

Minutes: Resident Steering Group Presentation

Date of meeting Wednesday 28 October, 6pm

Topic Exmouth Estate Resident Steering Group (ERSG) Presentation

Location Zoom

Present for Members

- Ann Ahern (AA)
- Mangala Dharmachari (MD)
- India Cummins (IC)
- Tony Wright (TW)
- Steve Willmott (SW)
- Gareth Hadd~~o~~ew (GH)
- Barbara Holland (BH)

Present for Project Team

- Communities First**
 - Louis Blair (LB) (Chair)
- Swan**
 - Sean Kelly (SK)
 - Abdullah Hossain (AH)
- Four Communications**
 - Sam Nolan (SN)
- Levitt Bernstein**
 - Mark Keagan (MK)
 - Padraic Larkin (PL)
 - Rosa Fiore (RF)
 - Abiel Hagos (AH)
- Barton Willmore**
 - Greg Pitt (GP)
- LDA Design**
 - Laura Mackie (LM)

ITEM	DETAIL
1. Welcome	<u>Welcome</u> The Chair welcomed everyone to the session and opened proceedings. Apologies were received from Rothna Begum.

<p>2. Presentation and discussion</p>	<p><u>Presentation</u></p> <p>MK presented on the most recent proposals, including the latest building footprint, the latest massing and elevation proposals for the four blocks, the proposed ground floor plan and the MUGA.</p> <p>LM presented on the latest landscaping and placemaking proposals including the emerging character areas and the tree retaining strategy.</p> <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <p>TW raised concern about the height of block B and the impact it may have on Cornwood Drive, suggesting the block should be lower. TW also questioned the design of block C2, suggesting it looked gated and tower-like.</p> <p>MK said the team were looking into how the blocks sit together and this was an area of consideration.</p> <p>MD noted concern with the proposed height of block D and was worried about the impact on sunlight on neighbouring properties. MK said they were currently testing different options to see the impact of each block on sunlight and the testing may result in adjusting the massing of the block.</p> <p>IC said she was surprised about the amount of community and commercial space being proposed and asked whether it would be reduced <u>replaced with residential units</u> in order to lower the overall heights of the blocks.</p> <p>MK said there was a need to reprovide existing space and by putting the MUGA within block D, more green space is freed up. GP noted how LBTH planners would consider it unsuitable to have residential units on the ground floor facing Commercial Road.</p> <p>IC asked what was likely to take up the spaces on the ground floor commercial units and expressed concern with empty units. SK said it would perhaps be used by commercial enterprises such as a community café and that the team want to create spaces which are well used.</p> <p>SW noted the height of the block opposite the Church of St Mary & St Michael and asked whether the impact on the church had been considered. MK said they were aware of the significance of the church and its architecture and townscape work was being conducted to assess the impact. MK also noted Commercial Road was a very wide street so the impact would be limited.</p> <p>GP noted the team were engaging with LBTH conservation and heritage officers in the coming months. SK said the team would like the opportunity to speak to the Church. <u>BH advised she would raise the matter with Father Willy about meeting with Swan.</u></p> <p>BH asked if the plan was to close off Summercourt Road to create play space. LM confirmed that was the design intent.</p> <p>BH asked whether the MUGA would be soundproofed as there was currently issues with noise from the existing basketball court. MK said the MUGA would have open sides but the design would mitigate sound to some extent. SK noted access to the MUGA would be managed, unlike the existing space.</p>

	<p>IC asked if the meeting with the George Tavern had taken place. SK confirmed it had and was a successful meeting.</p> <p>IC asked if the plans for the outdoor gym equipment was still going ahead. AH said the scheme was currently on hold but was being reviewed to see if it could be incorporated in the new proposals.</p> <p><u>IC noted that there had not been any mention recently about the estate fund that was promised early in the consultation process and asked if it still formed part of the offer to the community. SK confirmed Swan were still committed to this offer and that discussions on how best to invest this into the estate would be had with the ERSG in due course.</u></p> <p>MD said he preferred the look of the previous plans as the new façade seemed darker and heavier. MK said it was work in progress and welcomed the feedback.</p> <p>GH asked if an indoor gym was being considered to ensure residents were still able to use the equipment during the winter. SK said the MUGA would not be completely outdoors and further discussions about the MUGA were to be had to make the best use of the space. <u>SK welcomed any input GH had for sports provision in the MUGA given his experience in this field.</u></p>
3. Future presentations	<p><u>Future presentation</u></p> <p>The next online session will be 2 December 2020 at 6pm.</p>
4. AOB	<p>SK said the next Estate-wide consultation would take place the w/c 7 December.</p>