

Lincoln Business Club - Minutes of Meeting

Friday 26th June 2009

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

The Chairman 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 gave apologies for John Cawdell and Andy Walters, and explained that the next meeting in July would be the club's AGM.

Member Introductions

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

The chairman also thanked Lincoln City Football Club and Wayne, for their continued support and help with the business club

Sponsorship for Future Meetings

The Chairman confirmed that sponsorship of the meeting would next be available in January 2010, and asked any members to speak to Nicki Gray for further details

A word from our Sponsor – Keith Loven of Loven Patents and Trademarks

'Looking after people's innovation, good ideas and design.'

Keith talked about the company and the existing patent and trademark services on offer. Keith then spoke about new services on offer, including a 'business health check' to check that brands are properly protected, evaluate the brands, remembering that a brand is not just a name but a whole identity for a particular product or service,

Keith also spoke about 'brand creation' packages, which involve creating a brand from scratch, and sorting out all of the protection rights etc.

Keith asked if anyone wanted further information they speak to him at the break or after the meeting.

Speaker – Katharine Armstrong-Short of Katherine Armstrong-Short Interiors

‘The quality of the questions you ask yourself dictate the quality of your life’

Katharine delivered a motivational speech, addressing negative energy and how it generates negativity around people. Katherine explained that positive thoughts give of positive reactions and actions.

The overall message from Katharine was that people need to stay positive, even through the current difficult economic times.

First Speed Networking Session

The Chairman encouraged members 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

The Chairman encouraged members 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 – A-Star plumbing and Maintenance

Unfortunately the card draw speaker was unable to attend the meeting.

Card Draw for March: will be carried forward from June.

Website

Mark Jarvis had no updates on the website, but asked anyone who is not registered on the website to register their details.

Events

Alex Gray had spoke about the University of Lincoln event, Access Innovation Project, and confirmed that he date of the event was 24th September at The Think Tank. The event is designed to introduce the University's business faculty and link how it can support local businesses in Lincolnshire.

PR

Jez Ashberry from Shooting Star PR discussed how Shooting Star PR will be voluntarily working with the business club to assist with the marketing and PR activities.

Announcements

There were several member announcements which were as follows:

The Charity trekkers asked the club if anyone would like to buy a fortune cookie for £1 towards the charity trek.

Lincoln Pride – taking place on August 22nd at the Engine Shed, activities, stalls etc, asked members to come along.

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

The Chairman announced the next meeting for Newark Business Club and promoted the club alongside Lincoln Business Club.

The Chairman also asked for members to continue to promote the Lincoln Business Club to others, and asked them to take the 'Business Club' business cards if they wished.

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 31st July at 7.00am