

York Central Community Forum

Date: **Monday 16 October 2017**
 Time: **17.00 – 19.00**
 Place: **City of York Council, Hudson Board Room, West Offices**

In attendance

NAME	ORGANISATION
INDEPENDENT CHAIR	
The Very Revd Vivienne Faulk	Dean of York Minster
HOLGATE	
Cllr Crisp	Holgate Ward Councillor
Paul Scott	Friends of Holgate Community Garden
David Finch	Friends of Leeman Park
Andy Richardson	Wilton Rise
Peter Fisher	St Pauls Square Assn
James Pitt	Friends of West Bank Park (substitute for Laura Outhart)
Rob Askew	St Barnabas Church
Peter Emsley	St Peters Quarter
MICKLEGATE	
Cllr Crawshaw	Micklegate Ward Councillor
Cllr Kramm	Micklegate Ward Councillor
Hussein Syed	Chair Micklegate Neighbourhood Plan Forum
WIDER CITY/ OTHER	
Phil Bixby	York Environment Forum
Nick Bosanquet	Former Kings Cross Camden Cllr, Professor of Health & wellbeing
Bob Towner	York Older People's Assembly
Alison Sinclair	Conservation Area Advisory Panel
Ian Williams	Chamber of Commerce/ York Property Forum
Sean Heslop	York RI (substitute for Nigel King)
Andrew McBeath	Commercial Property
Chris Bailey	Chair york@large, Arts & Culture
Andrew Lawson	York Business Improvement District
Steve Maxwell	Leeman Road Millennium Green Trust
Katherine Blaker	York Central Action
Y C PARTNERSHIP	
Judith McNicol & Tom Devine	National Railway Museum
Jayshree Patel	Homes and Communities Agency (substitute for Tamsin Hart, now Tamsin Jones)
Mike Stancliffe	Network Rail
Tracey Carter	CYC Assistant Director Regeneration and Asset Management
Katherine Atkinson	CYC Commercial Projects
Specialist advisors depending on agenda	Nicole Harrison, Arup Tim Downs, Aberfield

NOTE OF MEETING

1. Opening business

1.1 Welcome & apologies

Vivienne Faull welcomed the group, new members and substitutes (Sean Heslop, James Pitt and Jayshree Patel). Judith McNicol has replaced Paul Kirkman to represent the National Railway Museum, and was joined by Tom Devine.

Apologies were received from:

Cllr Derbyshire	Holgate Ward Councillor
Cllr Cannon	Holgate Ward Councillor (substitute for Cllr Derbyshire)
Steve Roberts	Poppy Road Poppy Project
Marc Allinson	Micklegate Business Initiative
Rob Bennett	South Bank Multi Academy Trust
Sue Hogge	York Blind & Partially Sighted Society
Neil Ferris	CYC Corporate Director, Economy and Place
Catherine Birks	CYC Commercial Projects

1.2 Notes of last meeting 07/02/17

The notes of the last meeting were agreed as correct.

1.3 Matters arising

- Privacy consent forms had been completed by new members. A full contact list has been circulated to forum members, and names only have been placed on CYC website to enable members to fulfil their representative role.
- Met on 22 August to preview the access options material.

2. YCCF Terms of Reference

The groups terms of reference had been circulated so that we could be clear on remit. The forum is a key liaison mechanism for York Central Partnership, alongside other mechanisms.

3. Access Options

Mike Stancliffe presented an overview of the consultation, event statistics and consultation feedback including impact criteria ranking and topics raised from the free form responses.

Next steps/ decision process:

- YCP will make a recommendation on its preferred access route into the development site on **27 October**
- CYC write comprehensive report which will be published on **7 November** including supporting information
- CYC take YCP recommendation to CYC Executive on **15 November**. Executive members will decide whether they accept CYC position in YCP

preferred option and agree to proceed with next stage of pre- application work.

Some anger and frustration was expressed that YCP couldn't give the forum members the information to share with their respective bodies immediately. This is not always possible if it is draft or privileged information.

- The free form response structure was welcomed.
- The online feedback forms did not collate the age of respondents, which may have attracted a younger demographic. Need to record demographic information for all formats of responses next time.
- The scale of Arup's job in collating this data was recognised by the forum.
- The cost of the options was questioned - can southern option mitigate the loss of Holgate Community Garden by providing a new site? Would a more expensive option result in other schemes such as the A64 loosing out on transport funding?
 - The scheme design will need to evolve significantly, and mitigation will need to be applied. Costs will change over time and proportional comparisons of cost have been used to date for this reason. Ultimately it is for the partners to decide if the preferred option is affordable.
- No assessment criteria or weighting will be applied. Each partner has their own scheme of delegation to arrive at a decision. For CYC this decision will be taken by CYC Executive, who will make an on balance decision following debate in public.

Action:

- Email the Arup access options consultation report to the forum as soon as it is signed off by YCP to enable YCCF members to share information with their groups to seek their views.
- Email the link to CYC Executive report and papers to the forum when published on 7 November, including forum presentation slides and details/ deadlines on how to register to speak at the Executive meeting.

4. Next Phase of Consultation

Tracey Carter presented what YCP have learnt from consultations to date and noted that setting dates to fit the timetable of what YCP can say when can be challenging due to the complexity of the project and multiple partner reporting processes.

What we have learned so far:

- Timings and length of consultation
- Venue suitability
- Pre-promotion
- Broadening participation
- Clarity of information presented

- Access to appropriate data
- Need for trust
- YCP welcome open feedback and want the next consultation to create positive, constructive discussion.

YCP have heard frustration that the community are not setting the vision for the site now. This is not the start or the end of the scheme. Work has been underway for many years, and the next stage will be an outline application for the site (including full details of the access road). This will not provide a definitive plan of the proposed development, but will seek to establish its scale and nature, before a fully detailed proposal is put forward in subsequent reserved matter applications. Much work is still to come. The next consultation will embed our aspirations for future planning applications.

What has been decided and will be embedded in the masterplan?

- The broad mix of uses and quantum of housing and business use – driven by identified citywide drivers and viability
- There will be one access road and the route will be decided by then
- The need for a park aligned along the path of Holgate Beck
- Support for proposals to extend the National Railway Museum

Next consultation:

Tim Downs introduced questions for consideration by the table groups regarding how the next consultation can be improved, and outlined proposed themes for the masterplan consultation.

The next consultation will commence in January 2018.

Feedback:

One key point was fed back from each table (underlined), with a full write up listed below.

A) Judith's group

1. How can we consult to ensure a world class quality site, driven by mixed use development is delivered?
2. How can we learn from cities who have done it well?
3. Better understanding of the history of the site
4. Top quality development will attract people
5. Minimise cars on site
6. Manufacturing – bring jobs back into York

B) Tom & Nicole's group

1. Prior Notification
 - Issue a headed letter to invite people to the events – this feels more personal and official than a leaflet.

- It is important to reach as many people as possible living 1-2 miles from the site.
- Promotion by York Central Action raised the profile of the access consultations.

2. Events

- The Access Consultation events were described as good, though the need for the wider demographic was flagged.
- It was noted that the YCA Conference was well run and attended.
- The Priory Centre (on Priory Street, off Micklegate) was suggested as a potential venue to host the consultation.
- Be mindful that January will be a dark month and need to think carefully about people walking to events. NRM, whilst having great internal spaces, was not thought an idea venue to leave in the dark.

3. Collecting Feedback

- It is important to show that all views matter and people will be listened to.
- People have survey fatigue so we need to think of other ways of collecting feedback (facebook polls, twitter polls, focus groups, recording conversations).
- If the themes are separated out (i.e. #work York central and #live York central) how will the cumulative impact be captured as not all things will complement one another.
- Engage with universities to collect views of younger people after all they will be future custodians of YC. Young people talk to young people, so use young people at the consultation events.
- It was felt it would be hard for people to comment on some aspects such as the mix of businesses, so perhaps there should be more focus on consulting on things like parks, green spaces etc
- Having a physical model with components that can be moved would be helpful (much easier for people to grasp than plans)
- Could people be asked to comment in an ad hoc fashion, tacked on to other business, i.e. whilst you are West Offices, could you just give us your thoughts on x, y and z at York Central.

C) Tim's group

1. Reaching younger people

- There is a need to reach younger people but also the parents of those young people
- Quite often we might only be able to reach one parent at a time
- Can we go where parents are and they might have a few minutes to digest information while kids are engaged e.g. Hungry House or Creepy Crawlies

2. Need to engage with Universities

- Not just to listen to the current students but to make sure that those in 8-10 years' time have a stronger reason to stay
 - Can we liaise with the universities to engage relevant students with projects related to York Central (e.g. York RI had used University of York's www.yorkcommunityconsulting.co.uk)
3. Create over-arching themes for the consultation and for what we ask people to contribute to e.g. create a futuristic vision based on technological development
 - Use this to focus consultation questions
 - Use a brief for younger audiences
 4. Create a CAD 3D fly through of the development
 - Could it be flexible so that people can build up and create their own versions of York Central
 5. Could we take over the Everyman cinema and show different short films in relation to different aspects of the masterplan
 6. We need make sure it is explained in relation to the rest of the city
 - Asking people what is missing elsewhere in the city
 - We need a major adaptive building / conference centre
 7. Commissioning artists
 - Create a viewing platform similar to the Olympic Park
 - Get them to create a series of artworks representing the history of the site

D) Jayshree's group

1. YCP should employ a consultancy that has expertise in Community Engagement rather than a branding company
2. Consistency on what information can and what cant be released
3. Engagement with young people
4. Need better information on that masterplan so comments can be informed.
5. Need to better understand the relationship with the wider transport infrastructure in the city centre.
6. Need to be clear on implications on surrounding roads and street in terms of access and connectivity – inc. Salisbury Road and St Peters Court.
7. Clear information in connectivity of the site with the rest of the city centre and adjoining neighbourhood including Acomb, Poppleton and Holgate.
8. Use of augmented reality (fly through) to understand how the site will work.
9. Would like information on phasing over the life of the development and overall timescales.
10. Making site the events capture all components of the development.
11. Provide funding to allow community groups to organise and run their own events to capture ideas and feed into the wider process.

E) Tracey's group

1. City semi-permanent drop in and events space.
2. How will cross cutting themes be threaded across the discussion 'zones'?
3. Need longer term engagement in building out and delivery.
4. Use York Central Action pop up events.
5. Need to inhabit the site to understand it – site visits, or virtual reality tour, minecraft world or viewing platform to feel the space.

5. Any other business

- Bob Towner noted the opportunity to feed into the Local Plan consultation which runs until 30 October.
- Nick Bosanquet suggested YCP look at a contingency option of phasing the project if deadlock is reached on the access road, whereby phase one could be delivered without a new access road. World class examples such as Copenhagen are pedestrianised.
- Katherine Blaker invited training session on how to influence key decision points in planning, 10-1, Saturday 18 November, join York Central Action mailing list.

6. Close of meeting

VF thanked everyone for their attendance and input.

It has been useful to be briefed about the outcomes of the access consultation, and we will be able to share and use what we have learnt fully with our groups very soon.

Next meeting - date TBC, provisionally December

KA 23/10/17