

# Cross Party Working Group for Town Centre Regeneration – Consultation Sub Group

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**Fourth meeting – 7pm, Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2008**

**Venue: Civic Centre, Dartford in B12**

**Attendees:**

Cllr Jeremy Kite (Leader and Chairman of Group)

Cllr Geoff Prout

Cllr John Muckle

Cllr Patsy Thurlow

Bob Heasman (Town Centre Partnership)

Graham Harris – Dartford Council

Rob Scott – Dartford Council

Christopher Borkowski (St James's Investments)

Patrick Stones (Tesco)

Kelly Edwards, Nick Bohane (Green Issues Communications – community consultation)

**Apologies:** Cllr Tony Martin, Dr Howard Stoate MP

**By invitation:** Richard Rees (BDP), Wagstaffs Design, Make Architects, Allies and Morrison, Page and Park and Derek Beck (Tweeds)



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## **1. Standing item: Project Planning Update – Christopher Borkowski, (MD St James’s Investments), Richard Rees (BDP)**

Mr Borkowski introduced Richard Rees from BDP. Richard has been asked by Lowfield Vision to present the latest design concepts developed by the different scheme architects (Page and Park, Allies and Morrison, Make, KSS and Whitelaw Turkington).

Richard Rees’ presentation was in general well received. The Group was broadly happy with the concepts for the Northern and Southern blocks.

The Central block which includes Tesco and the public realm/park edge sections of the presentation invited most comment. Specific comments on the Central block were that the parkside pavilions needed more work to make them softer and less ‘boxy’ with some lightness of materials. With regard to the park edge proposals, it was felt that the line of the North-South promenade needed to be really emphasised and the integration between the proposed scheme and the park needs more work. Graham Harris pointed out that the original presentation of this area had included a long animated frontage with windows facing the park. The idea of green walls (as presented) met some resistance. It was clarified in response to a question by Cllr Thurlow that the new proposals do not encroach on the park in any way. Cllr Kite said he would be happy to see ideas for park furniture to be brought forward which complimented the development. The design team was asked by the Group to revisit and then re-present design concepts for these areas.

It was agreed that the Group would re-convene for an interim meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> April to review the updated presentations of the Central block and the parkside/public realm aspects.



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## 2. Update on Consultation (Green Issues)

Green Issues reported that the second public exhibition is scheduled for 1,2,3<sup>rd</sup> May with a stakeholder preview on 30<sup>th</sup> April in the evening.

The aim of the second exhibition would be to present and seek feedback on design concepts and to show how the Project Team has responded to issues raised in the first exhibition.

## 3. AoB

Interim meeting, 6pm, 21<sup>st</sup> April at the Civic Centre, Room B12

Dates of further group meetings are 7pm, 12<sup>th</sup> May and 2 June at the Civic Centre.

