

# SHEFFIELD CIVIC TRUST ~ TRUSTEES' MEETING

18.30, 15<sup>th</sup> August 2013

@ The Circle, 33 Rockingham Lane, Sheffield S1 4FW

	<p><b>PRESENT:</b>  Paul Bedwell [PB] Chair  Christine Ball [CB]  Dan Brown [DB]  Dave Caufield [DC]  Simon Chadwick [SC]  Freddie Gick [FG]  Lee Heykoop [LH]</p>	<p>Liz Godfrey [LG]  Simon Gedye [SG]  Jim Monach [JM]  Simon Procter [SP]  Jeff Sowerby [JS]  Paul Testa [PT] Vice-chair  Richard Watts [RW]  Nynke Wierda [NW]</p>	
	<p><b>APOLOGIES:</b>  Chris Bell [CBe]  Chloe Brown [CBr]  Keith Hayman [KH]</p>	<p>Greg McNeill [GMcN]  Charlotte Morgan [CM]  Adam Park [AP]  Dan Sequerra [DS]  Julie Westerman [JW]</p>	
			<b>ACTION</b>
1.	<p><b>Minutes of 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013</b> – to be circulated Attendance and Apologies as above.</p>		
2.	<p><b>Welcome</b> – PB welcomed all to the meeting, especially Richard Watts and our speaker, Freddie Gick of Civic Voice.</p>		
3.	<p><b>Chair's Report:</b></p> <p><b>Conferment of Honorary Membership</b> – The SCT is pleased to confer this honour for the first time on Richard Watts, the distinguished and recently retired Landscape Officer for Sheffield City Council for services to place making in Sheffield. PB spoke briefly of his key role in the development of award winning open spaces like the Heart of the City, the Gold Route and Tudor Square, to which RW replied in accepting the commemorative Civic Day 2013 certificate signed by Griff Rhys Jones (President of Civic Voice) and PB.</p> <p><b>Sheffield Design Awards 2012</b> – success both in raising awareness about SCT's aims and also in returning a modest surplus for our work. Noted that it is hoped to run the scheme again in 2014 under similar arrangements with RIBA Yorkshire, but with a raise expectation that the nominees and winners will more openly support the work and aims of SCT.</p> <p><b>Community and Professional links</b> – noted that it would be to the advantage of SCT and all other bodies working in this area to co-operate more closely. Intended to share and exchange meeting notes of future with the Sheffield Society of Architects. Suggested that we invite student representatives from both universities to observe at our meetings and offer reciprocal membership where appropriate. Links with Sheffield City Council [SCC] are particularly important and we hope to strengthen these during the coming year.</p> <p><b>Civic Voice</b> – noted that we hosted visit by their President Griff Rhys-Jones in November 2012 and value our links with the national body.</p>		

	<p><b>Constitution</b> – this has been reviewed during the year and found not to require alteration.</p> <p><b>Website &amp; social media</b> – a new website has been constructed this year, very economically and efficiently thanks to the work of AP; there is more work to do over the coming year in developing its functionality and coverage. PB reported that we now have some 1,500 followers on Twitter, which makes us the most followed civic trust or society in England, and emphasised the importance of our visibility in such ways.</p> <p><b>Heritage Open Days / Open City</b> sub-group has achieved much success in widening the number [up from 19 last year to 31 in 2013] and variety of buildings willing to take part; already 50% up this year achieving our original target for next year. LG and her group were thanked for their work on this.</p> <p><b>University of Sheffield &amp; Jessop site</b> – noted that the campaign, which finally failed, to preserve the Jessop site has achieved much publicity this year. SCT did not take a single view on this, other than the hope that in future consultations between the community and the University would be much improved. SCT remains concerned that the designs for the replacement building leave much to be desired. It is not clear if there is much to be achieved, but are continuing our representations for closer contact with Professor Rebecca Hughes (Pro Vice Chancellor) and Mr Keith Lilley (Director of Estates) the key senior members of the University concerned. Members voiced the view that the failings of this consultation mirrored those over the Broomhill ‘Secret Garden’ which continues, with no clarity over what the University is proposing on this important site. Agreed that SCT will work closely with Broomhill Action Neighbourhood Group (BANG) where possible on such concerns.</p> <p><b>Future plans</b> – noted that SCT hopes to present SCT Debates open to the public on the future of the city centre in the light of changes in the retail scene and the recent withdrawal of the nominated development partner Hammersons from the Sevenstone scheme.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Finances:</b> SP presented Accounts, with a few possible liabilities yet to be settled, at 31/3/13 they show a surplus of £811 with income of £1,659 and expenditure of £848 and retained surplus of £3,761. This represents an improvement on a deficit of £1,076 in 2011/12. £900 of subs derive from corporate sponsors; need still to widen individual membership base. Suggestions were made to attract students with special rates and offer reciprocal membership. The Board will consider such ideas further. Corporate sponsors and other members are thanked for these.</p> <p>Motion accounts be approved – Prop. V. Seddon, Sec. P. Testa [Passed <i>nem con.</i>]</p>	
5.	<p><b>Election of Officers</b></p> <p>Paul Bedwell [Chair] Paul Testa [Vice-Chair] Simon Procter [Treasurer] and Jim Monach [Sec.] all serving and willing to stand;</p> <p>Re-election Proposed <i>en bloc</i> Liz Godfrey Sec. Christine Ball [Passed <i>nem con.</i>]</p>	

6.	<p><b>Election of Trustees</b> - The current trustees were thanked by PB for their work and commitment during the year. Chloe Brown and Charlotte Morgan had tendered their resignations due to moving from Sheffield. PB recorded the thanks of SCT for their contribution over some time and wished them well in the future.</p> <p>The other trustees were willing to stand again with the addition of DB and SC. It was proposed the full list be adopted <i>en bloc</i> SG sec'd. PT passed <i>nem con</i>.</p> <p>PB, CB, LH, LG, SG, JM, SP, PT, NW, CBe, KH, GMcN, AP, DS, JW</p> <p>Simon Chadwick &amp; Dan Brown Prop. SG Sec. PT <i>nem con</i></p> <p>Meetings to continue at the Circle on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month; next being 19/9/13</p>	
7.	<p><b>A.O.B.</b></p> <p>Various brief communications:</p> <p>Seeing Sheffield nominations welcomed [NW]</p> <p>Wentworth Woodhouse now open by arrangement to groups [[CB]</p> <p>Sheffield Heritage Community Forum lively and well attended meetings at Manor lodge [LG]</p> <p>'Dear Sheffield' initiative from Sheffield Society of Architects to celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary as oldest in UK [SG]</p> <p>'Sheffield in a 100 Objects' initiative by Sheffield Visual Arts Group [VS]</p> <p>As part of 1914 commemorative events next year – 'guerrilla' poppy seed planting encouraged [NW]</p>	
	<p><b>Freddie Gick from Civic Voice</b>, the national organisation for civic trusts and societies, gave an illuminating and thought provoking talk on the work, challenges and opportunities for Civic Trusts in the UK and the role that Civic Voice can play. FG complemented SCT on being a lively and interesting group albeit not as large as some, it is perhaps more open to new ideas and involving young people and ideas than some other groups.</p> <p>FG was thanked for his encouraging and thoughtful address.</p>	