

DPDF – Project Group Minutes 8 December 2008

Present

Marion Edge
Andy Finley (Part time)
Tim Proctor
Pat Fletcher
Janet Warner
Judi Bateman
Nancy Pountain
Andrew Hare (Part time)
Andy Smart – DCC
Martin Baddley – DCC
Andy Morgan – DCC
Ann Webster – DCC
Mick Watts – DCC
Pranali Parikh – Derby Cityscape

Apologies

Marta Hancock
Christine Yates
Peter Maidens
Angela Neill
Trevor Ford
Councillor Maggie Hird

Shared space? – Understanding concerns and exploring solutions

Mick commented that discussion had taken place previously with Project Group and DPDF members about the possible design issues in relation to shared space public realm.

Today's discussions were about understanding better any views members had about the concept of shared space and exploring some possible design options.

Andy Smart outlined the possible inclusion of a shared space element in the Castleward and Full Street corridor public realm projects. Today was about listening to the detailed views and comments group members have and exploring possible design

solutions. Streets needed to be safe and attractive for all users, which obviously included disabled people.

The two key issues concerning members appeared to be the detail of the junction between footway and carriageway and the hard paving materials used. Members viewed some photographs of another city which had defined the 'kerb' with a 25mm upstand. It was felt by all that such a solution could lead to a trip hazard and should not be considered for use in Derby. Discussion also took place about the possible use of tactile paving to define the footway edge.

Group members raised concerns about the use of small element jointed paving. Members felt that such material did not give a satisfactory wheelchair ride quality. If such material was to be considered it should be limited to carriageway use only and even then more accessible surfaces would be requires linking footway to footway.

Members felt that it was really difficult to make more detailed comments on shared space design without visiting other completed schemes and assessing first hand design and material issues. It was agreed that site visits to other completed schemes would be considered. It was also agreed that a small working group of members would formed to help consider the really detailed issues of shared space design. The group would consist of Pat, Judi, Janet and Peter with Mick and Ann in attendance.

Minutes of previous meeting

Agreed

Matters arising

Public toilets – Mick commented that his understanding of the current position was that Full Council had resolved to include money in next year's budget to ensure the public toilets identified for closure, or indeed closed would remain open.

Quad visit – An update was provided by Mick on the sliding door threshold issue and in relation to the automatic door opener which was still to be fitted.

Museum lift – Mick reported that he had attended the Council's Asset Management Group to brief members on the need to fund

the installation of a replacement platform lift at the museum. The group had not given a firm commitment to fund the installation but Mick was hopeful that approval would be given. In the interim the necessary detailed design work would proceed and Listed Building application deposited.

Rickshaws

It was reported that Rickshaws had not yet received approval to carry passengers or use pedestrianised streets. Ann reported that a rickshaw inspection for compliance with the hackney carriage conditions was to take place shortly. Both Ann and Mick would be involved in the inspection and report its recommendations to members at the next meeting.

Mick briefed members on an apparent letter of support for rickshaws written by DAB. The CEO of the organisation had been contacted who confirmed the DAB were currently neutral on their use in the city but would respond to any issues raised by the organisations members if and when contact was made.

2009 meeting dates

Circulated

Any other business

It was confirmed that alterations were to be made to the taxi rank arrangements at the railway station. The new arrangements would facilitate easier access into the taxi by wheelchair users.

Ann commented that a couple of complaints had been received from Shopmobility customers about conflict between bus drivers and private hire drivers collecting Shopmobility customers in the Morledge. It was acknowledged that both buses and private hire vehicles were competing for limited kerb space but Ann would contact both Arriva and the Council's, Public Transport Unit to see if a reasonable solution could be agreed.

Ann reported that a Police vehicle had parked over a dropped kerb in the Morledge. Ann had raised this with the constabulary who had agreed to remind Police service personnel not to repeat such inconsiderate parking practices.

Tim reported that Derbyshire Mind's current premises were in poor condition and new premises were being sought in the city centre

area. The next meeting of the organisation would however take place in the Quad building.

Next meeting

9 February 2009, Meeting Room 2, Council House