#### **Western Harbour**

# Western Harbour Advisory Group



#### **MINUTES**

| Meeting           | Date              | Time          | Location               |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| WH Advisory Group | 30 September 2021 | 5.00pm-5.45pm | Join via MS Teams Link |

# Attendees Advisory Group Interim Chair

Emily Price, Regeneration Manager BCC

## **Advisory Group Members**

David Mellor, Architect

Dennis Gornall, Cumberland Basin Stakeholder Group

Martin Griffiths, Ashton Gate Ltd

Matthew Tanner, SS Great Britain

Paul Baker, Bristol Property Agents

### **BCC Representatives**

Abigail Stratford, Head of Regeneration

Adam Crowther, Head of Strategic City Transport

Alice Firebrace, Regeneration Project Officer

Jonathan James, Head of Service - Natural and Marine Environment

Simon Cowley, Mayor's Policy Manager

Stephen Peacock, Executive Director, Growth & Regeneration

#### **Apologies / Declined**

John Savage, Bristol Chamber of Commerce & Initiative (Chair)

Alice Towle, Youth Mayor

Alex Hearn, North Somerset Council

Chris Bond, Hope Community Church

David Turner, Ashton Gate

Gareth Blacker, Homes England

Ian Wilkinson, Underfall Yard

James Durie, Business West Chambers initiative

Marti Burgess, City Centre Revitalisation Group

Sandra Meadows, Voscur

Simon Dicken, Bedminster BID (attended briefly to give apologies)

| Item | MINUTES  |  |  |  |
|------|--|--|--|--|
| 1.   | Welcome and Apologies  |  |  |  |
|      | As the Chair John Savage was unable to attend, it was agreed that Emily Price should chair the meeting in his absence.   |  |  |  |
| 2.   | Previous Minutes   |  |  |  |
|      | The minutes to the previous WHAG meeting on 9 September 2021 were agreed.  |  |  |  |
| 3.   | Western Harbour Emily Price updated the AG on the engagement to date.  |  |  |  |
|      | This has included: - Play Disrupt sessions in the Riverside Garden Centre (x 4), at Easton Community Centre and at Ambition Lawrence Western which were designed to enable an in-depth discussion around perceptions of place from city-wide perspectives A Shape my City session, led by Design West with young people interested in the built environment. |  |  |  |
|      | - A Design West Audio Tour as part of Bristol Doors Open Day and now available on the Harbour Hopes website.   |  |  |  |
|      | <ul> <li>Sessions with City Poet Caleb Perkin on site.</li> <li>A number of online/offline Listening Labs with groups such as the Civic Society, the Harbourside Forum, key community groups from North and South of site.</li> <li>The launch of the website, HarbourHopes.co.uk as well as the Instagram account.</li> </ul>                               |  |  |  |
|      | Further short-term engagement will take the form of: - An online Play Disrupt session.   |  |  |  |
|      | - More Listening Labs, e.g. with water users and with local businesses and residents (invited via post).   |  |  |  |
|      | - Engagement at Docks Weekend in Underfall Yard.   |  |  |  |
|      | Next steps: - There will be an analysis of the engagement so far. The plans for the next stage of visioning will be based on this analysis.  |  |  |  |
|      | Emily Price proposed another AG meeting on the 14th of October to update on the analysis and the next steps agreed (See note in item 6). This would come in time for the Mayor's State of the City address on 20th October.  |  |  |  |
|      | <u>Discussion:</u>   |  |  |  |
|      | A WH AG member asked about the difference between the current and next stages of engagement. They noted that there had been little time between the announcement of engagement and the engagement itself.  |  |  |  |
|      | They also noted that they knew a few people who had been unable to secure a place at the engagement sessions. They feared that many people who wanted to contribute could not do so due to a lack of spaces.   |  |  |  |
|      | Abigail Stratford offered to feed this into the forthcoming reflections and analysis. She noted that part of the reason that the next stage of the engagement had not been defined yet, was to ensure it responded to reflection and feedback on the engagement so far.  |  |  |  |

Stephen Peacock added that it was important that those who wanted to contribute were able to. He asked for the engagement analysis to be shared with WHAG.

Emily Price noted that the existing method was designed to stimulate in-depth conversations with people through the smaller Play Disrupt sessions, with breadth provided by Listening Labs and the website. It was hoped that this approach would support quality engagement. In addition, she noted that there had been an appreciation from attendees that the Riverside sessions were run in a Covid safe way.

Another AG member noted that the team should not rush to analyse the data in time for the Mayor's address on 20<sup>th</sup> October.

Simon Cowley said that there was no expectation that a completed analysis should be presented but noted instead it is a way to share what's going on with the City.

One AG member had attended one of the Listening Lab sessions offered to community groups and noted that groups such as neighbourhood forums had not been invited so far and that it would be helpful for groups such as this to be included in the future.

Abigail Stratford noted that the forthcoming reflection would inform the design of the second half of the engagement. As well as what has gone well and what hasn't, this would also draw out insights into emerging themes. She noted that the first stage of the process was to hear people's ideas, and that this next stage would focus on narrowing these into the themes and place principles for the vision.

# Action 1. EP to share the engagement analysis.

An AG member brought up a recent Bristol Post article (28<sup>th</sup> Sept). They asked what could be done to communicate the breadth and depth of engagement that is currently underway.

Emily Price said that she would welcome WH AG's assistance in getting this message out, the website and Instagram would continue to be kept up to date otherwise.

# Action 2. Emily Price to prepare a short paragraph with the website link to help WH AG get the word out about the engagement.

Abigail Stratford said that they were working to monitor comms and that they anticipated immediate responses such as these. She noted that the mayor's address could be a positive opportunity to present a fuller picture of the engagement.

A member of the AG picked up on the point that it looked like the Play disrupt session in Easton and Lawrence Weston were open to 'local residents only', whereas the Riverside sessions were 'open to all'. He reflected that it felt like people local to Western Harbour therefore hadn't been offered a dedicated session, especially given that some had found it difficult to secure a place. He spoke of a perception that a city-wide conversation may happen at the expense of locals. Even if this is not the case the optics of this are important.

Emily Price noted that dedicated sessions had been set up for local groups but in some

|           | instances numbers attending had been poor. This will be reflected on in the next stage of the engagement.   |
|-----------|---|
|           | There will be an online WHAG meeting later in October to provide an update on the engagement analysis so far. At the November session there will be an update on the Harbour Operations review. |
|           | A member of the AG noted that attendance at WH AG meetings had fallen off significantly. They reflected that some did not sufficiently understand the importance of attendance.                 |
| Action 3. | Make clear in future WHAG invitations that the importance of full attendance at meetings.   |
| 5.        | AOB   |
|           | There was no AOB  |
| 6.        | Date of next meetings:  |
|           | Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> October 21 <b>NOTE: The date of this meeting has been rearranged to the 21<sup>st</sup></b>   |
|           | October.  |
|           | Thursday 25 November 21   |