

Civic Pride Advisory Board Meeting

Friday 23rd April 2010 - 2.30pm – 5:30 pm
Pittville Room, Municipal offices, Cheltenham

Open Minutes of meeting

Present: Graham Garbutt (Independent Chair)
Stephen Clarke
Tim Cooper for Rob Garnham
Robert Duncan
Simon Excell for Duncan Jordan
Chris Foley for Tony Bray
Richard Hardy
Sarah Irvine
John Morris
Antonia Noble
Andrew North
David Oldham
Michael Ratcliffe
Chris Smith
Bernice Thomson
Daniella Tilbury

Other: Donna McFarlane – Solicitor – One Legal
Amanda Lawson-Smith – GCC Principal Transport Planning Officer
Mark Sheldon – CBC Chief Finance Officer
Wilf Tomaney – CBC Urban Design Manager
Jeremy Williamson (Managing Director)

No.	Item	Action
	GG opened the meeting by welcoming all present to the newly created Advisory Board for Civic Pride which subject to ratification had now completed the recruitment of Board members. He thanked everyone for agreeing to join the Board and for contributing their time and expertise. Members then introduced themselves.	
16/10	Apologies: Mark Hawthorne Diane Savory Rob Garnham – substitute Tim Cooper Duncan Jordan – substitute Simon Excell Tony Bray – substitute Chris Foley	All
17/10	To confirm new Board members GG proposed appointing the following individuals to bring the Board up to full strength. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stephen Clarke – former IT project manager and current chair of Civic Society• Michael Ratcliffe – CEO of independent insurance broker and current chair of Chamber of Commerce• Bernice Thomson – Cheltenham West End partnership and community champion• Diane Savory – Chief operating Officer for Cult LLP and Supergroup PLC bringing a strong retail understanding to the Board. Members endorsed the appointments.	

18/10	Declarations of Interest – none declared.	All
19/10	Implications of Election Purdah AN talked to document to explain implications for Councillors and why some items later in the agenda will not go public until post election.	
20/10	Confirmation of confidentiality of items – unanimously agreed.	GG
21/10	Minutes of previous meeting Members approved the minutes as a true record – although apologies were extended to Richard Hardy who had attended from item 1 but did not appear on the attendance list.	
22/10	Action Matrix and Matters Arising It was noted from the paper previously circulated that almost all actions had either been completed or were on the agenda for further consideration. The single item requiring attention was 08/10 Protocols (i) register of members interests - members were reminded to complete. Agreed JW to circulate an electronic copy as 'reminder'. (ii) Gloucestershire Urban Partnership where further dialogue was anticipated although noted that principles all agreed with partners GG thanked David Oldham for the work he had done to appropriately revise the Memorandum of Understanding.	JW
23/10	Best Practice Members were given two presentations relating to current thinking in highways and transportation. (i) Keith Firth of Buchanans (transport consultants) presented the findings of an extended traffic experiment in Portishead where a complex signal junction was "simplified" by removing the traffic lights. The outcomes of this trial identified greater volumes of traffic passing through the junction per hour, reduced speeds, less "rat-running" and no pedestrian injuries. A similar trial had also taken place in Bristol (junction between Union Street & Broadmead) however due to public perception of 'safety' the traffic lights were re-activated at the end of the trial. Keith Firth identified the St Margaret's / Swindon Road corridor as a prime example of poor traffic flow in Cheltenham and highlighted Monson Avenue, Dunalley Street and St George's Street junctions as potential trial locations. (ii) WT & AL-S talked to a paper previously circulated which was supported by a slide presentation. Focussing upon a visit to Ashford which has created one of the largest shared surface spaces in Europe. The presentation identified both the positive impacts and issues that required further discussion. Specifically in relation to the concerns raised regarding the use of materials and long-term maintenance responsibility, GG suggested that the Public Realm Working Group propose a materials template, implemented as part of the Enhanced Materials Policy, with GCC.	WT/ AL-S
	The public part of the meeting concluded at this point and there was an opportunity for a photograph courtesy of the Gloucestershire Echo.	