



1.4

Stakeholder engagement

1.4 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Stakeholder engagement

Throughout July 2021, stakeholder engagement workshops were held to discuss ideas and options for the future of Milsom Quarter. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, and in seeking to be inclusive, the sessions were held over Zoom.

The intention of these sessions was to inform option development and ideas thus far; allowing for wider input from key stakeholders within the Bath community.

A total of seven workshops were arranged and held with the following groups:

- Council Members
- Council officers
- Residents Associations and Community Groups
- Heritage Associations
- Transport bodies
- Landowners and agents

Key points raised at the workshops are summarised on the following pages.



Example of the digital whiteboard used to share ideas and record feedback

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Transport

- Consider pedestrianising strategic streets within the quarter
- Servicing model should be introduced for business deliveries/supplies
- Reduction of car parks will have a negative effect on businesses unless significant mitigation
- Enhancement of park & ride essential with pedestrianisation and loss of city centre car parks - longer operating hours needed
- Bus congestion during events (especially around Queens Square), routes must be reconsidered. Keeping routes easy and clear will improve use & drive footfall
- Outskirt car parks to be used more efficiently and offer solutions to encourage use (e.g. electric carts/trolleys)

Energy

- Concerns over meeting Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards to required to ensure period buildings can continued to be occupied and let commercially
- Solar farm could provide best solution to meet carbon neutrality goal
- Possibility to use Bath's natural source of hot water as energy supply

Sustainability

- Green infrastructure should be introduced (e.g. seating, trees and planting)
- Introduction of electric public transport
- Creates USP for the city and attracts future sustainable landowners



Digital workshop notes

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Accessibility

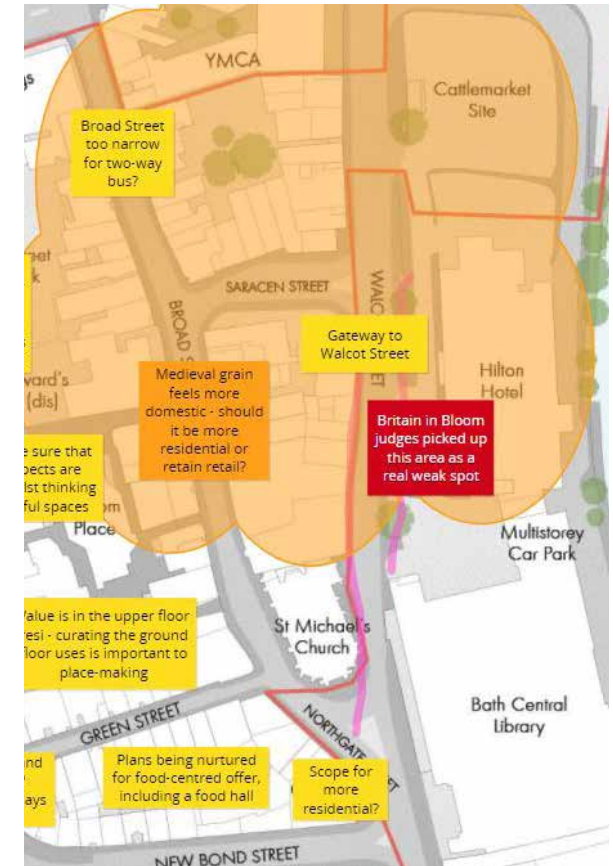
- Blue badge holders must be considered (through access and allocated parking spaces)
- Consider rest stops for those with limited mobility
- Current bus routes and taxis very well used by the elderly community

Planning

- Consider the offering of affordable residential accommodation
- Consider radical changes i.e. developing an entire retail-based street into sole residential dwellings
- Cohesion between contemporary and heritage is important
- Scope for residential conversion – current demand supply gap
- Push to avoid overpopulation of Air BnB accommodation in the city

Culture

- Concerns over loss of independent retailers on key streets
- Makerspace development is an important element (subject to inclusive pricing to attract the target market)
- Food markets would be a great addition to the city
- Leisure & wellness would be a welcome addition to the use mix
- Lighting and street quality are essential to encourage footfall
- Opportunity to make the city centre more desirable to the younger population through creation of improved public spaces
- Opportunity to enhance the night time economy



Digital workshop notes

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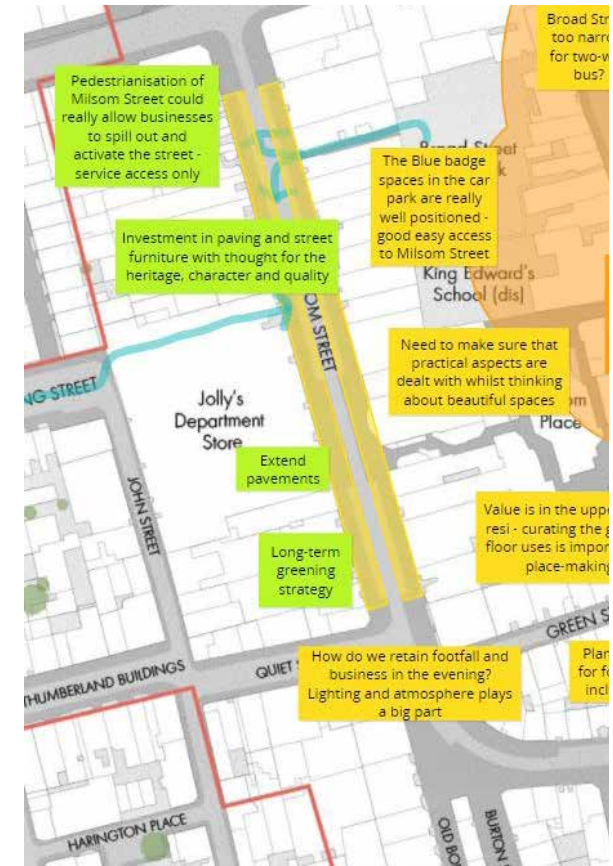
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Heritage

- Difficult to utilise buildings entirely due to heritage constraints
- Difficulty delivering carbon neutrality due to the architecture of Bath
- Using the history of Bath to enhance the authenticity of MQ (Walcot St acting as a good example)
- Medieval narrative of the city should be drawn out and featured
- B&NES to lead by example through retrofitting existing buildings
- Must consider overheating and cooling elements

Milsom Street

- Needs to be pedestrianised to reconnect with the community
- Extend pavements and promote outdoor café/bar seating to activate the area
- Emphasis on attracting more independent retailers and SMEs
- Incorporate the significance and roll of the hill
- George Street is a gateway into the site - a view from here looking down will be key
- Possible location for Fashion museum or similar anchor use



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Cattlemarket/Cornmarket

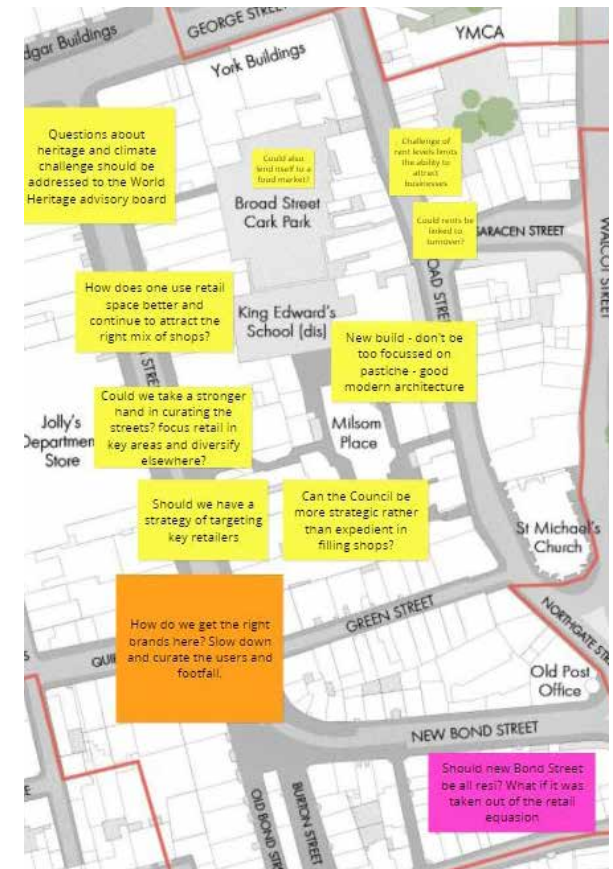
- Opportunity for open space with a food market
- In favour of pedestrian bridge linking Cattlemarket to Henrietta Park –could be used as a source of energy
- Would like transformation of riverside frontage and greening
- Possible location for fashion museum or similar anchor use
- Possible for underground battery generation site
- Opportunity to generate capital through development of residential accommodation alongside a social/workspace element
- River walkway needs to be improved
- Positive idea to develop the vaults, however, known structural issues

Broad Street Car Park

- In favour of transforming the space into workspace/ makerspace hub
- Much less support for a mews housing concept – the space should be used to inspire vibrancy and excitement for the community
- Development would be key to providing a community feel in the area
- Currently provides disabled parking but not well used

Jolly's

- No agreement that this is the best location for the fashion museum
- Jolly's should stay a retail anchor store as it's original use, however, could consider shrinking and introducing sister use
- Possibility to incorporate a Jane Austen cultural centre



Digital workshop notes