
From: Scot Masker [s.masker@pvprojects.com]
Sent: 03 December 2014 16:59
To: designspd Consultation
Subject: High Quality Places

I write to comment on the above draft document.

1.1 What is "the design philosophy which has long been at the heart of achieving successful urban design in the Winchester district." It is not clear where this philosophy is explicitly set out. Perhaps some form of mission statement is called for.

No mention is made of The Oxford Toolkit or other very useful and established processes for contextual survey, analysis and defining character areas. No reference is made to Andrew Rutter's book *Winchester Heart of City* assistance to understanding Winchester and the grain and texture of its urban environment. Another good general source is *Design Strategies in Architecture* by Geoffrey Baker

The document should **not** be promoting individual practices work over others by incorporating reference to the company in the Document.

There are too many examples of modernist/contemporary design solutions, there should be a better balance of approaches that range from traditional vernacular, classical/formal to modernist.

In many of the images there is no reason given as to how certain features highlighted relate back to the context or provide a good reason for their use relative to that context and specifically Winchester, they seem to be justified as design solutions in themselves. These particular examples of form and detail are too far removed from the place in which they actually exist.

Why are northern European examples such as Copenhagen, Oslo and Gothenburg used and even Poundbury and San Francisco for that matter. Surely there are similar older English and maybe European cities and towns which have more similar features to Winchester that could be used as example where successful new space making and development has occurred.

Specifically regarding work to existing buildings, why do extensions etc. need to be subservient, many buildings can be improved by a more bold approach to extension and remodelling.

There is much more that would be useful work through, at the moment the document runs the risk of not being that relevant to Winchester particularly and is just another guide to general design principles for anywhere.

More and deeper consideration needed.

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