

LN6 Chairman's Report - May 2016



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Our mission is:

To reflect the views of all businesses trading in the LN6 postcode, of whatever type, large, medium or small so that we are heard at this exciting and crucial time by those who make important decisions.

To connect businesses trading in the LN6 postcode to each other to support inter-trading, and the general enhancement of LN6 as an up-and-coming and vibrant business community.



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Committee

The Committee that has served during the past year is:

Chair	Chris Trigg, Crucis Consultants Ltd
Vice-Chair	Tony Barker, Linkage Community Trust
Secretary	Graeme Stenson, Langleys
Treasurer	Laura Capindale/Tim Godson, Duncan & Toplis
IT/Website	Darryl Kirk, Webism
Committee members:	Andy Bennett, Siemens Peter Horner, Langleys
Co-opted:	Sean Barkes Cameron Ford

Many thanks to all the Committee members for their support to LN6 this year. It would be remiss not to mention, with great sadness, the untimely death of Sophie Atfield during the last year. Sophie had the original vision for the LN6 Group and she was the prime mover for a number of years, handing over the role of Chair only when she moved out of the LN6 area.



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Events

May	Duncan & Toplis at Langleys
July	Lindum at Lincoln Vintage Vehicle Society
September	Spiral Media at Think Tank
October	Charity Quiz Night & Auction at The Showroom
November	Doddington Hall
January	APSS
March	Reflect Recruitment at Life Church Lincoln

Thanks to all the hosts that have made this year's events so successful. We are particularly grateful to those companies and organisations who stepped in at short notice to fill the event slots either as host or venue provider. We are trying to book events further in advance and have already filled slots to the end of 2016. If there are any companies who would like to host in the future, please talk to one of the Committee Members to find out more details.

At our first Charity Quiz Night and Auction in October our aim was to raise £500 each for The Nomad Trust and the Boultham Park Capital Appeal. Thanks to

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everyone who participated on the night in the quiz and the auction, and a special thank you to our quizmaster Graeme Stenson (whose idea it was), Barbara Long for doing all the admin, Laura Capindale for collecting all the money/paying bills and finalising the accounts, and Darryl Kirk who arranged for our auctioneer from Unique Auctions and scurried around on the night collecting bids and also subsequently chasing all the successful bidders. It was a great night and at our November meeting at Doddington Hall we announced that we had far exceeded our aims and presented cheques for £971 to each of the charities. The success of this event has encouraged us to look at repeating it in 2016.



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Communications

Our main communications are through our website at www.ln6.org and our e-newsletters, with thanks to Darryl Kirk for his work in keeping these going in addition to his very busy primary duties, and also through our LinkedIn Group. As always we do want to use these communication channels more frequently and make them useful and interesting so please send any inputs to us at info@ln6.org. We also use the registration details from the website for our LN6 communications and so it is essential that businesses register as members. If you require any assistance with registering, please ask one of the Committee members, who will be able to help. The contact details for the Committee will be on the website, as will formal documents such as the LN6 constitution and annual reports.

LN6 is always seeking to expand its membership to give an even broader spread of ideas and inputs. Membership is free and registration on our website at www.ln6.org enables members to place company profiles and offers, as well as receiving regular information about events and local activities. The LinkedIn LN6 Group is a "closed" group and membership is restricted to companies and individuals that trade in the LN6 postcode. Other social media feeds through Twitter and Facebook also allow us to disseminate information quickly and effectively, so please continue to follow LN6 on Twitter and Facebook, and join the LN6 Group on LinkedIn. We would encourage our current 100+ LinkedIn members to use the Group for discussions, promotions and job offers, and also encourage others to join us there. We will continue to post advance notifications of our bi-monthly events on LinkedIn, and again if you "like" or "comment" on these posts it will help to spread the word.



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Administration

Our bank account saw some movement for the first time over the period of the Quiz Night and now stands at £67.21. The Committee intend to keep the organisation subscription-free and so we rely on generous offers of hosting and donations in kind. We would be delighted to talk to any LN6 companies who wish to support any of our administration or printing costs. If anyone does wish to make a cash donation, please contact our Treasurer, Tim Godson at Duncan & Toplis.



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Local Activities

Our thanks go to the members of LN6 for their continued support over the past year, whether it is hosting an event, attending events, or giving us feedback and suggestions.

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Over the last few years LN6 has attracted members from professional service providers such as accountants and solicitors; charities; large, medium, small and micro businesses; and sole traders. We exist to serve the business community of LN6 and this guides everything that we do. In 2013/14 we formed 4 sub-groups (trading, transport, resource efficiency and security), each run by a member of the Committee; however, there has been insufficient interest from our members to continue these in the last year. If anyone wishes to take a lead in these areas and see if they can be moved forward, please speak to a Committee member.

Our networking is not the same as other groups within the Lincoln area – it is free to access and attend our events, we offer a friendly and informal networking environment where people are not put off by having to do an “elevator pitch” in front of others, and we have free food, courtesy of our event hosts. At our events between the hours of 12.00pm and 2.00pm we work on a “come when you can, leave when you must” principle, but ask people to try and be present by 12.30pm so that the hosts can do their introduction.

LN6 aims to remain a key player in the local Strategic Economic Masterplan and, through participation in the AccessLincoln and the GrowLN6 initiatives, attempt to have an impact on the thinking of local government, planning and development activities. In September 2015 we were represented at the Castle Line opening and were part of the GrowLN6 stakeholder event at Bentley Hotel. We also spoke at the GrowLN6 Business Breakfast at Siemens. All such events give us a significant profile in the local area.



The Future

LN6 remains a growing and vibrant business community, with new business sites opening up within the postcode area, such as at Teal Park. We will continue our partnerships with NKDC, County and City Councils, North Hykeham Town Council, South Hykeham Parish Council and others to make sure the voice of the business community is heard as the Strategic Economic Plan develops.

We will continue to hold our bi-monthly events. If you want to host an event, either alone or in conjunction with another business, the Committee will be delighted to hear from you.

The Committee are volunteers with their own business commitments so please bear with us if there are some delays, but we will do our best to respond to our members in a timely manner. Do keep challenging us to provide for the needs and questions of the business community we seek to serve.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Trigg".

Chris Trigg
Chair LN6
13 May 2016