

Lincoln Business Club - Minutes of Meeting

Friday 31st July 2009

Welcome to the meeting by the Chairman and aim of the Business Club

The Chairman, Eddie Strengiel, extended a warm welcome to the members and briefly explained to the members the key aims of the Business Club. Namely, that the club is able to provide a voice for businesses in Lincoln, whilst also being a relaxed environment in which to meet and network with members of the local business community. The Chairman also announced the club is 5 years old in July, and the member list has grown from 23 – 543.

Member Introductions

Starting with the committee members, each of the members stood up and introduced themselves and stated which businesses they are from.

AGM:

Financial Report

Andy Seymour, Treasurer, produced the accounts for the end of the 08/09 financial year, and explained that the final balance had increased by £200 from the previous year. Andy asked if anyone wanted a copy of the accounts to speak to him. Closing balance of the accounts - £800.12. The Treasurer asked someone to be proposer of the accounts, Chris Trigg nominated himself. Richard Hare is seconder.

Committee Stand down

The Chairman thanked Rob Bradley from the Football Club for his continued support.

The Assistant Chairman, John Cawdell, thanked The Chairman Eddie Strengiel for his hard work on the committee for the last year and proposed he stayed in post for another year. Members were asked to vote, and unanimously The Chairman was voted as Chairman for another year.

The Chairman thanked the committee for their continued support.

Further on in the meeting, The Chairman asked the members to re-elect the committee into their roles for the next year. All members voted the existing committee into their existing roles.

Presentation of cheques to Charities

The Chairman explained that 21 different charities were nominated by members of the club, the two most voted for were Air Ambulance and STRUT in the Community, a cheque was presented to each charity for £300 by Steff Wright, Chairman of Lincoln City FC.

Vivian Chambers from Air Ambulance and Amy Holland from STRUT received the cheques on behalf of the charities, and thanked the club for their continued support.

Sponsorship for future meetings

It was voted for by all members that they were happy to support the increase fee for sponsoring a meeting from £50 - £75 taking effect from October 2009.

It was also agreed that from August 2009 the door admission would increase from £2 - £3 each month, all members voted for this action. The additional £1 will go to the football club, for the usage of the venue.

A word from our Sponsor – Chris Trigg from Crucis Consultants Ltd

Chris began his presentation by thanking the club for all the support it offers and for being a friendly, welcoming group.

Chris explained he worked with SME's in the region providing a full range of business and management consultancy, mentoring and training. Chris explained his role within the business community, including Branch Management for CIM and Chair for Young Enterprise in the East Midlands.

Chris explained his services and training programmes available for different size companies, including Business Volunteer Monitoring programs. Chris explained there is a mentoring and coaching opportunity for all variety of businesses and to speak to him for further information.

Chris concluded his speech by inviting members to get involved with Young Enterprise and the good work it is doing with young students into the business community.

For further information on any of Chris's services please contact him directly.

Before the first speed networking event, The Chairman thanked Steff Wright for his continued support, and Steff returned his thanks by congratulating the club on their continue growth and success.

First Speed Networking Session

Members were asked to change places and sit with people they did not know and where possible to have full tables in order to get the most out of the speed networking part of the meeting. This enables members to sell their business for 1 minute to the rest of the people on their table. This is a valuable opportunity to get to know the members of the club and to swap business cards.

Coffee Break

Second Speed Networking Session

Members were encouraged to change places and sit with people they did not know and hadn't sat with at the first speed networking session.

Card Draw Speaker – Michael Jordan – A-Star Plumbing

Michael spoke about how to improve energy efficiency in boilers, to improve the environmental performance, saving the house owner money and helping reduce CO₂ in the environment. Michael explained how the boiler operates and the energy rating of boilers, and advised people to look at getting their boiler updated.

Michael concluded by asking for further information or boiler services please speak to Michael directly.

Card Draw for June: Eddie Strengiel, Phoenix Independent Financial Solutions Ltd

Website

Mark Jarvis reminded members that they need to register as members on the website, and to send Mark any events they would like to promote onto the business club website.

Events

Stephanie from the University of Lincoln spoke about the Access Innovation event taking place on Tuesday 24th September at The Think Tank, bringing education and the business community together, Stephanie would be bringing tickets to the next meeting for people to sign up and register.

Alex Gray spoke about the 'summer party' taking place on 10th September at Lincoln Golf Centre, an evening of golf, food and a quiz, tickets £10, asked all members to get involved.

Advertising/PR

Kate Strawson asked if anyone has any news stories/ PR to speak to the Shooting Star representative, who are now supporting the Business Club with their advertising and PR.

Announcements

There were several member announcements which were as follows:

Kate from Shooting Star PR – Lazy networking, first Friday of the month at Orgasmic from 5pm, everyone welcome.

Steve Royal invited members to attend the LA Business Club meeting, takes place every Wednesday and Thursday morning at LA Fitness.

Viv from the Air Ambulance announced the 15 year anniversary, being celebrated with a black tie event taking place at The Petwood Hotel, Woodhall Spa on October 2nd. Tickets £42 – speak to Viv for more details.

St Barnabas Hospice – for more information on their upcoming fundraising events then please speak to them.

Ladey Adey – invited all members to partake in the '30 day challenge' to earn \$1 dollar a month with online marketing ideas and tips. Log onto www.30daychallenge.com.

Chairman's closing remarks

The Chairman asked that members do not leave literature on the main tables unless they are sponsors for the meeting, and asked all literature from tables is picked up at the end of the meetings.

The Chairman also reminded members if they would like a new business club name badge to speak to Wayne, from the Football club

The Chairman concluded the meeting by thanking the speakers and sponsors and closing the meeting.

Date and Time for Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Friday 28th August 2009 at 7am – 9am.