

The City Together **Transport and Sustainability Forum**

Tuesday, 25th May 2010

Meeting Notes, plenary meeting

1 – Welcome and introductions

The chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting. Introductions were then provided by all those gathered at the meeting.

2 – Ratifying the Elections Protocol and collection of ballot papers

The arrangements for the election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman of The City Together Transport and Sustainability Forum were clarified and ratified. Ballot papers were circulated to all those present and votes were cast for the positions. Once the votes had been counted, it was confirmed that Sarah Carey (British Land) had been elected as Chairman and Andrew McMurtrie (Smith and Williamson) elected as Deputy Chairman for the ensuing year.

3 - Minutes from the last meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting on 2nd March 2010 were agreed as an accurate record. The following matters arising were raised:

- Cycle parking, Bike Week and All Change would be discussed further under Any Other Business
- The chairman referred to Earth Hour on 22nd March 2010 and congratulated the City for profiling and implementing the initiative, which had been very successful and had prompted a large number of City businesses, City of London premises and commercial properties to switch off their lights during Earth Hour.

4 – Feedback from the working groups

Waste and Recycling in the City

The site visit to the transfer station at Walbrook Wharf had been very interesting, providing the group with the opportunity to see how the river and barges were being used as part of the City's waste and recycling processes. It was noted that with the increase in recycling activities and a decline in general waste, greater emphasis would be placed on developing future recycling facilities for the City and this may therefore have an impact on use of Walbrook Wharf. The large wharf roof would be refurbished in due course with solar panels fitted to provide a sustainable supply of energy.

Greening Group

Greening group projects:

- The deadline for entries for the "Beyond the Hive" architectural competition was 7th May 2010 and, following a very successful competition, five designs had been selected. Images of the chosen designs were displayed to the group. The shortlisted teams will construct their insect hotels at one of five public gardens within the City between 7th and 19th June 2010. An expert panel and the public will, once the designs

have been constructed, select a winner after the 19th June 2010. A formal prize giving will take place in July 2010. All of the designs will feature in the Architects Journal and thereafter on the British Land's website. It was noted that the competition had been a success as a result of the co-operation and collaboration between the City and British Land.

- Linked to the "Beyond the Hive" competition, an educational yet fun painting/drawing competition for all children living and/or attending school in the City is underway. The deadline for entries is July 2010. Children are invited to submit pictures of insect hotels. The winning entries will be displayed on hoarding around the Crossrail development site at Finsbury Circus later in the year. Christine Cohen will judge the entries and has kindly offered to present the winning entries with prizes.

Other events and projects:

- Allotments – Jane Beckett had successfully secured funding and land on which a number of mini allotments could be developed. 24 people were involved in the project and 15 more were on the waiting list to obtain a mini allotment. Sarah Hudson extended thanks to Jane Beckett and the Open Spaces Team for their work on the project.
- The Forum's Middlesex Street gardening project was reported to still be in the planning stages. It was agreed that the relevant officers would be informed about the Golden Lane allotment project.
- A Green Roof Congress would take place in September 2010. British Land's green roof ideas and also data about the success of the green roof concept would be made available to the Forum. It was suggested that this matter be discussed further at the next meeting so that good practice could be disseminated and considered.

5 – Presentations

London Buses by Anna Rickard

Anna Rickard gave a short presentation about the work that had been undertaken by London Buses to reduce the environmental impact of the bus fleet, specifically its efforts to reduce exhaust emissions. A powerpoint presentation was used to provide an overview of the bus fleet and the environmental impact of the bus fleet; key facts regarding the London bus fleet; bus environmental programmes; hybrid and fuel cell bus trials; refuelling processes and the timescales for future actions.

A number of questions were raised after the presentation regarding manufacturing of the buses, the comparative costs of hydrogen and diesel; and any potential safety implications of using/storing liquid hydrogen.

6 – Local Development Framework Update

Derek Read (Planning and Transportation) provided an update on development of the Core Strategy, outlining the consultation activities that had been undertaken thus far and those activities that were scheduled in the future. Following extensive consultation in November/December 2009, a revised draft of the Core Strategy was currently being considered at various formal committees, ahead of consideration by the Court of Common Council later in the year. Following implementation in September 2010, the Planning Inspectorate would host a public enquiry to consider any further comments before a final

version of the Core Strategy was agreed and implemented. Christine Cohen commented on the complexity of this work and thanked officers for the work that had been undertaken.

7- Any other business

Bike Week - Jenette Coduto (City of London, Transport Policy and Development) updated those present about Bike Week, which was scheduled to take place between 19th and 27th June 2010. A launch day would take place on 18th June 2010 outside St Paul's Cathedral (Church Yard) with a range of activities planned in partnership with the City Police, TfL and the City's Road Safety Team. A thousand people were expected to attend the event which would include a cycle breakfast, a raffle, road safety tips and a coffee corner. Marketing materials would be circulated in due course and volunteers were sought to both profile the event in advance and assist on the launch day.

ACTION – ALL to consider volunteering

“All Change Please” - Jenette Coduto (City of London, Transport Policy and Development) explained that the educational challenge had concluded on 19th March 2010, with 360 people participating over the five-day event period. Good feedback had been received and it was hoped that as a comprehensive database now existed this would increase the profile and success of the challenge next year.

European Mobility Week - Jenette Coduto (City of London, Transport Policy and Development) explained that having been shortlisted for an award, this year's event would take place between 16th and 22nd September 2010. A number of preliminary ideas for the event were being considered including a London Fashion Week theme, a collaboration with the Barbican and a “Walk to Waterloo” event. It was suggested that a working group be set up to meet monthly between June and September to consider and agree a programme of activities. Volunteers were invited to join the working group.

ACTION- ALL to consider joining the working group

Cycle Parking – Jereme McKaskill / Iain Simmons (City of London, Transportation) updated the group about the City's efforts to improve cycle parking provision across the City. A report had been drafted for consideration by various committees regarding the current cycling statistics and demand for cycle parking within the City. Following consideration of the report by the Policy and Resources Committee, Members had asked that further work be done to identify options for increasing cycle parking provision. Project work around cycle parking provision would commence in March/April 2011 but work was already scheduled in the interim to prepare a detailed analysis of the options for stacking, storing and funding adequate cycle parking provision.

The group endorsed the use of £25k (awarded through the Area Based Grant) to undertake a rigorous assessment of the most appropriate cycle parking systems, locations and security arrangements for the City of London; over the next 6 months. Members at the City of London have asked officers to bring forward proposals to provide up to 27,000 additional off-street parking spaces for cyclists. By undertaking this assessment activity now, six months time will be saved in evaluating options when a formal project begins in the 2011/12 financial year.

Some off-street cycle parking will be provided this year. Approximately 250 spaces will be provided using funding from Transport for London. This new cycle parking capacity will add

to the 2000 public spaces currently provided within the City but will only meet 1% of the demand for more spaces. However, any increase in capacity is welcome.

Drinking Fountain Project - Victor Callister (City of London, Street Scene) referred to the launch of the new drinking fountain at St Paul's Cathedral which had proven to be successful both in terms of its use and also its impact on reducing disposable waste and the carbon footprint. The target is to have 50 new drinking fountains at relevant sites across the City.

The meeting concluded at 2.10pm.

Next meeting: tbc