

Email exchange between BCC and Hounslow Councillors on a public meeting on Capital Interchange Way.

From: [Councillor Melvin Collins](#)

Sent: 07 September 2016 18:32

To: [Councillor Guy Lambert](#); [Councillor Myra Savin](#); [Councillor Steve Curran](#); [Denis Browne](#); [Councillor Theo Dennison](#); [Councillor Katherine Dunne](#)

Subject: RE: Capital Interchange Way.

Hi All

The reply that I gave against a public meeting was carefully considered. I hear what Denis is saying in asking me to reconsider in terms of the Council orchestrating a public meeting on such an important development. However my mind is not swayed for the reasons I previously gave. Having said all that the BCC and other amenity groups have organised some very good public meetings of their own in the past and of course it is within their gift to do likewise in this case.

As you know Guy and I are members of the Planning Committee and so therefore cannot pre-determine but if invited to a public meeting I am quite sure if Council diaries permit we would be very willing to attend and take stock of the comments made.

Finally, when this application comes to planning providing due notice is given objectors can speak at the Planning Meeting and of course submit objections and concerns to the Planning Members and team.

With kind regards

Councillor Mel Collins

Via Eileen Henderson, Facilitator
Brentford Ward
Mobile: 07925 693655

From: Councillor Guy Lambert

Sent: 05 September 2016 19:03

To: Councillor Melvin Collins; Councillor Myra Savin; Councillor Steve Curran

Subject: FW: Capital Interchange Way.

I must say I was a bit surprised when the developers said they had been approached by LBH and invited to develop a plan – apparently 'single tender', though I presume they had to go and buy the land.

Whilst I am broadly in favour of this imaginative scheme I'm somewhat perturbed by some of the issues Denis is raising for two reasons:

1. I think it would be healthy for democratic purposes to have a full debate, because the scheme will undoubtedly be controversial (as will the scheme for Fountains following hot on its heels);
2. I would worry about the possibilities of Planning Inspectors and JRs and such things that I don't really understand if, as seems to be the case, we are pre-empting the GW Corridor thing and potential Opportunity Area

Steve will likely have a view on this?

Best

Guy
07804 284948

From: Denis Browne [mailto:browne_partnership@hotmail.com]
Sent: 05 September 2016 17:59
To: Councillor Melvin Collins <Mel.Collins@hounslow.gov.uk>
Cc: Councillor Guy Lambert <Guy.Lambert@hounslow.gov.uk>; Councillor Myra Savin <Myra.Savin@hounslow.gov.uk>; Councillor Theo Dennison <Theo.Dennison@hounslow.gov.uk>; Councillor Steve Curran <Steve.Curran@hounslow.gov.uk>; Councillor Katherine Dunne <Katherine.Dunne@hounslow.gov.uk>; peter eversden <chiswick_protection_group@blueyonder.co.uk>; 'Chris Hern' <chris.lani@blueyonder.co.uk>; Diwell Christine <christine@isleworth2.freemove.co.uk>
Subject: RE: Capital Interchange Way.

Dear Mel and fellow members,

Thank you for your email.

I would agree that the applicant has put on an exhibition which was open to the public. This would be expected for any major scheme.

The members meeting was specifically designed to allow members of the planning committee and local ward members to ask questions of the applicant. The protocol did not involve the public. Those who came had the opportunity to hear what was said but not to ask questions or participate.

This protocol has only recently been adopted and some members are understood to feel that they would

have a fuller understanding of the issues if they allowed members of the public to speak.

For example at the members meeting on Capital Interchange Way Guy Lambert asked the applicants why the densities proposed were appropriate. They are now about three times those proposed in the London Plan and in the Hounslow Local Plan adopted in 2015.

The answer given was that in an "Opportunity Area" such densities are appropriate. However, the reply did not state that no "Opportunity Area" has been approved in our borough. The reply was not challenged and many members may not have appreciated the error.

For many years it has been the practice of our Council to set up public meetings to allow members of the public to participate and express their views when "game-changing" Issues are raised by applications which will then be decided by the planning committee.

Schemes like the Chiswick Curve and Capital Interchange Way are major departures from recently adopted Local Plans. Until the Local Plan Review is completed this will remain the case. It is understood that the Review which was started in December 2015 is now likely to be complete in mid 2018.

The application for the Chiswick Curve was the subject of a Public Meeting convened by The Gunnersbury and West Chiswick Society and the BCC. It is understood that the application is now "on hold" following the intervention of the Leader at that meeting.

There is one further reason why it may be especially important for the planning committee members to hear the views of local residents. At the members meeting the applicant was asked how it happened that the application for the bus garage and the 550 flats to be built above it came about.

He stated that the site owner was contacted by Hounslow's director to invite him to develop a scheme which would provide for the bus garage and the necessary enabling development. This now includes 550 flats.

When the Council acts to promote development in advance of contextual Local Plans it is particularly important to ensure that the planning decisions made by the authority as LPA are based on the fullest understanding of the applicants and the residents views.

Please will you re-consider your view that it would be inappropriate for the Council to set up a public meeting on the Capital Interchange Way project.

With best wishes

Denis
For BCC
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Councillor Melvin Collins](#)
Sent: 05 September 2016 15:41
To: [Denis Browne](#)
Cc: [Councillor Guy Lambert](#); [Councillor Myra Savin](#); [Councillor Theo Dennison](#); [Councillor Steve Curran](#); [Councillor Katherine Dunne](#)
Subject: FW: Capital Interchange Way.

Hi Denis

I am not against public meetings per se, but would very respectfully point out that there has been 2 very distinct exhibitions and a presentation in the Civic Centre on the 18 August known as a pre-application presentation for Councillors and Members of the public. The latter is a new innovation from our Planning Team. I am not quite sure what this particular public meeting would actually achieve. However if you arrange I will endeavour to be there.

With kind regards

Councillor Mel Collins

Via Eileen Henderson, Facilitator
Brentford Ward
Mobile: 07925 693655

From: Councillor Guy Lambert
Sent: 02 September 2016 19:56
To: Councillor Myra Savin; Councillor Melvin Collins
Cc: Councillor Theo Dennison
Subject: FW: Capital Interchange Way.

Thoughts?

G

From: Denis Browne [mailto:browne_partnership@hotmail.com]
Sent: 02 September 2016 15:16
To: Councillor Guy Lambert <Guy.Lambert@hounslow.gov.uk>
Cc: Councillor Theo Dennison <Theo.Dennison@hounslow.gov.uk>
Subject: Capital Interchange Way.

Dear Guy,

I met Theo Dennison and our other ward members at Brentford Market last Sunday and we had a word about a possible public meeting on the Capital Interchange Way scheme. As you know public meetings have been appreciated by residents and this scheme like the Chiswick Curve would, if agreed, significantly change the character of your ward.

Please let me know whether you would support this idea.

Best wishes

Denis