

MEETINGS UPDATE

DECEMBER MEETING

This section summarises the most recent Business Forum Meetings and includes a brief summary of what was discussed and key decisions. Full minutes are available from Business Support Team

What we discussed

- Update on Masterplan
- Business Awards and Enterprise Event
- Security Shutters Presentation from DSS

Key Decisions

- Established a representative Forum Sub Group to work with Planners alongside 1:1 sessions

FEBRUARY MEETING

What we discussed

- Progress report on Masterplanning from Forum Sub Group and individual 1:1's (Single Issue Meeting)

Key Decisions

- To meet again with planners to hear feedback on 5 key concerns raised and agree next steps
- March Meeting to focus on regular Forum Business

MARCH MEETING

What we discussed

- Public Realm proposals - BNDfC
- Membership and constitution of the Forum
- Proposed Business Support for the Next 3 Years
- Forthcoming activities for 2005

Key Decisions

- Sub Group created to develop the Forum's constitution
- BNDfC to consult with the Business Forum on Public Realm proposals
- Adrian Lane stepped down as Chair nominations for interim Chair sought.

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Event	Date	Contact
Forum Committee Meetings	1st Tuesday every Month	Tom Coldron 0114 292 0462
Local Economic Development Strategy Launch	Tuesday 22nd March	Trywell Kalyatta 0114 292 2907
Full Business Forum Masterplanning Meeting	Tuesday 22nd March 6pm	Saghir Ahmed 0114 292 0463
Employment & Enterprise Theme Meeting	1st Wednesday of every month	Trywell Kalyatta 0114 292 2907

PROFILE

John Barber, Business Broker for Sheffield, has been managing the Burngreave Business Support Team since its creation in the summer of 2003. Prior to this and during his time as a New Deal Board Member John, along with others, recognized the need to make sure that local business had a voice and a stake in the regeneration of the area and as a result was instrumental in establishing the Business Support Project.

"In any area there are 3 key stakeholders in bringing about change, the community, the public sector and business. For too long business has not had a real voice in Burngreave. It's great to see that not only is the local business community now beginning to be recognized as a key player in the regeneration of the area but that it is also beginning to have a voice through the Business Forum and its representatives on the various decision making bodies in the area. There is still a long way to go but people are beginning to sit up and take notice of local business. To keep the positive momentum going we need to grow and strengthen the business community in Burngreave, encourage more people to turn their business vision into reality and continue to create a positive image of Burngreave as a good place to do business," says John Barber.

In his wider role as Business Broker for Sheffield John works for a partnership of Business in the Community, Sheffield Chamber of Commerce, Sheffield First Local Strategic Partnership and The Employers Forum where his job is to involve Businesses in City wide regeneration. John is a former training and commercial manager for Sheffield Chamber of Commerce. Prior to joining the Chamber, he worked at BT plc for 12 years and worked with an electronics company before that. He has a degree in business studies.



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For further information on any item in this newsletter or for help and advice with business issues please contact the business support team on 0114 292 0462 or email businesssupport@bndfc.co.uk

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Burngreave In Business

News and Information from Burngreave Business Forum

Spring 2005



2005 promises to be an exciting and hectic time for Business in Burngreave if the start of the year is anything to go by. The first Burngreave Business & Enterprise Event kicked the year off to an excellent start with over 200 people attending the event where 15 different support agencies offered advice and guidance to local businesses and potential entrepreneurs. The event concluded with the first ever Burngreave Business Awards and I would like to congratulate all those nominated and short listed; and of course the winners. The whole event generated huge press coverage and has helped to put Burngreave on the map as a place where business adopts a positive attitude - for more details see the enclosed supplement.

The year has much more in store as you can find out inside this, the second edition of the Burngreave Business Forum Newsletter that is for you, the businesses in Burngreave. We want to hear thoughts, comments and stories for future editions so please get in touch if you want us to tell the world about your success in Burngreave.

Saghir Ahmed
Business & Enterprise Champion



L-R; Saghir Ahmed (right) and Thomas Couldron (centre) of the Business Support Team greet client Samir Al-Shemari in the new offices

Business Support Team moves home as demand increases

The Burngreave Business Support Team has moved into Burngreave New Deal headquarters at HARLESTONE STREET (off Carlisle Street) half a mile down from Spartan House.

The new offices are better equipped with more facilities to provide the best for our clients. There is plenty of room to manage in-house training and provide one-to-one information, support and guidance. Above all we are now better placed to work closer with the rest of BNDfC team which should help us to co-ordinate services and communicate with the business community of Burngreave.

The team will however continue to carry out 1:1 sessions and outreach work when required from Spartan House and the New Deal information shop. The support teams telephone and e-mail contact details remain unchanged.

The move was prompted by the increase in business support services and the implementation of phase two of this project. After 18 months of discussions and hard work we have put together a strategy to build on the successes we have enjoyed so far, such as:

- Establishment of the Burngreave Business Forum and BNDfC Board representation
- Introduction of the Burngreave Business Directory and Newsletter.
- Seminars and major events to support existing and start up business.

- 1:1 business advice and guidance to over 170 clients, including 8 start ups to date.

- The first Burngreave Enterprise Event and Business Awards.

- Management and allocation of over 50 business security grants

- Ongoing support to the Local Economic Development Strategy (LEDS) and Masterplanning consultation.

An announcement on the new services we have planned is imminent.

DDA - act now!

The new Disability Discrimination Act requires you to make "reasonable changes". This takes into account that resources and situations vary between businesses. In theory, it may be possible for a company to argue that making its information or premises more accessible is unreasonable due to, say, the costs involved and limited resources.

Keep a record of any adjustments you make, however minor, in case you are challenged in the future. Remember that businesses cannot charge disabled people more than others to cover the cost of meeting their DDA obligations.

For Further Information please contact the Business Support Team.

Business Profile- Panni Poh Yoke Loh



Panni Poh Yoke Loh (far right)

Panni Poh Yoke Loh is a Creative Specialist Artist based in Burngreave and runs a business offering:

- Original artworks
- Creative Workshops
- Fine Art Commissions
- Installations and happenings

In 2003 she was awarded an M.A. in Art as Environment by Manchester Metropolitan University who invited her to be a member of their 'Social Environment and Art' research centre in 2004. Panni is also a qualified teacher (PGCE-PCET) with a Diploma in Permaculture Design and BSc in Textile Design.

As an international artist Panni was invited in September 2005 to exhibit her oil painting 'Love kernel' in the Manningham Gallery, Melbourne, Australia. As the International Women Artists Council UK member, she presented a paper at an exhibition accompanying an International Conference. Panni presented her paper 'The Female Heart: Spirit in the City' at the Conference attended by delegates from 13 different countries. Panni also presented her video of a 'happening' entitled 'Peace Servings' that featured people of diverse cultures, faiths and ethnicities on Ellesmere Green in Burngreave, which resulted in several sales of the video.

"It was great to have the opportunity of exhibiting my art work and selling my video 'Peace Servings' in Australia and speaking at the International conference in Melbourne, seeing Sydney Harbour bridge and sampling the national arts and culture in the Sydney Opera House was just amazing. I really enjoyed meeting Aboriginal Koori artists, finding out what life is like in Australia and walking amongst the fantastic eucalyptus tree forests where I took many photographs of vegetation, Kookaburras and Parakeets. I'd like to go back one day and spend time out in the bush connecting more with the 400 000 year old history of the Aborigine land culture," said Panni.

Panni has had two solo exhibitions during her first year of trading selling original photography, video, oil and acrylic paintings and reproductions to Sheffield Libraries, the Black Environment Network for the UK and private collectors. Not satisfied with the UK galleries market in York, Manchester and Chesterfield, Panni has also exhibited in Thailand.

As well as selling her artwork Panni runs art workshops and courses in South Yorkshire for children and adults in community centres, schools and youth clubs. She has successfully transferred the workshops to London where children get involved in silk painting, Chinese brush painting. She also runs adult classes in painting, drawing, interactive quizzes, 'Art and Spirituality', 'Creative living: an introduction to permaculture', 'Awakening the spirit: art and gardens' when she is not working with groups to create group art works specific to their needs.

In March Panni will be running courses and workshops for local organizations., For details contact Panni see her entry 'Panni Poh Yoke Loh' in the Burngreave Business Directory or telephone her on 0114 2738113

BURNGREAVE BUSINESS SUPPORT IS OFFICIALLY TOP NATIONALLY

Business support in Burngreave recently topped the first annual New Deal for Communities Awards when Lord Rooker, Minister for Regeneration and Regional Development presented Project Manager John Barber with his award.

John said, " It is great that the work going on to support business in Burngreave is recognized at a national level and this is down to the dedication, passion and support of the local business community and all the Business Support Team. Positive stories like this can only add to the improving reputation of the area as a good place to do business".

If you have any business related good news stories you would like shout about please let the business support team know.



John Barber (right) receives the award from Lord Rooker at the New Deal Awards event in Birmingham.

LOCAL NEWS

Patent Office advice

The Patent Office is concerned at the steep rise in the number of unscrupulous invention promoters who may accept money, then disappear. The Patent Office advises entrepreneurs to do as much background research as possible of their own about patents, trademarks and design registrations. It also recommends inventors do not disclose their ideas until a confidentiality agreement has been signed. Patent professionals should be registered with the Chartered Institute of Patent Agents (CIPA).

Important Health & Safety announcement

Since 2003, employment law has been introduced on just two dates each year, 6th April and 1st October. As of this year, health and safety legislation will also be introduced on these two dates. A copy of the statement of forthcoming health and safety regulations for 2005 can be found on the HSE website www.hse.gov.uk

VAT advice days

A series of free drop-in advice days for businesses will be available in the coming months. For further details of these call business support

Business Directory Update Coming Soon

In March 2004 we successfully launched the first Burngreave Business Directory, it included details of over 200 local businesses and was distributed to 6,000 potential customers. Due to its huge success and demand a second updated edition will be produced in Summer 2005.



This will be bigger and better and for the first time will also be available on line. This is an ideal way of showing that "Burngreave means Business".

To take advantage of this great opportunity to promote your business, simply fill in the tear out sheet in the back of the current edition or contact the Burngreave Business Support Team who will be happy to help.

Making a Difference for women in Burngreave

The 'Making a Difference' programme run by SCEDU is working with BNDfC to provide training and support services to encourage women into self-employment and entrepreneurship. A series of courses start in May 2005 and include a mixture of classroom based Business Courses, one-to-one support and coaching.

If you would like further information about these courses please contact:

Carol Anderson on 0114 2920460
or via email: carolanderson@bndfc.co.uk

Milena Harbach on 0114 2015260
or via email: milena.sec@scedu.org.uk

Amanda Wells -Stress Therapist

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INSCRIBE

INSCRIBE is a new programme for writers of African and Asian descent. We can offer assistance to writers of fiction and poetry plus networking with other writers at events. For more information:

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