# Western Harbour

# Western Harbour Advisory Group



# **Minutes**

| Meeting | Date                 | Time      | Location   |
|---------|----------------------|-----------|--|
|         | 29th January<br>2020 | 4pm – 6pm | Hope Community Church  Hope Chapel, Hope Chapel Hill, Hotwells, Bristol, BS8 4ND |

#### Attendees **Bristol City Council**

Stephen Peacock, Executive Director, Growth & Regeneration

Nuala Gallagher, Director Economy of Place

Adam Crowther, Head of Strategic City Transport

Jon Severs, City Design Manager

Rozina Akram, Senior Project Manager

Louise Madge, Senior External Communications Officer

## **External**

Chair - John Savage, Executive Chairman - Bristol Chamber of Commerce & Initiative

Simon Dicken, Bedminster BID

David Turner, Ashton Gate

John Hirst, Destination Bristol

Chris Bond, Hope Community Church

Matthew Tanner, SS Great Britain

Sandra Meadows, Voscur

David Mellor, Architect

Siena Jackson-Wolfe, Youth Mayor

Alex Hearn, North Somerset Council (Replaces Lucy Shomali)

#### Invited

Ben Lowndes, Social Freddie Palmer, Social

David Carter, WECA

# **Apologies**

James Durie, Business West

Martin Griffith. Ashton Gate

Dennis Gornall, Cumberland Basin Stakeholder Group

Gareth Blacker, Homes England

Ian Wilkinson, Underfall Yard

Mariana Brooke, Homes England (in substitute for Gareth Blacker)

Mohamed Aidid, Youth Mayor

Marti Burgess, City Centre Revitalisation Group

Paul Baker, Bristol Property Agents

Colin Molton, Bristol City Council (now replaced by Stephen Peacock)

Simon Cowley, Mayor's Policy Officer

CC

| Item | Item   |  |  |  |
|------|--|--|--|--|
| 1.   | Welcome and Apologies – John Savage  |  |  |  |
|      | <ul> <li>The Chair led introductions and highlighted a few changes to the Western Harbour Advisory Group (WHAG) – Paul Hassan has had to stand down from this board due to timing constraints, North Somerset Council and Homes England had change their representatives.</li> </ul> |  |  |  |
|      | ACTION 1: Send out updated list of members to the Advisory Group   |  |  |  |
|      | Update (Terms of Reference (ToR) & Set-Up Meeting Note) – John Savage  |  |  |  |
|      | ToR agreed.  |  |  |  |
|      | <ul> <li>Amendment needed to previous minutes – Martin Griffith was not in attendance<br/>instead it was David Turner.</li> </ul>  |  |  |  |
| 2.   | Meeting Note (27 <sup>th</sup> November) – John Savage   |  |  |  |
|      | <ul> <li>Discussion around confidentiality of information shared with the group. It was<br/>suggested that it would be made clear if any information should be considered<br/>confidential.</li> </ul>   |  |  |  |
|      | <ul> <li>Confirmation that minutes should reflect the honest discussion that takes place.</li> </ul>   |  |  |  |
| 3.   | Western Harbour in the context of sub-regional infrastructure –WECA David Carter   |  |  |  |
|      | <ul> <li>David Carter presented a slideshow to the group to outline the proposed scope of<br/>the West of England Infrastructure Investment Strategy and explore the interface<br/>between the strategy and the Western Harbour (WH) project.</li> </ul>                             |  |  |  |
|      | Key points discussed included:   |  |  |  |
|      | <ul> <li>Confirmation that this work is aligned with the One City Plan. It will work on<br/>different levels and scales with the local picture through Bristol City Council, the<br/>regional picture through WECA and the national picture as well.</li> </ul>                      |  |  |  |
|      | <ul> <li>Discussion around the need to link this investment strategy with WH allowing the<br/>project to influence this strategy to help reduce traffic in this area.</li> </ul>   |  |  |  |
|      | <ul> <li>Suggested David Carter's presence at the meeting recognises the importance<br/>placed on strategic growth and how WH will integrate with these plans.</li> </ul>  |  |  |  |
|      | <ul> <li>Confirmed there is not a single pot of money to fund this strategy and a<br/>discussion around how infrastructure followed.</li> </ul>  |  |  |  |
|      | <ul> <li>Government expected to publish an updated infrastructure strategy shortly and<br/>this will inform future infrastructure development.</li> </ul>  |  |  |  |
|      |  |  |  |  |
| 4.   | Western Harbour in the context of Bristol city infrastructure (mass transit etc.) –  |  |  |  |

#### **Adam Crowther**

- Adam Crowther gave a presentation on the proposed mass transit routes plan for phase 1 2020-2025.
- The aim of this work is to build a series of enhanced high-quality bus routes –
  delivering punctuality and reliability by 2025. Some of these routes will pass
  through Western Harbour.
- A key aim is to improve the city centre and make it a more attractive place to spend time in.

# Key points discussed included:

- Confirmation that bus routes are not definite and need further discussion.
- A separate study is taking place in Avonmouth to look at improving transport in this area.
- Need to link these new bus routes into local train networks, and work is being done on improving the train systems.
- Travel links from South Bristol to Avonmouth are lacking, so need to consider this option
- Discussion around the need to encourage interchange between routes similar to other cities like London.
- Noted the possible need to contract out parts of or the entire network to ensure quality and frequency of service.
- Walking and cycling connectivity a priority.

# 5. Communications and Engagement update – Louise Madge/Freddie Palmer

#### Webpage

- Western Harbour webpage has gone live (<u>www.bristol.gov.uk/western-harbour</u>)outlining Western Harbour aspirations, process, stage of development etc.
- The page also provides an opportunity for feedback.
- The page hosts information on the Advisory Group including the Terms of Reference and the meeting minutes.
- The page also links to other projects.

# ACTION 2: Shared link of webpage with the Advisory Group

- The webpage will expand as the work progresses.
- A discussion around what information i.e. the presentations given, could be shared with the group followed. It was suggested that it would be made clear if the information shared was confidential, but the assumption should be that the information is not. In cases like the presentation on mass-transit, the information has not been publicised at the time of the meeting, so the council would not be able to share it with the group as yet.

# ACTION 3: Stephen Peacock and Adam Crowther to discuss further around sharing presentation material

## Hotwells and Harbourside Public meeting

- Confirmation that the Hotwells and Harbourside Public meeting (led by the local Labour Group, not the council) had generally balanced media coverage.
- Feedback from the Mayor's office was that the opportunity to listen to the local community was useful although the format did not allow for the most constructive of dialogues.
- Themes that came up during this meeting were around it seeming to be a transport/car approach, homes should be affordable, scale of building, loss of community space and the impact on residents and businesses.
- Noted that Bristol 24/7 have published a video of the meeting for those interested.

#### Information leaflet

• An information leaflet is being drafted. It will be used to help inform people on the rationale, work to date, aspirations, process and include a link to the webpage.

## Upcoming engagement

- Meeting will be offered by the council to all those within the area identified as Western Harbour in the Local Plan review.
- The Advisory Group will be leading a series of meetings with other stakeholders.
   120 plus stakeholders have been identified with around 20 prioritised to be offered meeting at this stage the approach is also open to meeting with anyone else who would value a meeting.
- The council will continue conversations with statutory stakeholders such as the Environment Agency and Historic England.

# ACTION 4: Stakeholder list to be distributed and the Advisory Group to feedback

- The Advisory Group questioned the choice of stakeholders prioritised particularly the lack of schools represented, those neighbouring the area such as Baltic Wharf Association and Bower Ashton Campus.
  - [All comments were taken into account and the lists and approach have since been updated]
- It was made clear that this engagement is the very beginning of the process.
   Wider consultation and engagement will happen once a masterplan design team have been appointed.
- Comments on the need for engagement with younger groups, and the need to explore how this can be done via schools and key groups i.e Young Urbanists.
- Confirmed a meeting hosted by the Riverside Garden Centre was scheduled for the 26 February. Still confirming the exact format but likely to be for businesses within the area identified as Western Harbour in the Local Plan review.
- The Advisory Group made the point that there was a need to clarify the engagement approach so that there was clarity on what was happening now.

# ACTION 5: Discussion with Dennis Gornall, re stakeholder engagement and work to bring clarity to the approach

- Discussion around need to inspire the public with what the area could bring, for example a 'Tate Bristol', although this example was challenged by some.
- Discussion around potential images to use in promotional material. It was suggested there was a balance to be struck between creating images that would bring to life the aspiration without pre-determining the masterplan process that would-be run-in collaboration with the local communities.

ACTION 6: Group to provide feedback on design pictures that were shared and a separate meeting to be held to discuss

### 6. **AOB**

ACTION 7: Next meeting to include a presentation on the road options to help the Advisory Group to properly understand this.

# **Action Log**

- ACTION 1: Send out updated list of members to the Advisory Group
- ACTION 2: Share link of webpage with the Advisory Group
- ACTION 3: Stephen Peacock and Adam Crowther to discuss further around the sharing of the presentation material
- ACTION 4: Stakeholder list to be distributed and the Advisory Group to feedback
- ACTION 5: Discussion with Dennis Gornall, re stakeholder engagement and work to bring clarity to the approach
- ACTION 6: Advisory Group to provide feedback on design pictures that were shared and a separate meeting to be held to discuss
- ACTION 7: Next meeting to include a presentation on the road options to help the Advisory Group properly understand this.