

Blackpool Council

24 August 2023

To: Councillors M Scott, Taylor and Williams

The above members are requested to attend the:

SHAREHOLDER COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 5 September 2023 at 3.00 pm
in Conference Room 3E, Bickerstaffe House

A G E N D A

ADMISSION OF THE PUBLIC TO COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Head of Democratic Governance has marked with an asterisk (*) those items where the Committee may need to consider whether the public should be excluded from the meeting as the items are likely to disclose exempt information.

The nature of the exempt information is shown in brackets after the item.

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any interests in the items under consideration and in doing so state:

(1) the type of interest concerned either a

- (a) personal interest
- (b) prejudicial interest
- (c) disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI)

and

(2) the nature of the interest concerned

If any member requires advice on declarations of interests, they are advised to contact the Head of Democratic Governance in advance of the meeting.

* 2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 13 JULY 2023 (Pages 1 - 10)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 13 July 2023 as a true and correct record.

(This item contains commercially sensitive information which is exempt from publication by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

* **3 MERLIN ENTERTAINMENTS BLACKPOOL UPDATE** (Pages 11 - 42)

To update the Shareholder Committee on the work of Merlin Entertainments Blackpool.

(This item contains commercially sensitive information which is exempt from publication by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

4 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the date of next meeting as the 21 September 2023.

Venue information:

First floor meeting room (lift available), accessible toilets (ground floor), no-smoking building.

Other information:

For queries regarding this agenda please contact Lennox Beattie, Executive and Regulatory Manager, , Tel: 01253 477157, e-mail lennox.beattie@blackpool.gov.uk

Copies of agendas and minutes of Council and committee meetings are available on the Council's website at www.blackpool.gov.uk.

Present:

Councillor Taylor (in the Chair)

Councillors

M Scott (Co-opted Member) Williams

In Attendance:

Alan Cavill, Director of Communications and Regeneration

Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager

Kirsten Whyatt, Finance Manager, Subsidiary and Partnership Finance

Lorraine Hurst, Company Secretary

Mark Towers, Group Company Secretary

Jane Cole, Managing Director, Blackpool Transport Services Limited (BTS)

James Clough, Finance Director

Councillor John Boughton, Chair, BTS Board

Michael Williams, Managing Director, Blackpool Entertainment Company Limited (BECL)

Andy Morgan, Interim Finance Director, BECL

Councillor Jo Farrell, Chair, BECL Board

Kate Shane, Regional Director – Merlin Entertainments Blackpool

Kenny Mew, Operations Director, Merlin Entertainments

Councillor Mark Smith, Chair, BOCL Board

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

2 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Shareholder Committee agreed that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of item 3 'Minutes of the last meeting held on 20 January 2023' (restricted minutes only), Item 4 'Shareholder Update', Item 5 'Wholly-Owned Company Financial Performance as at Month 2 2023/24', Item 6 'Blackpool Transport Services Limited Financial Performance and Sustainability', Item 7 'Blackpool Transport Services Limited ZEBRA Update', Item 8 'Blackpool Entertainment Company Limited Managing Director's Report', Item 9 'Blackpool Entertainment Company Limited Financial Report', Item 10 'Blackpool Operating Company Limited Update' and Item 11 'Merlin Entertainments Blackpool Update' on the grounds that they would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

MINUTES OF SHAREHOLDER COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY, 13 JULY 2023

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 10 MARCH 2023

(The press and public were excluded from the consideration of the restricted minute part of this item as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

The Committee considered the minutes of the last meeting held on 10 March 2023, noting that there was a public and restricted version.

The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting as a true and correct record.

4 SHAREHOLDER UPDATE

(The press and public were excluded from the consideration of this item as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

Mr Alan Cavill, Director of Communications and Regeneration provided an update on the Council's Wholly-Owned Companies on behalf of the Shareholder.

The Committee noted the update provided.

5 WHOLLY-OWNED COMPANY FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AS AT MONTH 2 2023/24

(The press and public were excluded from the consideration of this item as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

Ms Kirsten Whyatt, Finance Manager, Subsidiary and Partnership Finance provided an update on the financial performance of the Wholly-Owned Companies as at Month 2.

The Committee noted the update provided.

6 BLACKPOOL TRANSPORT SERVICES LIMITED FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

(The press and public were excluded from the consideration of this item as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

Ms Jane Cole, Managing Director, Blackpool Transport Services Limited (BTS), James Clough, Finance Director, BTS and Councillor John Boughton, Chair, BTS provided an update on the financial performance at sustainability of the Company.

The Committee noted the update provided.

7 BLACKPOOL TRANSPORT SERVICES LIMITED ZEBRA UPDATE

(The press and public were excluded from the consideration of this item as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

Ms Jane Cole, Managing Director, Blackpool Transport Services Limited (BTS), James Clough, Finance Manager, BTS and Councillor John Boughton, Chair, BTS provided an

MINUTES OF SHAREHOLDER COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY, 13 JULY 2023

update on the ZEBRA (Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas) Scheme and highlighted the proposal to procure 90 vehicles with the option to increase this if required.

Shareholder Committee decision:

The Shareholder endorses the proposal to procure 90 vehicles alongside the facility to charge 90 vehicles in the first phase. Infrastructure will be designed to allow charging of up-to 115 vehicles if required to scale-up within the current round of ZEBRA funding.

Reason for decision:

The decision to procure 90 vehicles with the option to purchase additional vehicles once it had been determined how many were required based on patronage would allow flexibility in the scheme.

Other options considered:

The Committee could have not endorsed the proposal, however, it was considered to be the most appropriate option.

Date of decision:

13 July 2023.

8 BLACKPOOL ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY LIMITED MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

(The press and public were excluded from the consideration of this item as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

Mr Michael Williams, Managing Director, Blackpool Entertainment Company Limited (BECL) and Councillor Jo Farrell, Chair, BECL provided an update on the work of the Company.

The Committee noted the update provided.

9 BLACKPOOL ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY LIMITED FINANCIAL REPORT

(The press and public were excluded from the consideration of this item as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

Mr Michael Williams, Managing Director, Blackpool Entertainment Company Limited (BECL), Mr Andy Morgan, Interim Finance Director, BECL and Councillor Jo Farrell, Chair, BECL provided an update on the work of the Company.

The Committee noted the update provided.

10 BLACKPOOL OPERATING COMPANY LIMITED UPDATE

(The press and public were excluded from the consideration of this item as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

MINUTES OF SHAREHOLDER COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY, 13 JULY 2023

Ms Kate Shane, Regional Director – Merlin Entertainments Blackpool, Mr Kenny Mew, Operations Director, Merlin and Councillor Mark Smith, Chair, Blackpool Operating Company Limited (BOCL) provided an update on the work of the Company.

The Committee noted the update provided.

11 MERLIN ENTERTAINMENTS BLACKPOOL UPDATE

(The press and public were excluded from the consideration of this item as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

The Committee agreed to defer the item to a future meeting.

12 SHAREHOLDER COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

The Committee agreed the proposed workplan for 2023/2024.

13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee noted the date and time of the next meeting as Thursday 21 September 2023, commencing at 2.00pm.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 4.30 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:
Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager
Tel: 01253 477213
E-mail: sharon.davis@blackpool.gov.uk

Report to:	SHAREHOLDER COMMITTEE
Relevant Company Representative:	Kate Shane, Regional Director – Merlin Entertainments Blackpool
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Ivan Taylor, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Partnerships and Performance
Date of Meeting:	5 September 2023

MERLIN ENTERTAINMENTS BLACKPOOL UPDATE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To update the Shareholder Committee on the work of Merlin Entertainments Blackpool.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider the presentation and the current data.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To monitor performance of the wholly owned companies and their contribution to the Council's strategic priorities.

3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 None.

5.0 Council priority:

5.1 The relevant Council priority is

- "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool"

6.0 Background information

6.1 A presentation (exempt from publication) can be found at Appendix 3(a) which Kate Shane, Regional Director, Merlin Entertainments Limited will be in attendance at the meeting to present to the Committee.

6.2 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? Yes

Appendix 3a to this report contains commercially sensitive information which is exempt from publication by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

7.0 List of Appendices:

7.1 Appendix 3(a): Presentation (exempt from publication).

8.0 Financial considerations:

8.1 See presentation (exempt from publication).

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 See presentation (exempt from publication).

11.0 Equalities considerations and the impact of this decision for our children and young people

11.1 None.

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 None.

13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

13.1 None.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.

- 15.0 Key decision information:
- 15.1 Is this a key decision? No
- 15.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number: N/A
- 15.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? N/A
- 15.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency: N/A
- 16.0 Call-in information:**
- 16.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No
- 16.2 If **yes**, please give reason:
N/A

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