

**Cambridge City Council
Disability Consultative Panel**

**Notes of the meeting Tuesday 26th January 2016
Lucy Cavendish College**

Attendees:

Mark Taylor	City Council (Chair)
Jeremy Miller	Resident/Spinal Injuries Association
Jane Renfrew	Resident
Elizabeth French	Resident
Yvonne Meeks	Carer
Nicholas Hellowell	Resident/Camsight
Adrian Pettit	Architect (retired)/Parkinson's UK
Gary Reed	University of Cambridge (Estates)
Pauline Brown	Former resident (Panel guest)
Sue Simms	Cambridge City Council Housing (retired)/ Friends with Disabilities

Apologies – Jean White, Rosalind Bird, Kathy and Ken Hamilton, Cllr Gerri Bird.

Presentation - Abcam Building, Cambridge Biomedical Campus.

The full planning application for the relocation of the Cambridge based company Abcam Plc to the Cambridge Biomedical Campus as the first occupier of the Phase 2 expansion land off Dame Mary Archer Way.

Application due for submission 25th January.

Presentation by Adam Halford of Bidwells with Sean Marten of BDW Eastern Counties.

The Panel's comments were as follows:

Car parking. The Panel were informed that the detailed design of the car park would be part of the wider Phase 2 work. The proposed inclusion of 9 accessible spaces closest to the building is noted however.

Shared surfaces and 'low speed environment'. The Panel expressed concern regarding the inclusion of shared surfaces although the Panel were informed the vehicular movements would be from service vehicles only. The Panel would like to see sufficient consideration given to pedestrian crossings for the benefit of the elderly, disabled or partially sighted needing to navigate the area in greater safety.

Drop-off spaces. The Panel were informed that need for a drop-off facility had not been envisioned as there would be an access road surrounding the building.

Bus stop. The Panel note that the location of the bus stop has not been established yet as the building location was not confirmed at the time Dame Mary Archer Way was being built.

The design team are therefore requested to provide an Accessibility Plan detailing the area between the building and the road.

Entrance points. The Panel note that both front and rear will be accessed via both a revolving and a push button door. (The push button/plate will need to be at a height accessible to wheelchair users.)

Outside spaces and routes. All routes longer than 50 metres will need to include resting points at 50m intervals. Management of the external spaces will also need to include the management/removal of clutter caused by abandoned bicycles; although the Panel are aware the site will not have the same mixture of users as in other areas of the city.

The Panel note that cycle parking is to be provided between 10 and 20 metres of the entrances.

Resolve the layout of the space immediately outside the building entrance and include seating.

Lady Mary Archer Way – walkway seating. The Panel would like to see seating at the correct height with arm rests.

Wayfinding. The Panel would like to stress the need for colour contrasts throughout the building for the benefit of the partially sighted. This should include floors, walls and fixtures such as door handles and furniture.

The distances between the entrances and lift cores are noted.

Conclusion.

The Panel appreciated the opportunity to view these proposals and hope their comments will be taken into account during the upcoming consultation period.