

# GLOUCESTER HERITAGE URBAN REGENERATION COMPANY LTD



## MINUTES OF RESIDENTS & COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING

Venue: GAVCA, 75-81 Eastgate Street Gloucester

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2008**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Business Forum - Board Members</b>	
	Sally Pickering	GHURC Board Member (Chair)
	David Bush	GHURC Board Member
	Mary Smith	GHURC Board Member

<b>Present</b>	<b>Residents &amp; Community Forum – Panel Members and Observers</b>	
	Adele Owen (AO)	Louise Spira (LS)
	John Price (JP)	Mark Boyce (MB)
	Dennis Collins (DC)	Mavis Wall (MW)
	Gordon Barrington (GB)	Mike Pullon (MP)
	Helen Cook (HC)	Philip Lowry (PL)
	Jenny Lappington (JL)	

<b>GHURC</b>	Chris Oldershaw (CO)	GHURC
	Martin Wallace (MWC)	GHURC
	Ian Williams (IW)	GHURC

<b>Refs.</b>	<b>Item Title</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>107/08</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	
	Ian Jarvis, Bryan Lyall, Ian Ellis, Sam Hoad	
<b>108/08</b>	<b>Declaration of Interest</b>	
	Mary Smith – as member of the City Council Planning Committee	
<b>109/08</b>	<b>Minutes of the Residents &amp; Community Forum Meeting held 28<sup>th</sup> May 2008</b>	
	The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and agreed as a true record.	
<b>110/08</b>	<b>Matters arising from the minutes 28<sup>th</sup> May 2008</b>	
	MWC reported that Mike Tilt had made contact with Gloucestershire Court regarding the proposed new Courts development at Great Western Rd and ongoing dialog would be maintained	
<b>111/08</b>	<b>Feedback from the Board meeting</b>	
	David Bush (DB) gave the update. Gloucester Quays: Regarding the Bishops owned land holdings, there had been no progress County Council funding for transport schemes: Julie Girling presented the overview to the Board. He noted that some works were statutory and that there was no additional funding available. The County Council were not prepared to spend money on marketing just to get a message over; Infrastructure levy - to ensure the County were receiving top funding possible; Parkway receiving attention. DB confirmed the Board's approval of a committee set up to look at the feasibility of a main station at the Railway Triangle. MB didn't want to see the URC used as a marketing vehicle for someone else's objective	
<b>112/08</b>	<b>Update Forum Operating Protocols and Membership</b>	
	The revised Residents & Community Protocol were handed out. SP informed the forum of the separate meeting with MWC and progress made in updating the forum	

	<p>membership. Those members who had failed to attend the agreed number of meetings over the period had been contacted by MWc and mutually agreed that they no longer continue on the forum. New members added included the community ambassadors Helen Cook (The docks), Gordon Barrington (Railway Triangle), Maxine Overbury (Greyfriars)</p> <p>SP noted one of the missing representative demographic was that of disability strand</p> <p>PL stated that unless we took an audit of the existing forum we didn't know what disabilities were all ready around the table</p> <p>DC questioned the key responsibilities of the forum</p> <p>PL suggested we relook at the purpose and representations</p> <p>DC wanted us to evaluate the forum</p> <p>LS said that the penny was beginning to drop and now understood its role</p> <p>GB felt that as one of the ambassadors the forum should portray the community</p> <p>JP felt that there should be a review to look at the terms of reference</p> <p>SP stated that the review will form part of the November evaluation</p> <p>HC recognised that as an ambassador her role was to represent community views</p> <p>MB would organise a separate interim meeting to discuss in detail</p> <p><b>It was agreed that further discussion of the purpose of the forum and the issue of representation would be discussed further at the annual review in November.</b></p>	
<b>113/08</b>	<b>Marketing Update:</b>	
	<p>CO confirmed the board had agreed £125,000 for the marketing budget. The URC would contribute £25,000 following the business plan and appointment of the CEO of 'Marketing Gloucester'</p> <p>£15k – Community Video Diary Project</p> <p>£17K – Hoardings (in the Quays, St Ann Way, the Docks) will highlight the projects coming forward</p> <p>£10,000 for the remaining fit-out and costs associated with the Mobile Exhibition unit</p> <p>£5K Vision 2016</p> <p>£5K Exploring the International Dimension – local schools comparison of waterfront regeneration of cities including Norway, Liverpool, Copenhagen, Sweden</p> <p>MP felt that Copenhagen was not an appropriate comparison as it is a capital city</p> <p>CO responded that there were some interesting things especially in Malmo i.e. ECO Homes</p> <p>JP requested a presentation of the International Dimension project.</p>	MWc
<b>114/08</b>	<b>Green Issues (Alney Island)</b>	
	<p>Philip Lowery wanted to ensure that nothing was done to destroy but improve the ecology</p> <p>The URC are proposing a Sculpture park and pedestrian bridge and also an extra deck at the existing ground level Castle Meads carpark currently being used by city council staff</p> <p>Discussions followed regarding the University of Gloucestershire using Blackfriars and making use of efficient heating methods. Other modes of energy might come from using the river as a power source</p>	
	<b>Board Agenda Items</b>	
	<p><b>263/08 Programme Performance Update: Highlights</b></p> <p>CO informed the forum of the good news that Crest Nicholson were proceeding with plans for Merchants Quay</p> <p>A occupier for Southgate Mooring, (the Docks) was imminent</p> <p>Gloucester Quays – The Bishops were not going to proceed for the next 2 years</p> <p>DB wanted to know if the Bishop Development will prevent people walking along the footpath</p> <p>IW responded that the foot path was owned by British Waterways, but there maybe</p>	

	<p>issues managing it in relation to the derelict site          Greyfriars – “Final and best” offers were being assessed by English Partnerships          Social / economic projects – The Regeneration Protocol was also looking at community needs          Public Art – Linkages signed off routes 1 and 4 including Llanthony Rd          Examples were forthcoming from the best practise visit to Dublin where local artists’ paintings could be seen on hoardings          To aid marketing, it was suggested that a photo shoot take place consisting of Ambassadors and forum members so that the general public would have points of contact</p>	<b>MWc</b>
	<p><b>264/08 Public Art Presentation</b>          IW informed the forum that GHURC had employed consultant, Gerry Wall to assist with its Arts programme.          Earthwork Art were possible at Castlemeads          Castlemeads was the designated site for a sculpture park taking into consideration that it is a flood plain          IW gave a detailed presentation of the public arts programme and explained the illustrated images used.          Comments included ‘public art enriches the visitor experience’. There were opportunities for some quality public art at ‘Kimbrose’ steps. IW followed this up by showing examples of work from Anthony Gormley, Simon Hitchins etc.          LS. How will the work be put out, she cited examples of a sculpture trail in the Forest of Dean          DB was mindful that vandalism be taken into account          MS want us to have lots of art and for it to be varied          GB suggested consultation amongst the URC forums          MB cited examples of street furniture following the recent best practice visit to Dublin          JP asked who was on the DRP that would be making the decisions          Earth structures would enhance Castlemeads          PL ask about funding.          GB commented Public Art contributes to the quality of life          The forum wanted commissions for public art to be open tendered</p>	
	<p><b>265/08 Blackfriars Masterplan</b>          Fielden Clegg Bradley had completed the masterplan to drive the regeneration of Blackfriars in the next few years          The University were a key stakeholder dependant on HFKey funding. The County and City council were prepared to move into Blackfriars. The Board would be asked to sign off the proposals. Once the University’s plans are known GHURC would seek to work within that framework          The forum asked about the working relationship with BT          DB expressed reservations of Blackfriars being the linkage. CO explained that Southgate Street had priority due to retail. And then Blackfriars once the detailed plans were known          LS wanted a cycle route included in Castlemeads, planting areas and specialist trees. It was noted that English Heritage are working with GHURC</p>	
	<p><b>266/08 Kings Quarter update</b>          CO gave an update and options evaluation (following the Rowan case study) namely; to go forward jointly with Morely and the City Council or the City Council go it alone. He informed the forum that the panel had selected Niall McLaughlin and Churchman Landscape Architects as the design team for Kings Square Public Realm.          PL asked about ownership stating that maintenance was an important factor.          CO confirmed that it would be City Council owned and options could be built into the</p>	

	<p>agreement which included maintenance obligations MS added that it could form part of a Section 106 Agreement</p>	
	<p><b>267/08 Railway Triangle / Parkway feasibility</b> GHURC had set up a steering group to look at the feasibility of locating the main station at the Railway Triangle. The findings were that this would add extra costs to the scheme. Network Rails position was that there was insufficient capacity and they were committed to the existing central station. Their position was that the best option was for an additional Parkway station. GHURC options were to support improvements at Gloucester Central station and a New Parkway station at Elmbridge Court DB was grateful to represent the views of the forum at the steering group and believed his 42 years on the railways should count for something. The County Council had set its sights on Elmbridge. DB felt the URC's position was fair. He had represented the views of the Residents &amp; Community Forum but felt forced into 2 options. One of the founder partners the County Council were driving this agenda and the URC were tangled up by default. CO There was no question for a CPO of the Railway Triangle vs. Elmbridge Court. MS told of the declining service and higher costs at the Triangle by the rail providers and that it was all about reducing journey times SP asked the forum that given the current situation what should the URC do. MW suggested a paper be prepared and sent on behalf of the community CO informed the forum that LXB (the developer) currently had the legal option on the site but if not exercised it could go back to the market. Network Rail had clearly stated that it did not support a station on the Triangle JP stated his abhorrence that the train service would not come into Gloucester because it would take time LS suggested a separate group make representation to Network Rail DC commented that if Parkway benefited the entirety it could have benefits to the city CO stated the URC have gone as far as it can MW suggested holding back on the Railway Triangle and just have a Magnificent 6 LS suggested having a cycle path to Parkway PL seek right path for a public meeting on the subject and stated that the URC are the dominant factor in changing Gloucester for ages MS commented that people just want the mess cleared up MWc reminded the forum that any further action by individuals or collectively should not be done under the heading of the URC <b>The meeting finally agreed that, given the position of LXB and Network rail, it accepted the GHURC's position. However, it was also agreed that some members of the forum would take further action independently of the GHURC.</b></p>	
	<p><b>270/08 Building on Success DVD –</b> Not shown due to lateness of meeting, differed to September</p>	
115/08	<p><b>AOB -</b> <b>SP noted the duration of time the meetings were taking and did not want to deliberately cut debate and suggested future meetings be scheduled from 6:00pm till 9:00pm</b></p>	
	<p><b>Dates of Future Meetings</b></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Wednesday 24th Sept. 2008, 6:00 – 9:00pm, GAVCA, 75/81 Eastgate Street</li> <li>▪ Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2008, 6:00 – 9:00pm - GAVCA, 75/81 Eastgate Street</li> </ul> <p><b>Note date change to 27<sup>th</sup> due to room unavailability Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup></b></p>	

Author: Martin Wallace