

Western Harbour Advisory Group

Draft Meeting Notes

23rd May 2024, 5.30pm - 8.00pm

City Hall

ATTENDEES

Sandra Fryer	Chair of Bristol Civic Society Member Hotwells & Cliftonwood Community Association Chair of Governors Cotham School	
Nicola Harris	Housing Festival Bristol Diocese	
Paul Hassan	Partnership Development Manager for Ashley Community & Housing (ACH)- refugee integration specialist One City Homes & Communities Board. Harbour Festival Steering Committee 2024	
Richard Holden	Underfall Yard Trust - Trustee	
Rachel McNally	Hotwells and Cliftonwood Community Association (HCCA) - Chair Clifton/Clifton Down / Hotwells & Harbourside Neighbourhood Forum - Co-Chair	
Celia Phipps	Chair of Action Greater Bedminster Member of Friends of Greville Smyth Park	
Steve Shaw	Director of Riverside Garden Centre	
Gerry Swarbrick	Co-Chair of Clifton, Clifton Down, Hotwells & Harbourside Neighbourhood Forum. Founder of Clifton Neighbours	
Bella Warley	Skateable Spaces Development Officer at Skateboard GB.	
Georgia Wigmore	Mature Architecture & Planning student at UWE	
Emily Price	BCC Regeneration Team	EP
Elizabeth Atherton	BCC Regeneration Team	EA
Alex Lifschutz	Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands	AL
Abigail Thomas	Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands	AT
Avril Baker	Avril Baker Consultancy	AB
Domenica Landin	Place Bureau	DL

APOLOGIES

Lorna Allsop	Centre for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CfD). Deaf Alzheimer's Support Group	
Matt Donnelly	Young Bristol Sea Mills Boys' & Girls Club Broad Plain Boxing Club/England Boxing National Association of Boys' & Girls Clubs	
Helen Johnson	Co-founder of the Spike Island Bristol Community Association.	
Matthew Symonds	Lead volunteer for Blooming Bedminster community growing project Secretary of South Bristol Gardening Club	
Richard Walker	Nominated representative of Harbourheads Residents Group	

1.0	Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct	
1.1	A draft copy of the Terms of Reference (TOR) and Code of Conduct (CoC) was circulated on the 20th of May.	Note
1.2	<p>One of the attendees suggested that if a member had to stand down for any reason they may like to have the option of suggesting an alternative member.</p> <p>However, others recognised that their selection was based on a personal application and the importance of the group building a relationship rather than members changing.</p> <p>EP to consider this further and come back to the group.</p>	Action BCC
1.3	The group noted the importance of engaging with a diverse selection of people as part of an inclusive approach to engaging the community.	Note
1.4	It was suggested that the group may want to adjust the TOR as their ways of working develop. With this in mind the document should be regarded as a 'live' one which can be adjusted subject to BCC's and WHAG's agreement.	Outcome
1.5	<p>The group agreed that the document captured the discussion held around ways of working held on the 17th April at the Kick Off meeting.</p> <p>Aside from clarifications regarding the "How will the group work" section the group agreed to the TOR and CoC.</p>	Outcome
2.0	Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands Presentation - Meet the Masterplanners and Q&A	

2.1	<p>EP explained that following an open tender process, Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands had been appointed as the lead masterplanner for Western Harbour and introduced Alex Lifschutz and Abigail Taylor of Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands (LDS) who presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief and Scope of Work • Constraints and opportunities • Activities undertaken so far • Experience on similar projects (Barking Riverside, Kidbrooke Village, London Southbank urban design strategy, Coin Street Leisure Centre) • The wider consultancy team including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands - Architect and Masterplanner • Avril Baker Consultancy - Consultation • Arup - Engineering (Structure, Services and Civils), Environment and Ecology • Beckett Rankine - Marine Engineering • Eadon - Moving Bridges • Jubb - Transport • OP-EN - Landscape • The Townscape Consultancy - Heritage • Social value opportunities associated with LDS' contract 	Note
2.2	There may be opportunity for the team to connect with co-design workshops around skateable spaces.	Note
2.3	<p>The group identified that they would be keen to understand how the Western Harbour project itself would deliver social value, inclusive growth and tangible benefits to the community.</p> <p>For example, by keeping or transferring buildings and community spaces to community ownership.</p>	Note
3.0	Q&A Burning Questions	
3.1	It was agreed that LDS will provide a response to the questions raised by WHAG on Slido	Action - LDS

3.2	<p>A wide ranging discussion was held between WHAG and LDS.</p> <p>Topics discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Plan's alignment with the Western Harbour project • Site capacity and land uses • Balancing the needs of both the existing and future communities in and around Western Harbour • How the site is currently enjoyed and valued by local people and its existing character, qualities and communities. • The importance of building community as the project develops • The varied uses and community of Ashton Meadows and needs of the skateboarding community • Definition of affordable housing • How Western Harbour can contribute to addressing the housing crisis • How the development will be fit for purpose and future proofed and new technologies which may be explored as part of the design process • The role of the site within the strategic transport network (i.e. as the diversionary route for when there is a crash on the M5) • The mechanics and operation of the floating harbour • What makes and defines a neighbourhood • How the Western Harbour project can benefit the entire city 	Note
3.3	<p>LDS clarified that the delivery of the Bristol Avon Flood Strategy will mean the site is no longer in a flood zone.</p> <p>LDS explained that they are keen to avoid over-engineering the site when working through transport and flood solutions.</p>	Note
4.0	<p>Community Scope of Influence</p>	
4.1	<p>BCC presented a draft set of topics within the Community Scope of Influence to WHAG.</p> <p>BCC explained that the degree of involvement and influence the community will have on the various design elements of the masterplan are set out in three categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parts of the masterplan which the community can develop and deliver solutions with us. 2. Parts of the masterplan which the community can help shape alongside other factors. This includes commenting on decisions made throughout the process and helping to develop solutions where possible. 3. Parts of the masterplan which the community will be informed about but have little influence over. 	Note

4.2	<p>The group were invited to identify other topics missing from the list and identified funding and public transport to be missing from the community scope of influence.</p> <p>BCC will add these areas and update.</p>	Action BCC
4.3	<p>The group were keen to understand the impact of the Clean Air Zone (CAZ) on traffic levels through the area. BCC is commissioning a traffic count at major junctions to understand the level of traffic moving through the site.</p> <p>A discussion was held regarding how private car use can be discouraged. The One City Plan champions a 40% reduction in car journeys.</p>	Note
4.4	<p>The group agreed that they would be keen to be informed about wider developments regarding critical and strategic infrastructure to understand the context of the project.</p>	Note
5.0	Community Engagement Strategy	
5.1	<p>As part of WHAG's scope they will also be briefed and have opportunity to shape the Community Engagement Strategy.</p> <p>The next meeting will involve a site walk and discussion on the strategy including how we can creatively engage with the entire city and less heard from groups.</p>	Note
6.0	Future communications and new BCC administration	
6.1	<p>Due to the General Election BCC will enter the pre-election period from the 30th May until the General Election on July 4th 2024</p>	Note
6.2	<p>The Local Elections were held on the 2nd May 2024. The Green Party is the largest party under the new committee system where councillors pick a leader and make decisions on committees. Cllr Tony Dyer has been appointed as Leader of the Council.</p> <p>BCC updated the group on the local election results on the wards within and surrounding the site boundary.</p> <p>Western Harbour will report to the Economy and Skills Committee. Chaired by Cllr Andrew Brown (Liberal Democrat for Hengrove), vice chair Cllr Bartle (Green Party for Easton)</p>	Note

6.3	<p>Following the briefing of the Chair of the Economy and Skills Committee on the 6th June BCC plan to update the website with the names of WHAG and the communities they represent - as well as a centralised email to get in touch.</p> <p>The entire group should confirm via the questionnaire circulated if they consent to the website update.</p>	Action WHAG
7.0	Meeting Summary	
7.1	<p>The group collectively completed a Meeting Summary, this is amended to the Meeting Notes</p> <p>It was agreed we would amend the meeting heading 'We Agreed' to 'We Considered'</p>	Note
8.0	Next meeting	
8.1	Due to limited availability for the next meeting BCC will follow up with an alternative date which will be held on site and include a walkabout.	Action BCC

Western Harbour Advisory Group

Meeting Summary

23rd May 2024

We were presented with...

- Draft Terms of Reference and Code of Conduct
- An introduction from Alex Lifschutz and Abigail Taylor from Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands and Avril Baker from Avril Baker Consultancy.
- The masterplanning team's scope of work and programme
- A draft Community Scope of Influence
- An update on future communications and Bristol City Council's new administration

We considered...

- Agreement of the Terms of Reference (provided this is a live document and subject to agreed clarification)
- The importance of being aware of wider decisions, even if outside of our scope of influence
- The importance of understanding the project's funding strategy
- What makes and defines a neighbourhood
- Shaping a place for the 22nd century and enshrining long term aspirations
- How the Western Harbour masterplan could achieve a reduction in traffic

We want to keep talking about...

- Balancing the existing and future community's needs
- The Community Scope of Influence

We want to talk to our communities about...

- Suggestions and examples of community engagement methods that could be effective for Western Harbour.