

## **DPDF – Project Group Minutes 18 October 2010**

### **Present**

Janet Warner  
Nancy Pountain  
Christine Yates  
Lynn Gilbey  
Andy Findley  
Richard Williams  
Noel Walsh  
Andrew Hare  
Councillor Maggie Hird  
Gethyn Davies – DCC  
Mick Watts – DCC

### **Apologies**

Angela Neill  
Judi Bateman  
Pat Fletcher  
Ann Webster – DCC

### **Council House Refurbishment**

Mick briefed members that the Council had taken a decision to completely refurbish the Council House with work starting early 2011. Gethyn confirmed that the refurbished building would be fully and independently accessible to disabled people both as customers and employees.

The previously circulated floor plans had in some areas been amended but Gethyn briefed members on the proposals floor by floor.

**Basement** – Plant with some limited staff access

**Ground Floor** – Main customer hub and staff accommodation

**First Floor** – Civic area, Council Chamber and public meeting rooms plus staff accommodation

**Second floor** – Council Chamber public gallery, staff accommodation and meeting rooms

**Third Floor** – Roof with some limited staff accommodation

Members made the following comments:

- Concern was expressed about the number and availability of disabled customer parking
- Seats with arms in customer hub
- Issue for visually impaired people with glass balustrades
- Further details required of colour contrasts and lighting levels
- Concerns about means of escape issues from first floor public meeting rooms

It was agreed that a small working group of forum members with different impairments would meet with Mick, Gethyn and the project architect to look through the project plans in more detail. Mick also commented that he would ensure that the points raised above would be forwarded to the relevant Planning Officer so that they could be considered as part of the planning application determination process.

### **Minutes of previous meeting**

Agreed

### **Matters arising**

Morledge - It was confirmed that work on the Morledge public realm project was progressing with the phase outside the Shopmobility premises likely to be undertaken mid-November.

Rights of Way Improvement Plan - Mick confirmed that two disabled people had been elected to the Derby and Derbyshire Local Access Forum.

Derby Royal Hospital – A representative from the hospital had confirmed that an internal accessible route not requiring the use of the platform lift was available, and was signed.

EIA – New Libraries – Completed

Darley Park Path – Planning permission for the path had been refused.

Lime Grove Bus Stop – It had been confirmed that raised kerbs at the Lime Grove bus stops would be constructed this financial year.

**Any other business**

The issue of a rickshaw being used as part of the Derby Feste programme was raised. It was confirmed that the council had no power to prevent the rickshaw being ridden by its owner but it couldn't be used for hire by members of the public.

Concern was expressed about the proliferation of A-boards in the city centre despite the presence of a policy which should control their use. Contact would be made with highways management to seek enforcement of the approved policy.

Concerns were raised about the possible use of Pickford's House as the centre for the Joseph Wright art collection as the building has no lift to the upper floors. Mick agreed to brief the Cabinet Member for Leisure about the concerns.

**Date, time and place on next meeting**

13 December 2010, 2:00pm Meeting Room 2, Council House.