

BPF meeting – 14 July 2010

Report of event

Today's gathering of property people with an interest in Bradford's future got extra opportunities to show off their good work and hear about the Forum's got planned on their behalf.

Headed up as the now annual 'Showcase & Networking' event, Bradford Property Forum's bi-monthly meeting in July saw more than 80 business people and key council figures connected to the sector meet at Bradford City Football Club. Many displayed evidence – photographs, testimonials and promotional materials – of their successes of the last 12 months or how they could help other businesses with opportunities to take Bradford's economy forward.

The Forum's chairman, Andrew Mason of Newmason Properties, reported on BPF's work and activities of the last 12 months, and hinted at what's to come in the future. Involvement in the council's listed buildings review and the push for the urban garden on the Westfield site both got a mention, as did property folk getting the ear of senior council figures through Andrew's meetings with Barra Mac Ruairi, Bradford Council's director for regeneration.

Attendees were told that a joint meeting with Leeds Property Forum was being discussed with that group's chair, Nigel Foster of Arup, while the Forum is reaching out to the District's secondary school pupils to get them interested in the property sector and business in general.

Two last-minute speakers made a pitch for their organisations: Karl Redmond of Construction Sector Networks, a Yorkshire Forward funded body, outlined how he hopes to support the sector's various stakeholders – read more on their website [here](#). Roger Owen revealed a 'naked advert' for Bradford City FC, where he is now a director. The former Group Property Director at Morrisons appealed for businesses to support the club in its attempts to climb into a higher division. Now financially on an even keel (one of only two Football Association clubs free of debt), Roger wants to obtain the Carbon Trust standard for the club – a recognition currently only received by Manchester United. Find out more about BCFC [here](#).

[Several BPF members have expressed an interest in joining the steering group – thank you to those individuals. It is hoped that a meeting can be arranged soon with those people to take things forward and ensure that all professions associated with the property sector can be accommodated on the group. Apologies for the delay progressing this.]