

FROM THE AMENITIES AND SPACES GROUP *continued*

input from the Planners. However after lobbying the Planning Department I learned what was not reported in the paper, namely that

- The scheme **had** been designed in conjunction with the planners and English Heritage.
- It will free the historic pavements in front of the Listed Buildings of clutter and hoardings.
- There will be high quality lighting (lamps on buildings please, as in Cardiff, Brecon, Barnstaple etc?).
- There will be a pedestrian crossing point - at last - mid way between Lawford's gate and the Bond Street roundabout and improved pedestrian links at that roundabout.
- Trees could not be planted there due to underground services and in any case would be untraditional and mask the historic frontages.

For more information please contact Alastair Brook in the Urban Design section (alastair.brook@bristol.gov.uk) - who is doing his

darndest to stop the Traffic engineers from corralling the islands with railings!

Rights of Way and Footpaths Group

For several years we have been represented on this very valuable group (remember the long tussle the protesters won over the university and a footpath behind the Vic Rooms?) by James Briggs. James has retired from this post but has been replaced by Glyn Duggan (who was a member of my group when I joined it in about 1974), so welcome back Glyn.

Next meetings (anyone welcome)

24 April and 5 June at 7.30 pm, at 16 Westfield Park, Redland.

Alan Elkan

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LOCAL AGENDA 21 (Bristol City Council Publication No. 1199.6)

*I am often asked: **WHAT IS LA21?***

*The answer is: **"IT IS A LOCAL PLAN TO PUT INTO ACTION WHAT WAS AGREED AT THE EARTH SUMMIT IN RIO IN 1992"***

Bristol LA21 Launch March 20th 1999 - Conference Aim:

"To gain commitment from each participant to develop the Local Agenda 21 Strategy for Bristol."

I was personally invited by Councillor Tessa Coombes to lead the LAND USE workshop and was nominated by the group to "oversee" the strategy development (Bristol Civic Society agreed to act as a support organisation)

The Land Use Group accepted the following commitment:

"The role of the workshops does not end at the finish of the conference. It is hoped you all will be involved in the development of the strategy until the Autumn conference and beyond . . . "

The group agreed and we were encouraged to recruit additional members.

Our group did not take this commitment lightly. We produced a land use: "QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR" which is still in use. "The number of identified Bristol 'Centres' with jobs, shopping, health care, a primary school, public open space and a population density of 150 persons per hectare"

This cross cutting mixed use principle (that reduces the need for motorised journeys and regenerates deprived communities) was significantly re-inforced by "The Urban Task Force" publication of "Towards an Urban Renaissance". It is now top priority in Bristol's Corporate Plan.

Our group were grant aided by Bristol City Council to research sustainable developments in the UK and publication was financed by the Regional Development Agency. It was adopted by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister ("Towards Good practice in Sustainable Urban Land Use"). The independence of the LA21 Land Use group was tested in Council in 1994 and we now continue as minority survivors of the initial twelve groups. **THERE IS MUCH TO DO.**

Jerry Hicks
Leader, Land Use Workshop
Local Agenda 21