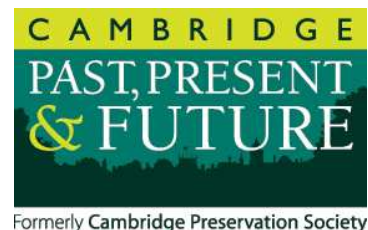


5 March 2010

Summary - Tall Buildings in Cambridge - Workshop for local people



A seminar on the issue of 'Tall Buildings in Cambridge' was held on 3rd March 2010 at the Centre for Mathematical Sciences in Wilberforce Road, Cambridge. There were a number of short talks, followed by workshops, at which over 140 local people contributed their views and took part in lively debate on an issue which will affect all who live and work in or around Cambridge.

The workshops generally agreed that 'Tall Buildings' was a relative term and that it was better to talk about 'taller buildings' in the city. While there seemed little support for taller buildings within the historic city core, there was a variety of views on taller buildings at other locations in the city.

There was general agreement that **any new taller buildings** must be **sympathetic to their context and position**, that they should have a '**sense of place**' and be of **high quality both in their design and materials**. They must also be **sustainable, environmentally-friendly** and **connected to sufficient established infrastructure**; particularly public transport. It was also felt that any proposals must enhance their locality sufficiently to be able to attract widespread community support.

The seminar was organised in response to Cambridge City Council's announcement that they are preparing a Tall Buildings Strategy, known as a Supplementary Planning Document, in 2010 and are interested in the views of residents on this subject. The strategy will have to consider key questions such as what is special about the Cambridge skyline, what in fact is "tall", where should tall buildings be located and what are the relevant design considerations of tall buildings. A draft of the strategy is expected to be available for formal public comment in 2011 before being finalised.

The event was organised and supported by: **Cambridgeshire Horizons, Cambridge City Council, Cambridge Past, Present & Future, RSA, University of Cambridge and the Federation of Cambridge Residents' Associations (FeCRA).**

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