

Minutes of the Caerleon Community Liaison Group held on 30 October 2007

Present:

Mr C O'Malley, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Regional & International Development) (Chair)
Mr S Bray, Head of Events Services (Servicing Officer)
Councillor G Giles
Councillor P Huntley
Councillor C Suller
Mr L Sullivan, Head of Estates Services

Apologies for absence were received from Mr P Folan, University Secretary.

- | 1. | <u>Membership</u> | Action |
|----|---|---------------|
| | a) Noted that: | |
| | i) Mr Chris O'Malley had replaced Mr Geoff Edge, who had now retired, as Chair of the Group. | |
| | ii) Mr Liam Sullivan and Mr Simon Bray were attending in place of Mr Gerry Donnelly, who had left the University. | |
| 2. | <u>Minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2007 and Matters Arising/Review Actions</u> | |
| | a) Received: | |
| | Minutes of the last Caerleon Community Liaison meeting held on 15 January 2007, which were accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting. | |
| | b) Noted that: | |
| | i) on Minute 3.1, Liam Sullivan was in discussions with Trevor Roberts re a shared bus provision with Newport City Council. The University of Wales, Newport would be required to build a bus stop down from the main entrance to the Campus. | LS |

It was stated that an integrated service must meet the needs of all elements of the community currently provided by the Nipper service, and therefore consultation with all parties present should occur to ensure this is achieved, including public consultation;

ii) on Minutes 3.2 and 3.3, the councillors felt the problem of parking on the Broadwalk had been resolved, as had the damage to cars;

iii) on Minute 3.4, an application for 11 flats and 17 parking places had been presented to Newport City Council for consideration. It was stated the developers were keen the housing cluster created a 'gateway to Caerleon';

iv) on Minute 3.5 it was noted that no further development had occurred in relation to the development of a railway halt. All was dependent on whether the Health Authority sold the St Cadocs site. It was noted that if this occurred, half the site would be given to housing and the other to amenities;

3. **Strategic Developments**

.1 **City Centre Campus**

a) Noted:

i) that it was hoped that the University would sign a development agreement with Newport City Council and Newport Unlimited by the end of November and a press release would be issued in that event;

ii) that a contractor had been assigned to the project and would seek to do as much work as possible on the site before 1 March 2008, when an embargo would be placed on works on the site for environmental purposes, and pile-driving would take place on the site once the embargo had ceased (July 2008);

iii) that it was still intended that the University will vacate the Allt-yr-yn campus in the summer of 2010, but there were no plans to sell the Caerleon Campus;

iv) that the design of phase 1 was based around a suspended 'hot house' for research. The building

would consist of 5 storeys and be able to accommodate up to 3,000 people. All agreed the City Centre Campus would add great value to the city, especially with the arrival of two large retailers in the new shopping development nearby;

v) Mr C O'Malley stated that it was hoped the area around the City Centre Campus would become the cultural hub of the City. To assist with the development of this aim a conference on a Cultural Quarter for Newport is intended to 'place Newport on the map' in relation to its cultural strengths;

vi) The 411 bedroom Opal student accommodation block is due to open in September 2008. The University will nominate an agreed number of rooms in the facility each year. The University has also expressed its support of the accommodation development in Rodney Parade;

.2 Caerleon Campus Developments

b) Noted:

i) that no major developments were planned. Classrooms would continue to be refurbished as budgets allowed. Phase 2 of the Kegie Building would only occur if student numbers justified the development. By 2008 the Newport School of Health and Social Sciences will have moved in its entirety to Caerleon. It is planned that part of the Newport School of Art, Media and Design will move to the City Centre Campus in 2010, thus freeing up space for the supporting functions of the University to be located in the Rathmell Building;

ii) that in a joint venture with other Universities, an International Study Group will be located at the top of the Kegie Building.

4. Other Issues

.1 Traffic Issues

a) Noted:

i) that no recent break-ins had been reported to the Councillors recently;

iii) that the flower tubs opposite the main entrance of the University had discouraged illegal parking. This problem was now restricted to local

residents;

iv) Pillmawr Road now had over 11,000 vehicles a day pass through it. All agreed support should be given to reduce traffic through this lane, if possible;

v) The Council may be encouraged to consider reopening the M4 St Julians junction for traffic coming from the Cardiff direction, should the new M4 relief road open;

vi) the change in lecture start times has not does not seemed to have added to the congestion problems in the village, as some felt might occur.

.2 Caerleon Primary Breakfast Club

a) Noted:

i) Schools felt there was not currently sufficient demand for this provision.

.3 Caerleon Neighbourhood meeting

i) All felt the last meeting, hosted by Liz Larsson, had proved excellent. It was agreed that efforts would be made to try to host one of a series of neighbourhood meetings at the University each year.

5. Any Other Business

a) Noted:

i) that the University may rebrand itself when opening the City Centre Campus to demonstrate its close links with Newport. Sub-brands will also be encouraged, as long as they are clearly linked with the new overarching brand. The word 'Newport' is likely to appear more prominently in the new title of the University;

ii) that the Councillors thanked the University for their efforts to maintain flower tubs in the village. They also thanked the University for hosting the Caerleon in Bloom presentations. All felt the location of the presentation was very appropriate;

iii) that the Youth Club that utilised the University's facilities had achieved 6-8 silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

6. **Site Supervisor**

Noted that Mr Simon Bray was now the Designated Premise Supervisor for the Caerleon campus.

7. **Date of Next Meeting**

To be confirmed.