed tramline on Talbot Road.

The paving stones will illustrate 42 resilient moves from the Resilience Framework and serve as a lasting legacy for the project.

Around half of the £20,000 cost has already been donated, but the team are looking for additional donations and/or sponsorship from the business community.

Any business interested in supporting the scheme, email: Pauline.wigglesworth@blackpool.gov.uk

5. Shale Gas Update

Laura Hughes, Commercial and Projects Director of Cuadrilla Resources, gave an extended update on the shale gas developments at the site at Preston New Road near Blackpool.

She spoke in detail about the issues arising from seismic monitoring at the site and sought to put this into context.

Laura also spoke about the intention to procure locally wherever possible and to work with local Chambers of Commerce to engage with the local business community.

She then took part in a Q&A session involving members of the audience.

The presentation can be viewed on the www.bblg.co.uk website under Reports/Presentations.

6. Strategic Communications

Greg Goodall and Rich Burnett (AWOL TV) gave a presentation on the benefits of strategic communication to business and showcased examples of their work.

The team has provided access to a range of resources including a video recording of their BBLG presentation. These can be accessed at: <https://www.awoltv.com/mystratcomms/>

7. **The Purple Pound**

Emily Edgar (AccessAble, formerly known as DisabledGo) gave a presentation on the newly-launched searchable accessibility guide, which is available on the website and app. This includes a significant section on disability access to visitor attractions in Blackpool which are independently inspected every year.

Emily also shared some statistics illustrating the potential spending power of the so-called “Purple Pound” and the reticence of people with disabilities to visit places unless they know in advance of the facilities that are available.

The new website can be viewed at: <https://www.accessable.co.uk/>

Emily’s presentation can be viewed on the www.bblg.co.uk website under Reports/Presentations.

Ian Reid (Disability First) then gave the group an insight into the project which has received just under £1m from the Coastal Communities Fund to improve access across the whole of the Fylde Coast.

He said the funding would enable training across the visitor economy and also make existing events more accessible to people with disabilities, as well as developing new, bespoke events.

8. **Developing Young Talent**

Sham and Jack Sanga (Silicon Talent Consulting) gave a presentation on developing young talent in a digital age.

He said he was keen to work with local businesses, schools and individuals in a number of areas including:

Employers: Talent acquisition gap analysis – creating the WOW factor before you start hiring.

Individuals: The impact of social media on stress and mental health, from a technical and scientific viewpoint.

Education: How to comprehensively prepare students for a job search and the impact of social media on mental health (as above).

9. **International Women’s Day**

Sue Littlefair (The Washington Group) gave a presentation on the forthcoming Fylde Coast International Women’s Day event to be held on March 9, 2019. She said the event would have much more of a festival feel to it and would be staged at Blackpool Sixth, involving high schools from across the area.

She said she was looking for business support in various forms including provision of female role models and mentors and business sponsorship of the various activities.

Sue said that an International Men’s Day event was being planned for the following November.

For further details and offers of business support, contact: sue.littlefair@twguk.org

10. Business Partnerships Report

Philip Welsh (Blackpool Council) highlighted a number of items:

Blackpool Central Station Site

He reported that the masterplan for the former Central Station site would be made public at 7am the following Friday. He said that he was hoping to arrange a presentation on the proposals at the next BBLG meeting in January.

Yeadon Way

He reported that the roadworks on Yeadon Way had finished ahead of schedule and the route was now open again.

White Ribbon Day

He reminded the group that Blackpool was a White Ribbon accredited town and encouraged members to support the current campaign - which aims to eradicate male violence against women - by sporting one of the white ribbons available in the meeting room.

11. Any Other Business

The Chair thanked the Imperial for hosting the meeting and the various speakers for their contributions.

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.30am for 8.30am on Friday 25 January, 2019, at the Lancashire Energy HQ at Blackpool Airport.