

Plymouth Design Panel Review

Wednesday 23rd July, Thursday 24th July 2008
Elliot Terrace, Plymouth.

In Attendance

Les Sparks (chair)
Bruce Duncan
Prof Adrian Gale
Martin Harradine
Rebecca Child
Mark Pearson
Tanya Griffiths (secretary)

The panel welcomes Rebecca Child, conservation architect as its new member.

Agenda Items

1. Athenaeum Site - pre-application /confidential
2. Drift Cottage, Turnchapel part live application/ part pre-application
3. Tothill Sidings - pre-application /confidential
4. Update Plymstock - pre-application /confidential
5. Update Derriford Hospital New Entrance- application
6. North Cross Framework - pre-application /confidential

Note: The developers of some of the agenda items have requested that the reports be treated as confidential at pre-application stage. If any of the pre applications discussions result in the submission of a planning application the Plymouth Design Panel report will be available on request and will be referred to in the Planning Officer's report. They will also be published on the Plymouth City Council website as a matter of record.

4. Update - Derriford Hospital Entrance

The panel was disappointed and frustrated that the update revealed almost no change and no response to its previous comments.

Patients arriving by public transport remain disadvantaged by the bus stop and drop off configuration and the posture of the entrance structure.

Since no concession in the updated proposal has been made to modify the entrance to provide shelter to those approaching the building from the bus stop nor any apparent effort to re-grade the levels between the stop and the entrance the panel recommends that either these aims become a condition for future phasing or that vertical circulation is integrated inside the building to overcome the level change.

The panel felt that there was an uncomfortable relationship between the curving roof form and the ancillary rectilinear accommodation on either side of the entrance. It concluded that the area of glass rooflights should be extended to the front edge of the curved roof where it is currently solid canopy. This will have the benefit of simplifying the roofscape, of allowing daylight to reflect the asymmetry of access/function and will create a more dynamic entrance canopy by revealing the structure.