



BLACKPOOL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP GROUP

NOTES FROM MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 25, 2016, AT THE GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
ATTENDEES			
Martin Long (chair)	Napthen's	Julie Holland	Viva
Tina Cooper	Blackpool Sixth	Steve Hill	PHX Training
Matthew Burrow	Blackpool Teaching Hospitals	Ian Wright	Rathbone Training
Jane Kelly	Sandcastle Waterpark	Belinda Shore, Lyndsay Taylor-Heath	Santander
Chris Maine, Andrew Hall	DPA Packaging	Lucy Barnwell	Rossall School
Shaun Bennett	Links Signs & Graphics	Ruth Eastwood, Colin Johnston	Blackpool Grand
Paul Wilcock	Montpelier Chartered Accountants	Michael Pickthall	Pinpoint Management Consultants
Mike Lovell	Cheetham Jackson	Alex McIntyre	Property Scene
Mark Croasdale	Whitehead & Howarth	Richard Harrison	Geminus Training
Ian Mallam	Digitav	Shaun Pickup	Dahlia's Kitchen
Samantha Bell, Ashley Doherty	Skool of Street	Andy Mellor	Primary Futures
Karen McDonald	Blackpool Transport	James Cox	Blackpool Pleasure Beach
Tina Cooper, Ash Goodinson	Blackpool Sixth	Robin Ross	Sand, Sea & Spray
Paul and Pam Isherwood	Stressbuster Works	Paul Friday, Andy Green	Future Focus Energy
Tony Carr	Social Enterprise Solutions	Steve Singleton	Quadrilla
Aldo Errico	Drugline Lancs	Steve Burns	Think Forward
Chris Hibbert	Henco	Graham Shaw	West Lancashire Electrical Contractors
Michael Muschamp	Rushtons Accountants	Jeff Smith	JSM Building Solutions
Kimberley Barrett-St.Vall	Napthens	David McGing	Ibis Styles
Sarah Mortimer	Camerados	Kevin Donnelly	XP Web Services
Rosey Rihani	RR Legal	Ron Bell	Abbey Bell Consultants
Joe Matthews	Baroque	John Holmes	Consultant
Peter Bennett	Assess Design Develop	Tom Metcalf	Little Touches
Deborah Terras	UR Potential	David Cam	Under Sheriff, County Palatine of Lancaster
Michael Williams	Winter Gardens	Jonathan Barnes	Santander
Tony Raynor	Abbey Telecom	Mark Fitzgerald, Dave McGough	Sainsbury's
Lindsay Campbell	Rowley's	Peter Jefferson	Visionistic
Louise Logan	Career Ready	Michael Cuddy	Michael Cuddy Chartered Surveyors
John and Jaki Armstrong	Majestic North West	Paul Hardy, Sophie Coane	Napthens
Karl Worsley	DWP	Phil Bonell	Training Works
Joan Blackburn, Barbara Cummings	Spire Healthcare	Ashley Moore	Event Assembly
Natalie Dubois	Revolution	Paul Crossley	Kenrick's
Philip Hargreaves	Be Thinking	Norry Ascroft	Entertainer/Consultant
Helen Atkinson	Aspired Futures	Fiona Boyd	RBS
Dale Lawrenson, Simon Smith	Nat West	Mark Smith	Capricorn Accountancy
Mick Allen	Northern Powerhouse	Grace Bennett	Vista Online
Bev Wood	BWD Design	Ian Wright	Newcastle College Group
Barry Thompson	China UK Business Centre	Kate Shane	Merlin
Kerian Barnes	Starboard Hotels	Scott Blacker	Sea Life Trust
Mike Walton, Paul Crouch	AKS	Matthew Titherington	Madam Tussauds
Rebecca Murdoch	Total Finance	Mandy Tythe-McCallum	Visit Blackpool
Neil Reid	Blackpool Food Bank	Jane Littlewood	Rabbit Design
Frances Thorpe	Welcome Deaf Awareness	Rachel Riches	Village Hotels
Lori McPhee	BBE Law	Shirley Hunt	Cranstone Hotel
Kate Pedler, Caroline Brady	Questa Chartered	Gary Smith	People Plus
Caroline Ready	Clifton Home Care	Philip Helm	Tyson Construction
Tom Willcox	Willcox PR	Tom Mercer	Handelsbanken
John Barnett	Starream/Radio Wave	Frank Heald	Voiteq
OBSERVERS/GUESTS			
Philip Welsh	Blackpool Council		
APOLOGIES			
Jill Gray	Blackpool Sixth	Viv Cuthill	Coaching, Facilitation and Research
Richard Lefton	The Lefton Group	Anne Catterson	Common Purpose
Darrel Treece-Birch	St Annes Town Council	Nicola Atanassova	VisitBlackpool
Roger Mellor, Andrew Jackson	Glasdon	Katherine O'Connor	BIS
Bev Robinson	Blackpool & The Fylde College	Steve Swallow	Portal Security
John Salisbury	RBS	Vicki Ivanov	Candy House
Philip Owen	Barclays	Alison Gilmore	Imperial Hotel
Neil Jack	Blackpool Council	Craig Corrin	Marks & Spencer
Damian, Helen Broughton	Danbro	Pam Swain	British Association of Dental Nurses
Jane Hugo	Streelife	David Hoyle	Happy Days Childcare
Tracy Hopkins	Citizen's Advice	Andy Fairbrother	Blackpool Providers
Martin Yates	Northern Independent Living	Andrew Wareing	Voucher Packs
David Gore	Consultant	Nichola Howard	Events N-W
Sarah and Jon Rhodes	Rhodes Media	Ruth Patton	Patton's Community
Rob Green	Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre EDC	Tim Forshaw	Arthur J Gallagher
Dave Riche	LightPool	Kristen Durose	Red Star Wealth
Stuart Livesey	Consultant	Paul Mathison	Create Construction
Amanda Thompson	Pleasure Beach		

1. Welcome and apologies

Martin Long (chair) welcomed members to the meeting. He also thanked the theatre team for agreeing to host the meeting in such a splendid venue.

2. Minutes of the last meeting/Matters arising

The notes of the last meeting were acknowledged.

3. Welcome to Blackpool Grand Theatre

Ruth Eastwood, Chief Executive of Blackpool Grand Theatre, welcomed the BBLG to the theatre. She gave the group an insight into some of the work that the theatre had done in conjunction with Blackpool and Wyre schools and the Royal Shakespeare Company via a short film.

4. A Christmas Miracle

Ash Goodinson (Blackpool Sixth) briefed the group on a special initiative that students and staff at the College had devised to send out a powerful message about child poverty.

He said three members of staff had composed and produced a song called *A Christmas Miracle* which had been recorded by Blackpool Sixth students, children from 10 schools across the Fylde Coast, along with a number of community music groups.

He said the public release date for the song and accompanying video was Friday 2 December, available on iTunes for 79p with all proceeds going to The Children's Society. He said that with enough support, there was the possibility that the song could go to the top of the iTunes chart.

It was agreed that the link to the song and video would be circulated by Philip Welsh to all members of the BBLG on that day. Ash asked businesses to then promote it within their own businesses to get maximum impact.

He said that the BBC had already shown interest in covering the project.

5. AKS School

Mike Walton, Head Master of AKS School gave the group an update on the integration of the former Arnold School in Blackpool with King Edward and Queen Mary schools in Lytham. Two of his students then gave a presentation on the ways in which the school works within the local community and with businesses.

A copy of the presentation can be viewed at www.bblg.co.uk under Reports/Presentations

6. Blackpool Food Bank

Neil Reid gave a presentation on the work of the Blackpool Food Bank.

He set out some of the statistics that illustrated the work of his team, including the provision of 150 food parcels, 3,900 loaves of bread and 1,500 frozen meals each month to people in Blackpool.

He said the team also ran "holiday hunger" programmes for children as well as "cook and eat" courses.

He said that a number of local businesses were already supporting the Food Bank programme, and he urged others to join in too, either through financial pledges or product pledges.

A copy of the presentation and Neil's contact details can be viewed at www.bblg.co.uk under Reports/Presentations

7. Skool Of Street

Sam Bell and Ashley Doherty (Skool Of Street) showed the group a short film about their latest production, Popnocchio, which had been showcased at several venues, including The Grand Theatre.

They then described some of the hip-hop dance work they do with young people (aged 7-19) in Blackpool and surrounding areas.

They said that the services they offered in educating young people in various strands of hip-hop culture were free and run during school holidays subject to funding being available.

They have also been running Wingz Academy, a free performing arts academy on Saturday mornings at Revoe Community Centre.

Sam and Ashley appealed to the business community to support their activities, which were aimed at giving young people the skills to explore and develop their creativity.

For more information on their work, go to: www.skoolofstreet.com or email: skoolofstreet@live.com

8. Marine Protection Scheme

Scott Blacker (Blackpool Sea Life) gave the group an insight into the work of the Sea Life Trust and the Marine Conservation Society in campaigning to protect the English coastline.

He said that in 2013 the two organisations campaigned for the creation of a network of Marine Protected Areas. Three years on, there are now 50 protected areas. He said that next year the Government would be consulting on the last of the places around the English coast to be considered for protection.

He said the Trust and the Marine Conservation Society believed there to be a further 34 priority areas that need protection, including part of the North West coastline.

He urged members of the BBLG to sign the petition that had been handed out and to encourage their own employees to do likewise.

Anyone interested in further information about the campaign and petition, email Scott at: Scott.Blacker@merlinentertainments.biz

9. Business Partnerships Report

Philip Welsh tabled his report in advance of the meeting. He showed the audience two short films that had been commissioned to showcase the Blackpool 2016 events season and the Illuminations Switch-On event. He said these films illustrated the quality of the 2016 Blackpool events programme, and indicated the benefit of working with large international brands such as Nickelodeon and MTV.

10. Any Other Business

BBLG 10 Years On

Philip Welsh reported that the BBLG had now been in existence for 10 years. During that time it had grown from 10 members to over 200. He thanked the group for their support during that time.

11. Date and time of next meeting

Next meeting scheduled for 7.30am for 8.30am on Friday 27 January, 2017. Venue and joining details to be confirmed.