



## MINUTES

**Meeting:** Carriageworks Cultural Plan and Public Art Strategy Final Public Consultation Discussion  
**Present:** Open Public Meeting of Approx 37 people facilitated by Jane Willis (Willis Newson) and attended by members of PG Group, Carriageworks Action Group and général public  
**Venue:** The Citadel, Salvation Army  
**Date:** Septeber 12 2018  
**Time:** 6:30-8pmpm

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ITEM	ACTION	DATE
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**1. Introduction:** Jane gives overview of the process and who we are. Jane gives summary of proposals for Cultural Plan and Public Art Strategy. Questions and discussions to take place at the end.

1. Introduction and Executive Summary:

Overview of the Carriageworks development and rationalisation of the need for a Cultural Plan and Public Art Strategy. It ensures that the development is vibrant, active and ensure that it is more than simply a building.

2. Vision:

We are creating a framework and strong foundation for something sustainable to be realised in the future. NOT trying to replicate programmes and orgs that are here but will be developing partnership and network organisation that supports activity that is inspirational, ambitious, exciting but importantly locally led by setting up a Community Company that will manage the programme.

(Jane shares diagram of the construct)

Company is about good practice, centre of excellence, accountable and fundable to a number of funders - Arts Council England, Heritage Lottery Fund etc

- a. Public Space
- b. Community/Project Space
- c. Programme of Commissions (Heritage in Years 1-3)

We will build on what has gone before to take it to the next stage.



3. Aims - High Quality, Diverse, Celebrates local culture and heritage, Bringing people together, Supporting local people - supporting high quality and best practice - mix of local and international and everything will need to be diverse - create a space where everyone feels welcome. Celebrating local culture and heritage and build bridges. Shared projects and partnership projects.
4. Values - Strongly held value systems across the local area we have summed up - inclusive, diverse, creative, high quality, ambitious, grass roots and sensitive to local needs - we are not saying that this is the values but that this is what we are hearing and that the Community Company develop their own values system that will determine how the programme and projects are commissioned - Have a Value Led Policy - i.e., do all staff have Mental Health Training? This organisation will be values-led.
5. Community Company - Someone needs to drive this forward with clear transparent governance and decision-making - manage any staff and programme.

Sustainability - we need to create a business model but the ambition is to have the core funding secured for the first 3 years as a foundation to move forward from.

6. Community Space - the project needs a home/space - space for offices, workshops, meeting space.
7. Outdoor Arts and Events - need a programme of events in the public realm - busking, puppet shows, circus etc
8. Heritage - First 3 years focussed on this theme from hoardings to a permanent public art commission for the site to developing a digital archive and exhibition of the heritage moving forward.
9. Market - always part of the thinking - it is about consuming and experience - by putting the cultural plan and market together, we are hoping we create destination and experience and draw people together and in.
10. Next Steps - The process is that we want feedback today (been here since 2pm) - all the plans will be posted on the PG Consultation website - now we need to take your thoughts and make it a workable plan - budgets, timeframes, frameworks etc - will write this for Nov 27<sup>th</sup> and it will be submitted to Planning.

## 2. Q&A Session:

50% been involved before in the room.

1. *Will the commercial spaces be included in the Cultural Plan?*



Good point, something that has been brought up today - could have a great cultural programme or market programme but if the cafes/shops are part time or commercial etc could threaten things - need the right mix of tenants and programme to make the square lively - we are looking at how the Cultural Plan values support who goes into the commercial space - trying to create an ecology that will get those spaces to work together.

*2. If you want to create a community space that attracts people then what about public toilets? And if we have them, then what happens when a demographic moves in?*

Prue - CAG have talked about toilets a lot - interested in one that washes itself after each use - There is a toilet for market traders only - we do not have any good answer for this issue at the moment. There is no clear answers.

*3. Finance and Money - PG are paying for WN to coordinate all this right now - but what will it look like in the future? What is the community space looking like and at what point does funding take over to ensure it is sustainable?*

- a. PG Group need to write this and give it funds to make it work. We could run a fully funded programme for 3 years and then it stops but as we want sustainability and longevity, we are looking to fund this in part with PG funds and we fund with the other match to secure the programme for the first 3 years. For the funding we need, we have to be ambitious to secure the funding moving forward.

*4. Monique - Works for Arts Council England and a local resident - it is really considered about the ecology - remember to think of the model of governance (CIC or COC) so you can leverage the funding you need.*

*5. Back to Toilets - direct people to use local businesses - put a sign up and encourage it - businesses locally need to facilitate the ecology.*

*6. Will the PG Group be operating the leases on the commercial units? That is to be decided. No firm plan. PG are open to ideas and not saying no at this stage. We need to get this built and started to begin to vision around this.*

*7. What it looks like internally will be very important to how the space is hired and used - need a welcome design (no metal shutters) to attract the right tenants.*

There has been a lot of discussion around daytime/night time economy - there are residential flats so on one hand, you need quiet in the night - some early evening events but the issue of managing noise will be important - at night time there will not be a lot going on there - there is a potential security issue with this - space will be lit and there will be CCTV but it does need thinking about in more detail

A lot depends on who moves in - the residents will be majorly represented - there is only so far you can go with a dream and vision without the people shaping it.



Sam - Wapping Wharf took time to settle - businesses moving in and moving out to establish the right vibe and vibrancy for the site - the most important thing is that whatever is set up has the ability to make adjustments.

8. *Could the little shops have basements?* No, there are not any. Not affordable.

9. *Where are the entrances and exits?* Jane points this on the map. No entrance onto Hepburn Road.

It is important to remember that having events in the space will run events that are non-disruptive but will mean that you would have less noisy, disruptive events happening in the space if you do not.

10. *Lori* - I want to talk about the Carriageworks Action Group community vision (drawn up in December 2011) - need to tie the Cultural Plan in with a management plan on the ground floor and the accommodation - I have not heard if that has been addressed 'Good design as well as management will need to be exercised to avoid conflict with other site users.' - Jane clarifies, 'what does that mean?' *Lori* - It is about the whole of the ground floor and how it will be managed and integrated and how the community activity will be integrated into the whole development. The Management Plan has to speak to the Cultural Plan. CAG has evolved over the years, set out a vision statement that needs to be reflected in the Cultural Plan work - holistic reflection. We want this to be reflected in the management plan too.

*Sam* - WN are asking us to think about the management plan - they are trying to influence it - we are in chicken and egg situation where one is trying to inform the other - so we have decided to have this consultation to get the community feed in and then use this to influence and create the management plan. They need to be integrated at some point. Feel the values of the CAG process are here in the Cultural Plan.

11. *Joel* - need to have some say in the values of the design. Need an acoustic designer involved. PG agree - we do work closely with consultants and architects to take this into consideration.

12. *Will the courtyard be covered?* No. Could there be upper areas, like an Elizabethan theatre? Could add richness.

13. *Rachel Devas* - a Flat space allows more flexibility.

14. *Where is the idea that quite a lot of this would be workshops (from previous CAG meetings) and community space?*

The space currently earmarked for a community space is getting on 900sq meter - rehearsal space, meeting space ideas are being built into this but it is not large.



Studio spaces need large spaces, shared spaces, as rents are high and not viable - but some artists that do not need huge spaces (illustrators, jewellers, potters etc) - workshop as a shop would work. Shared shop. All possible but depends on creating a canvas that will attract those people. We can encourage people and a value statement to rent it but we cannot confirm who would or could take up this space.

We do have the market - people who make have the opportunity to have a place for micro-businesses to make a start.

Using the values to inform the marketing materials for the commercial space creates an identity and atmosphere that attracts. Collectives, designers etc.

*15. Have you considered the needs of the residents on the other side of the development (St Pauls)? How will the development reflect these residents?*

There is a discussion about renting the commercial spaces. The programme space and the community space could work symbiotically - we could invite people with good skills that support the local area rent the units. Would like to see something for local businesses reserved - learn to bring on business - business enterprise organisation?

*16. The bottom line is how can this 'gentrification benefit the local community? How can it work for us?*

*17. What is going to happen to Kuumba Centre who run projects late in the evening with the flats running up against them? Kuumba do not have the licensing in place to run as late as they do. They are in contravention of their planning conditions. They run on till 2am. The onus is on anyone who moves into an area to inform and chose. They do not have a right to complain about existing activity.*

*18. What is the process in getting from here to a Cultural Plan? We are hearing cautious optimism and a desire to hear how we can make it more achievable. The next stage is to do the reality check - how many market stalls can we get into this space? What is a deliverable budget? What is the time frame and process to make that happen? When do we set up the community company? Final doc to go to Steering Group at end of October for meeting in November and then launched in November.*

*19. What criteria will you be using to decide what is in and what is out? We have already run some outline budgets and what we have put up here is not unrealistic at all. Hoping that if this is what people want to see then how do we make it realisable? Need to speak with PG about design. If there is a real push come to shove and things need to be dropped we will come back to you.*

*20. What is the commitment from PG Group? Sam - This is a difficult question to answer - 3 years down the road and it is going wrong then what happens - PG are not experts in running community spaces but we are a small organisation and the PG Group benefits from*



its reputation and if we simply chuck money in and walk away our reputation would be ruined. This site has so many eyes on it (nationally) so it is vital we work to make this happen.

*21. Can you see the value of the Cultural Plan for the Commercial Value? If this works it will be economically viable - will it have reputation of quality and benefit?*

**3. Closing** - Thanks to everyone in the local area for the level of passion and commitment to make this happen. Be proud of the commitment! Thanks to CAG for turning up to make this happen year on year on year.

Thanks and ends.