

Burgess Hill

BUSINESS PARKS ASSOCIATION

This week saw the gdb virtual event "The Power of Community" take place bringing together the local business associations of Haywards Heath, East Grinstead, Manor Royal BID and gdb and of course BHBPA.

Each association shared examples of how the various business communities have rallied to help others during the pandemic. If you missed the event and want to watch a playback please follow the link.

I was particularly interested in what Steve Sawyer of Manor Royal BID had to say as he reflected on how collaboration is not just a more effective way to achieve results, but is also a source of having fun at work too. I think there's a lot in what Steve was saying, and I am sure many of us who are motivated to achieve things have similarly learned that engaging others in the process is not only more effective, than slogging away at something on your own, but indeed it can be fun too.

[Power of Community playback...](#)

Should you wish to view Martyn's 5 minutes on behalf of BHBPA go 10:30 minutes on the playback and for Steve Sawyer's comments go to 34:40 minutes. Of course you may want to view the whole thing...

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RMG launches its new website & refreshed branding

Ta-daaaa! Rose Media Group is delighted to

announce that their new website is now live complete with a fresh brand appearance combining a bold and modern feel, as well as their signature fuchsia splash thrown in!

As the markets Aneela Rose and the team at RMG work in have evolved, so have they.

Repositioning as B2B PR specialists working in niche markets, their new brand journey shows clearly who they are, what ignites them and how they work, plus the new website reflects the firm's ambitions and where they are heading.

Take a peek and let them know what you think! www.rosemediagroup.co.uk



Watch: Who we are

Specialist PR agency working in niche markets for 16 years.

New Signage

There's a new sign at the entrance to Sovereign Business Park for Double-Dot the large format printing company. Pictured is their striking new wrapped company van alongside of the sign. Any companies on one of the BH Business Parks looking to revamp their own company vehicles are very welcome to pop along and have a chat to discuss requirements.

As Lorriane Avery puts it, *"there's no need to have your own artwork ready, just bring your ideas about whatever you imagine you want to create and our wonderful designer will do the rest."*



Steering Committee

On Wednesday we had a good turnout for the 2nd Steering Committee meeting since the AGM in January.

To know who's on the Steering Committee click: <https://www.bhbpa.co.uk/about/>

For the first item on the agenda, we reflected on our emergent strategy and the question 'are we heading in the right direction?'. The strategy has two key parts – segments and priorities.

Segments - we are envisaging 3 broad membership segments based on why we believe organisations get involved with the Association:

- Those that primarily want to participate in business networking.
- Those who are mainly interested in collaborating on shared business issues and,
- Those who essentially want to be good corporate citizens and '*give something back*' to the local community.

Priorities - we think our immediate priorities are threefold:

- Growing our Membership
- Listening out for and responding to those issues members want to collaborate on, and
- Improving how we can engage, even more effectively, with our Local Authority partners

The discussion brought out a number of useful observations including:

- While the proposed segmentation helps with focus and '*feels about right*', we should also remember that firms join us for multiple reasons, not just one. Therefore, we need to ensure a good balance in the mix of what we do so as to cater for different motivations.
- In terms of growing our numbers, members of the Steering Committee have started to connect with business neighbours who are not members to invite them to join, using the new flyer produced by our Marketing Officer, Steve Powell.
- We agreed that our Special Interest Groups needs to be topical subjects and allowed to be driven by issues as they emerge. There is little to be gained by trying to force interest. So members are to be encouraged to raise any topic they'd value talking to others in the Association about – whether as a one-off or as an ongoing issue.
- We also touched on plans to engage with MSDC later in April, along with the other Mid Sussex Associations, about the Council's Sustainable Economic Strategy as it is developed.

In summary, the Committee felt the emergent strategy is '*heading in the right direction*' but we should allow things to be somewhat organic and bear in mind that we are still in strange times as lock down continues to ease, the many folks that are still on furlough see their situations become more definitive and businesses choose to, or not to, return to working in their office premises.

Other topics discussed included how to engage more effectively with the Education sector, especially local schools & colleges. Martyn and Peter Lamb of Edwards will seek to take some initial steps here.

Steve Skinner of Turbine Tools raised the matter of security and he and Steve Willis of SWTC agreed to undertake some preliminary research having already spoken with Sussex Police.

Finally, we agreed to pursue opportunities to improve the diversity of the Committee – which

we recognise is not how it needs to be.

Government news

If you are a Tax Adviser check out HMRC's communication about a planned consultation process intended to raise standards.

Also we have the latest set of Q&A's from HMRC on EU Trade Rules.

And finally, please note that from today you will no longer need a Kent Access Permit (KAP) if you're driving an HGV to the EU from the Port of Dover or the Eurotunnel.

[Tax Advice consultation...](#)

[Latest Trade Rules Q&A](#)

[More on KAP news...](#)



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COO Opportunity at Kangaroos

Due to the forthcoming retirement of the current CEO, BHBPA member Kangaroos are looking for a new Chief Operating Officer (COO).

- Are you the person they are looking for?
- Do you know someone who would be a perfect fit?

Please spread the word by sharing information about this opportunity via your networks.

[More information from Kangaroo's site...](#)

[Charity Jobs link...](#)



2 Great Business Networking Events

If you haven't already done so, please register for our two Summer Business Networking events - Ridgeview Wine Estate on 8th July and at the Woolpack on 28th July.

[Register for BHBPA events...scroll to July.](#)

EV Charging Points

Our kick off meeting to discuss access to EV Charging Points took place last Friday with a good level of attendance and participation. There was a diverse range of interests and levels of understanding represented along with what the future solutions are likely to be – whether communal or company-by-company - made all the more complex by the rapid technological advancements being made.

On reflection following the meeting, we have decided to ask Ian Hopping of Auditel to facilitate a webinar on this specific subject supported by other local experts including Tony Thorpe of Grove Group and hopefully others. Dates and times of the event to be confirmed.

[More about Auditel...](#)



Photo by Huseyin OZBEKAR on Unsplash

So what floats your boat?

To date we have received very little interest in sharing or learning about innovation best practices – an idea mooted in recent newsletters. So what's a topical subject that you are interested in discussing with other members? Please let us know via martyn@bhbpa.co.uk and we will float the idea with our members to see if there's sufficient interest to pursue it further.

Register for Evolving Work Best Practice

Please remember to register for our Evolving Work Best Practice meeting set for 19th May at lunchtime. Remember these sessions are intended to be open, flexible and responsive to the interests of the attendees. For example, some people might be concerned about Mental Health and wonder what are good working practices on this front. Sessions are there for the participants to shape – so get involved if that appeals.

BHBPA events...



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The WSX Enterprise Access to Finance team invites you to join online for one of their Planning, Managing & Growing My Business webinars.

Registration...

Young Traders Market - 12th June

Burgess Hill Town Council is organising a Young Traders Market event in the town and are seeking young traders and entrepreneurs, aged 16-30, who are looking for the opportunity to showcase and sell their goods to a wider audience.

Burgess Hill Young Traders Market

Saturday 12 June 2021
9am - 2pm in Church Walk, Burgess Hill



Burgess Hill Town Council is looking for young traders/entrepreneurs, aged 16 - 30, who are looking for the opportunity to showcase/sell their goods to a wider audience.

Visit www.burgesshill.gov.uk/market for more information



There will also be an opportunity to compete and become our Young Traders Market Local Champion and go forward to the London & South East Regional Young Traders Market Award run by the National Market Traders Federation.

Burgess Hill
Town Council



BURGESS HILL
Young Traders
MARKET

The Young Traders Market event itself is set to take place on Saturday 12th June from 9am to 2pm in Church Walk, and will be part of Burgess Hill's monthly outdoor market. We hope the day will be well supported by residents and shoppers alike.

Alex leads the way on ICAEW Apprenticeship Scheme

Investment in young talent continues to reap benefits at MHA Carpenter Box, with news that Alex Kent has become the first apprentice at the firm to gain Associate Chartered Accountant (ACA) status.

Alex, who lives in East Grinstead, joined the Sussex-based accountancy firm's Audit & Assurance team at Gatwick in July 2017 after graduating from Canterbury Christ Church University.

He started out on a traditional trainee route at MHA Carpenter Box, and then moved onto the ICAEW apprenticeship to develop his skills and enhance his career opportunities.



Alex commented: *"I am very grateful for the support that MHA Carpenter Box has given me throughout my training and would highly recommend the apprenticeship scheme to any young person interested in becoming a fully qualified accountant."*

The MHA Carpenter Box scheme provides structure, and the support of a 'talent coach' is also invaluable in building confidence and progressing through the programme.

[Full story...](#)

Double Yellow lines

No change as yet on the double yellow lines front with efforts ongoing to try and secure some additional funding. As per last week, we're on the case but this won't be quick - so don't hold your breath!

Closing Remarks

I hope making the gist of this week's Steering Committee meeting available is helpful and feels transparent. That is the intent. We're a members-based organisation and progress relies on the participation and support of members.

At the gdb "Power of Community" event this week several people talked about having fun at work. For some fun at work goes hand in hand with collaborating with colleagues – something many of us have missed out on in the virtual world of pandemic hit Britain this last year. However, in my experience collaboration and fun are not the inseparable twins some seem to think. It seems to me that some very effective collaborations are just about (as Prince Philip might have said) getting on with what needs to be done, with little fun involved at all. Obviously when work is fun too that's probably the sweet spot for most of us.

Of course, having fun is important – it's part of the joy of living. But for me joy stems from doing the things I want to do and just 'being' when I do them. You may or may not feel the same. Whatever your thoughts about having fun, I wish you a lovely weekend and hope you get to do at least some of whatever it is you enjoy doing and being who you want to be when you do. Enjoy!

Please keep sending in your news and one last thing...if anyone is looking to sell or get rid of some office furniture, in particular a desk, please contact Bluelite Graphics' Steve on 07974 157989.

Questions, comments or contributions to share? Please email martyn@bhbp.co.uk

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