

Your business faces the challenges of change every day



help is closer than you think...

“ We know all our staff and our customers, and recognise that training and development of our staff is the best way to build a service business such as ours. ”

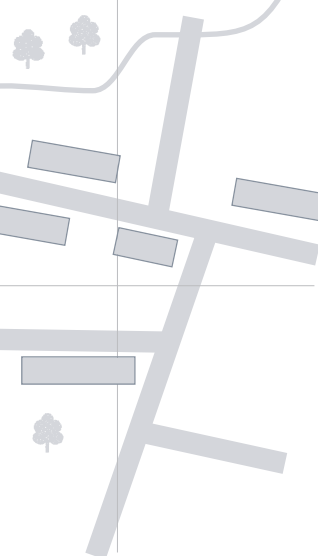
Kevin Howells of Palmer & Howells who took advantage of help from Parklife to secure funding under Train to Gain programme to support the skills development of its workforce. Palmer & Howells employs 150 people at 14 sites across Gloucestershire and the South West including Vantage Point, Mitcheldean.

“ With rising costs and the current economic situation, we are all searching for ways to reduce costs. ”

The training and consultancy from Parklife helped us to identify and implement cost savings and be better able to understand and keep on top of growing environmental legislation and pressures. ”

Colin Gooch, Gooch Group Ltd, Lansdown Industrial Estate, Cheltenham.

The company received more than £6,000 worth of training, support and consultancy from the Parklife Environmental Business Support Programme funded by Cheltenham Borough Council and the European Social Fund.



Parklife is a service unique to Gloucestershire that links together companies in the same geographical areas, on business parks, industrial estates or in the same vicinity to take advantage of business to business networking, skills development, staff recruitment and business advice.

There are now thriving groups all over the county taking advantage of Parklife expertise. They are located at:

- Bristol Road, Gloucester
- Stonehouse Business Forum, Stoud
- Love Lane Business Group, Cirencester
- VP100, Mitcheldean / Cinderford Business Forum
- Lansdown Business Forum, Cheltenham
- Kingsditch Business Group, Cheltenham
- J9 Business Goup, Tewkesbury

So far, Parklife has delivered many business benefits to its members including:

- A range of successful collaborative initiatives that reduce business overheads including insurance, energy, stationery and waste management
- Help with business development and strategic planning that is giving organisations a clear understanding of where they want to be in three to five years' time
- Training for employee development
- Facilitate and advise on a wide variety of critical business issues including health & safety, security, transport and planning issues
- A mentoring scheme for SMEs to develop best practice and learn from their larger neighbouring employers
- Help to meet growing legal and commercial pressures of environmental performance



Training & business support on your doorstep

The issues facing businesses today are amongst the most challenging for a generation. Employers are faced with examining every aspect of their operations to plan for a sustainable future. Parklife is now focusing on five key areas to help you in this business critical task:

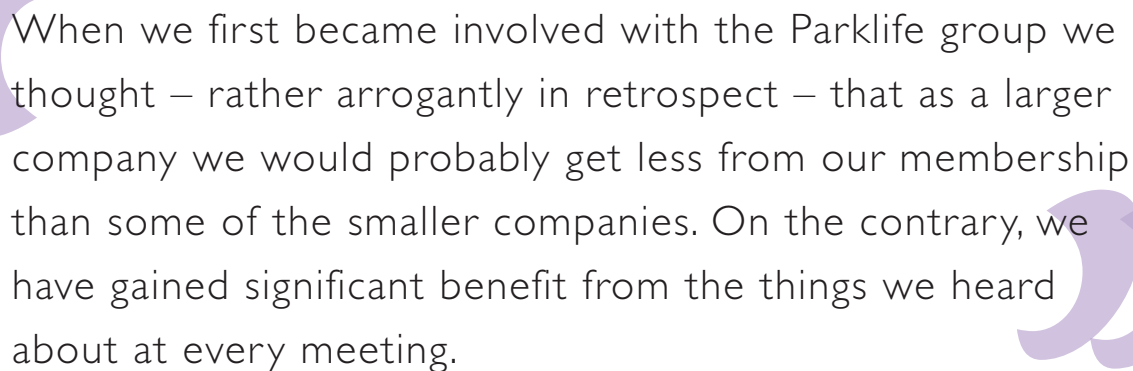
Recession busting is focusing on the key areas of coping with the downturn, the threat of redundancy, employment and preparation for alternative employment.

Putting power in the hands of businesses. Parklife is supporting the local business networks to help them unite to buy the products, services and skills training they need at competitive prices.

Location, location, location is vital to businesses in realising their potential. It should be an advantage, not a hindrance. Parklife works with local authorities on behalf of businesses to address site specific issues that impact on commerce.

Business to business is concentrating on the business benefits of collaboration between business and inter-park trading.

Effectiveness, profitability and sustainability is the end point for all businesses. Parklife's aim is to continue to be the catalyst for commercial success for many years to come.



When we first became involved with the Parklife group we thought – rather arrogantly in retrospect – that as a larger company we would probably get less from our membership than some of the smaller companies. On the contrary, we have gained significant benefit from the things we heard about at every meeting.

Sue Baldwin, Vibixa, Kingsditch Industrial Estate, Cheltenham.

The current Parklife programmes include

Redundancy Support Programme

The Redundancy Support Programme assists employers having to make redundancies and providing support to staff who will be losing their jobs

Graduate Challenge

The University of Gloucestershire and Gloucestershire First have joined forces to fund a scheme that provides local businesses with the opportunity to hand-pick recent graduates to undertake projects during a structured four-month work placement.

Environmental Business Management Programme

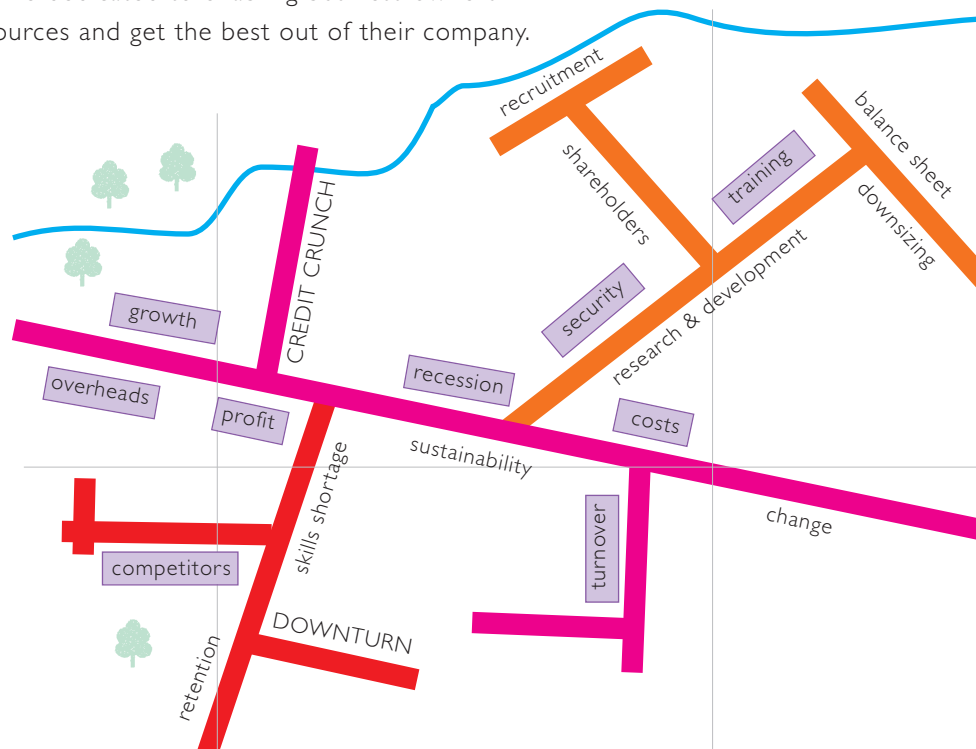
To help improve both business and environmental performance making your company leaner and greener, whilst achieving reductions in operating costs.

Business Development Programme

This is a proven facilitated programme dedicated to enabling business owners and directors to optimise their resources and get the best out of their company.



Training & business support
on your doorstep





The benefits of the business parks project are delivered through Parklife advocates.

For more information about what Parklife might be able to help you achieve with your business, contact:

Cheltenham, Tewkesbury and the Cirencester area

Keith Rog 07771 988 439 parklifekeith@glosfirst.co.uk



Forest of Dean and Stonehouse area

Stuart Barnes 07500 111 556 parklifestuart@glosfirst.co.uk



Gloucester area

Fred Reed 07813 841 742 parklifefred@glosfirst.co.uk



Environmental Business Management Programme

Shaz Siddiqui 07790 226 875 parklifes haz@glosfirst.co.uk



Parklife
BUSINESS
Parks Project

www.parklife.org.uk

01452 450 030

01242 864 195

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