

The Maltings and Central Car Park, Project Update for Salisbury Area Board, 9 January 2013

Introduction

- This briefing note, as with previous ones, including that prepared for the 14 November Area Board, has been put together for the purpose of providing an update about the current status of The Maltings and Central Car Park scheme.

General update and recent activity

- Stanhope has continued to work closely with Wiltshire Council, in line with the Development Agreement signed in mid-July. Regular and constructive discussions continue to take place across a wide range of issues and these are supported by monthly progress meetings.
- Stanhope's consultants have continued to undertake further work to help progress the emerging proposals. This has included a demographic research study, which will provide a much clearer understanding of the local retail environment and therefore the type of retailers that would best meet local need. A routine survey of ground conditions on the site has also taken place. This will provide a better understanding of the potential scope of remediation work prior to construction activity commencing.
- Gauging interest from the retail market remains an essential part of the process. Stanhope continues to engage with a range of well-know national retailers who may be interested in coming to the site, although these discussions are necessarily commercially confidential. This builds upon very useful dialogue with a large number of retailers at industry events such as the British Council of Shopping Centres Showcase and Completely Retail, both held in September.

Stakeholder consultation

- The importance of communicating relevant information about progress with the redevelopment of the site at the appropriate times has been recognised from the outset.
- A series of helpful and positive meetings took place before Christmas. Among others, meetings have been held with:
 - Councillor Ricky Rogers, Chairman of Salisbury Area Board (in preparation for this meeting)
 - Councillor Dr Helena McKeown, ward councillor for Salisbury St Edmund & Milford (in which The Maltings and Central Car Park is located)
 - John Glen, MP for Salisbury and South Wiltshire
 - The Salisbury Journal
 - Spire FM
- The intention is to hold update meetings with representatives of those local groups previously engaged with at the start of 2014 (including Salisbury Civic Society, for example), similarly to provide updates.
- In 2014 consultation will continue apace and Stanhope will engage further to inform the masterplan process. This may include through workshops, face-to-face meetings and a possible exhibition in the autumn. For instance, the importance of engaging with younger people has been identified as a priority and Stanhope will also seek to pro-actively reach out to representative groups of young people to obtain their feedback about the future of the site. This will help broaden the scope of the consultation, ensuring that a wider range of views are taken into account.
- The intention is currently to hold an exhibition in the autumn, as mentioned above, with a view to submitting a planning application to Wiltshire Council in early 2015.

March update to Salisbury Area Board

- Stanhope and its architects warmly welcome and are pleased to accept the invitation of Area Board Chairman Councillor Ricky Rogers to present a more detailed update to a special meeting of the Area Board in March.
- Stanhope would like to thank the Area Board once again for the opportunity to provide this update, and to present to members in March, and looks forward to working with members and the wider local community this year. .