

## **CONSULTATION**

### **Public Consultation (Jan-March 2006)**

The formal public consultation carried out for the proposals took two forms. Firstly, the planning consultation on the planning and development brief for Abbey Mills and secondly a separate consultation on the overall principles for the future management of assets at Abbey Mills and St Ann's Mill.

The consultation referred to in Councillor Illingworth's web-site is the consultation on the overall principles and does not form part of the planning consultation for the brief.

### **The Public Consultation Process on the Draft Brief:**

Planning Board approved the release of the draft brief for public consultation on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2006. It was initially proposed that a 6 week period should be allowed for consultation, in line with current normal planning practice. However, following requests from Ward Members and the Kirkstall Village Community Association, the consultation period was extended. Consequently, the consultation period ran through to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006.

A City Council press release inviting people to join in the consultation on the brief and the overall proposals was made on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2006.

### **Circulation:**

The draft brief was placed on the Council's web site and hard copies were widely circulated. The following list of interested parties were supplied with copies of the brief :

- a) Kirkstall Ward Members
- b) Armley Ward Members
- c) Lead Member for Development
- d) Inner North-West Area Committee
- e) Plans Panel (West) Chair
- f) John Battle MP
- g) Kirkstall Village Community Association
- h) Hawksworth Wood Community Association
- i) The residents of Abbey Villas
- j) The existing firms at Abbey Mills
- k) English Heritage
- l) Leeds Civic Trust
- m) Environment Agency
- n) British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV, Hollybush Farm)
- o) West Yorkshire Archaeological Advisory Service
- p) Leeds North West Homes

Furthermore, hard copies of the draft brief were made available for public inspection at the following locations:

- 1) Kirkstall Library
- 2) Headingley Library
- 3) Leeds Central Library
- 4) Kirkstall Area Housing Office
- 5) The Abbey House Museum

- 6) The Development Enquiry Centre
- 7) Kirkstall Leisure Centre

Officers also attended the Kirkstall Burley Forum on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2006 to discuss the main points of the draft brief and the consultation process. Additional copies of the draft brief were circulated at the meeting.

Furthermore, a manned public exhibition on the draft brief was held at Kirkstall Leisure Centre on the evening of Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February (7-9pm) and the morning of Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February (10-1pm). A total of \*\* people attended the exhibition over the two days.

Prior to the formal public consultation process, officers also discussed the proposals and the consultation process for the draft brief at:

- meetings with Kirkstall ward members
- a Kirkstall Village Community Association meeting in July 2005
- and also at Inner North-West Area Committee on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2005.

Furthermore, officers met with the tenants of Abbey Villas at an early stage in the preparation of the draft brief to discuss the site and the potential new access arrangements.

**Comments received:**

A total of 4 comments forms have been received from members of the public on the draft planning and development brief. Three objections to the proposals were received and one person expressed support for the proposal in principle.

Five further objections from members of the public were e-mailed to the Chief Executive's Dept. These responses were objections to the consultation on the overall principles for the future management of assets at Abbey Mills and St Ann's Mill and focussed primarily on the sample survey undertaken.

Objections to the proposals were also received from the Kirkstall Ward Members. Extensive comments on the brief were made by Councillor Minkin (on behalf of all three Kirkstall Ward Members), and detailed comments on the proposal were made by Councillor Illingworth.

Comments were also received from the following bodies:

- West Yorkshire Archaeological Advisory Service - expressed support for the content of the brief and have no further comment to make at this time.
- The Environment Agency - have no objection to the proposal, but have provided additional wording to provide increased clarity to the technical section.
- English Heritage - thanked us for the opportunity to comment on the brief but had no comment at this time.