WHaM meeting 11 September 2017

1. St Catherine’s Place
   Jo Davis (National Head of Planning, Development & Regeneration) and Tom Sadler (Planner, Bristol office) from GVA attended the meeting as representatives of Firmstone Consortia One.

   - Firmstone has a track record in the area as the developer of Airpoint and 77 West St
   - Firmstone will be redeveloping the whole shopping centre
   - Firmstone will be considering why the original St Catherine’s Place application was refused (by BCC planners) before putting forward its proposals for mixed leisure, retail and residential development
   - The existing office block is the first phase of the development: two extra storeys, and 14 extra flats, are likely to be added to the building, and work on the block completed by spring 2018
   - A masterplanning team for the rest of the site, including architects and planners, has just held its first meeting: WHaM’s community planning brief has been given to Leslie Jones Architecture, appointed to masterplan the development
   - A further planning application is likely in Jan/Feb 2018 – meanwhile the shopping centre will operate as normal
   - Firmstone is taking part in meetings of all the Bedminster Green developers arranged by BCC Planning department (Gary Collins) and attended by Cllr Paul Smith.
   - Jo Davis undertook to share information with WHaM on an ongoing basis
   - WHaM was asked whether it would be best to hold an immediate public consultation on the development or an October consultation when more information is available.

   In the subsequent discussion it was decided that October would be more suitable for consultation. It was noted that WHaM would favour more independent shops in the retail offer. Daniel Cleary, owner of The Fiddlers music venue, stated that Bedminster Town Team should be involved with the project but that they had not been active in this respect.

   - ACTION: Contact GVA with the decision on the timing of consultation
   - ACTION: Contact Bedminster Town Team re. their involvement in St Catherine’s retail redevelopment and possible WHaM input (George Grace and Simon Dicken)

2. Pring & Hill St (Plot 1) revised planning application

Andrew ran through the WHaM response to the revised application. It was agreed to submit the comments to the planning portal by Tuesday 19 September and make them available on Facebook and the website.

It was agreed that WHaM would use their stall at the Victoria Park festival to encourage comments on the application and would also circulate bullet points to residents on BCC’s neighbourhood notification list. Volunteers agreed to leaflet and/or staff the stall.

   - ACTION: Create checklist and rotas for VPAG stall and leafleting
   - ACTION: Post WHaM comments on planning portal, Facebook and website
3. Urbis energy centre

Max Freed from developer Deeley Freed (owners of Plot 3) attended the meeting. He confirmed that Deeley Freed also attended the first BCC Bedminster Green meeting, which is focusing on shared responsibilities for flood risk and transport issues, but had no date for a second meeting yet.

WHaM members have been in contact with Windmill Hill City Farm hoping to change the venue but, to date, the consultation is still taking place at the Hen & Chicken on Wednesday 27 September.

It was agreed that WHaM should encourage as many people as possible to attend and ask questions.

• ACTION: Promote the consultation again through Facebook/website nearer to the date

4. Pre-application information from the Neighbourhood Planning Network

A developer was asked to leave whilst confidential information about two pre-applications were discussed. Kay and Dianne will be attending a meeting with a developer on behalf of WHaM this week.

5. Funds

WHaM currently has no source of funds. Fundraising events and a crowdfunding page were discussed.

• ACTION: Find out about funding opportunities and how to set up a crowdfunding page.