Community Reference Group Meeting Notes

Date: Wednesday 7 February 2018
Time: 5.30pm for 6pm start until 7.30pm
Venue: Reception Room, Civic Centre, 128 Prospect Road, Prospect
Chair: Brendan Lott (Manager Community Development)
Note taker: Melissa O’Kelley (Senior Library Officer)
Attendees: Caroline Ashmeade, David Kilner, Frances McKenzie-Smith, Tyler Gates, Sharron Ward, Sue Michael, Prue Blaikie
Other Attendees: Luigi Rossi (Project Manager JAA), Ben Footner (Manager Library Services), Liz Gunn (Community Development Officer).

1. Welcome – (Brendan Lott)

2. Concept Design Update (Development Application) – Brendan Lott

Comments received from CRG members were captured and presented in report format to the CLIC Project Executive Group and to Council’s February meeting - item 13.12 http://www.prospect.sa.gov.au/webdata/resources/files/Council%20Agenda%2027022018.pdf

An excerpt from the report is provided as follows:

“Activity – On-going engagement with the Community Reference Group

Findings

- The CLIC Community Reference Group has met since Council endorsement of the concept design – Wednesday 7 February.
- The focus of the meeting was a presentation of the Development Application for the project. Comments received from members are include the following:

  - Concern that the significant development that is occurring on Prospect Road will have an impact upon the limited amount of car parking space and longer-term business viability.
  - We will soon reach a critical point when it becomes too inconvenient to shop in the Village Heart, with no-where to park cars.
  - North Adelaide already suffers from this issue.
  - Landlords on Prospect Road will not be investing in parking.
  - The external treatment ‘Fins’ may be a bit overdone. Consider just having just glass (no other external treatment) on the Southern Wall
  - I can’t see a worthwhile case for a café on-site when there are so many literally within metres of the Town Hall. The space could be better utilised for CLIC functions.
  - The proposed History Room of 43 square metres falls short of what we hoped for - we have consistently proposed around 100 square metres.

    - My suggestion is to move the Local History room down to the ground level where the
café/bar/lounge are currently posited. May need a re-think about access from Vine St.
  o This would give the History Room more visibility and accessibility - important given most users are likely to be older and less mobile.
• Very keen to see at least an up-elevator to the next level - like in the new cinema.
• Consider the possibility of a Big Battery - let’s show Prospect as a leader and innovator and live up to the name CLIC.
• I suggest we reduce the over allocated gallery space back to 100mSq and allow 25mSq for kitchenette and possible Artist in Residence space. I predict our new gallery will take on a more important public profile and as it is not a commercial gallery we should offer some opportunities for artists to develop work and projects that have benefit for the community.
• Once the name of the centre is decided where will it be displayed? (external and/or internal)?
• Where will the flag poles be located?
• How will the limited parking spaces be managed/monitored to ensure that it is not used for ‘park and ride’ to the city or parking bays, that are allocated for Council/community, are not used by the occupants of the 2nd floor commercial area(s)?
• What security will be provided in the parking areas (above and below ground) e.g. security cameras/effective lighting?
• Will regular users of the centre be provided with easy access to lockable storage? Especially those groups, where taking everything away each week would be unmanageable/impossible.
• Will the outdoor seating areas (public and staff) be functional regardless of the weather?
• Instead of having our own cafe, provide easy and deliberate access to Cibo, including covered/weather proof, maybe glass, roof from the town hall directly across to Cibo.
• Allocation of available and limited space for ‘complementary vs essential’ (my terminology) Council services:
  o I believe that Council should be commended for the support they provide to the complementary services and the fact that a larger space, in most cases, has been provided in these plans, and I interpret this as an indication of the importance Council places on these services. I totally understand and agree that most probably all services could benefit from even more space but understand it isn’t possible.
• The corridor to the town hall basement is an absolute ‘no-brainer’ – yes, yes, yes.
• This is a one-off opportunity and I feel it would be a terrible shame to not grab this option with both hands.
• The additional space this would provide in maybe short, but definitely the long term would be invaluable. It would lend itself to being at least a storage/archive area, and with imaginative design and features, such as, murals, plants, mirrors and effective colours, could lend itself to a very pleasant meeting/think tank environment.
• Budget savings?
  o Would there be a saving if Council did not invest in the development and ongoing costs of its own Cafe?
  o Can costs be reduced in the building’s ‘skin’ feature and is this a high maintenance feature?
• Gallery design features will enhance cultural life in Prospect rather than detract and diminish activities. There are a host of activities that are possible with a sink, table, partitioned areas, security, storage and moveable furniture. It then becomes an arts centre (even if small).
• The overarching purpose of the new centre is to provide a centre for community services and activities. If people cannot easily access it, or if particular existing groups are excluded by the new design, the new design will have failed.
• The current design excludes people from being able to actively engage in a vibrant arts community as there are no simple wet areas provided, which are multi-purpose not exclusive to art groups.”
Meeting closed at 7.30pm.

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 7 March 2018 at 6pm – 7.30pm (refreshments available from 5.30pm).