

### REPORT OF THE BUSINESS FORUM MID DEVON MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20 MARCH 2012, 6.30pm at the TIVERTON HOTEL

#### 1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Jim Enright (JE), Chairman, welcomed the attendees.

#### 2. **General networking**

JE commenced this evening's session with a general networking 15 minutes where attendees were invited to introduce themselves to each other on their tables in about 2 minutes each. Much networking took place!

#### 3. **Speaker – Michael Marsh, Senior Partner - Thomas Westcott – Tips to Beat the Taxman**

Michael introduced his team, and explained that their USP was that they had local offices, but with the backing of a regional practice.

Michael certainly gave us all a lot of very useful information, and has made his speech available [here] for all to see.

#### 4. **Jill Sampson and Julia Liquorice - Mid Devon District Council**

JS explained that she was the head of HR for MDDC, and that they had set up a mediation service for everyone to use.

JL explained that she was the Training Development Officer, and has set up training sessions in H & S; legislation; ICT and Soft skills and management development. All enquiries to the council.

#### 5. **General Information**

JE explained that members should look at the website – they would find themselves listed on there and should check that the details were correct. They should also add their information to the members events pages.

One thing of interest was the Prince's Trust have said that they need volunteers to give their young people work experience (no charge).

6. **Close of BFMD**

JE asked all attendees to tell others about BFMD. He said that for those members who bought a new person along to the May meeting, their card would go in a hat for a champagne draw.

The **next meeting** is to be held on Thursday 24 May 2012, Tiverton Hotel, 6.15pm.

**Speaker:** All of the members – Top tips for business success.

JE explained that each table would discuss what their top tips were, and we would narrow this down to the top couple of tips for the room.

JE thanked The Tiverton Hotel for hosting the event, and reminded everyone that they were still doing the excellent catering for free.

**Please do invite other local businesses you know.**

CLOSE at 8.30pm, although again almost everyone stayed on to continue their networking.

Kim Knox, Secretary.