

Addroddiad Adolygu Dylunio Design Review Report

DATGANIADAU O DDIDDORDEB

Mae gofyn i aelodau o'r panel, arsyllwyr a phartion perthnasol eraill ddatgan unrhyw ddi-ddordebau sydd ganddynt **ymlaen llaw** mewn perthynas â'r eitemau Panel Adolygu Dylunio. Bydd unrhyw ddatganiadau o'r fath yn cael eu cofnodi yma ac yng nghofnodion canolog Comisiwn Dylunio Cymru.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Panel members, observers and other relevant parties are required to declare ***in advance*** any interests they may have in relation to the Design Review Agenda items. Any such declarations are recorded here and in DCfW's central records.

Statws adolygu/Review status

Cyfrinachol/Confidential

Dyddiad cyfarfod/meeting date	14th September 2011
Dyddiad cyhoeddi/issue date	20th September 2011
Lleoliad y cynllun/scheme location	St Fagans Museum
Disgrifiad y cynllun/scheme description	New building. Refurbishment and extension of listed building
	Landscape, masterplan
Statws cynllunio/planning status	Cyn gwneud cais/ pre-application

Datganiadau o ddi-ddordeb/declaration of interests:

Carole-Anne Davies, Chief Executive of DCfW, is a Trustee of Amgueddfa Cymru

Adran 1/part 1

Cyflwyniad/Presentation

Landscape

Following the last Design Review in July, the substantial issues which remained of concern to DCfW were summarised: an adequate budget for delivering aspirations; the emerging masterplan(s); addressing the future capacity of the site; the parking and arrival experience; and an understanding of the holistic approach to the landscape through three dimensional illustrations.

TEP presented two masterplans, one relating to the HLF project and associated funding stream and one covering the next 25 years of landscape design and management, with no costs/funding streams identified for implementation at this

time. The route of the spine corridor has been identified but needs developing in more detail to respond to existing topography and vegetation. It is proposed that the southern woodland will accommodate the Celtic Village, Llys Rhosyr, and a play area within the glades. The rides and nodes based on the Pettigrew plan will be opened up. The 25 year plan shows potential locations for future buildings and activities, based on the dispersal model. A major area of expansion to the west is indicated on land currently outside the ownership of the Museum, along with a buffer zone of untouched landscape to the north.

Outline plans for car parking satisfy the requirement of the Museum for increased capacity, although the southern area next to the river is subject to EA approval. Coach parking has been moved to the far south east of the existing car park, and a tree lined 'avenue' will guide visitors through the car park to the main entrance. However, there is currently no budget identified for these proposals.

Existing Building

The substantial issues which remained of concern to DCfW from the last review were: the parking and arrival experience; the layout of the proposed covered courtyard and access to galleries; the budget to deliver the building and associated external works.

The architect emphasised that with the proposed scheme, views of the building and lawn from the main approach from the south west have been enhanced and protected.

The ramp system in the courtyard which had been proposed at Stage B, was found to conflict with the desired uses, and impinge on the character of an open air courtyard. This has now been developed as a large milling space, as well as a venue for corporate events and exhibitions. Four lifts, each with a minimum capacity of 20 persons, have been sized to meet peak demands and will replace the ramps, along with staircases at each end of the courtyard. Exits from both lifts and stairs will orientate visitors towards the galleries. The courtyard roof will have transparent and opaque elements and the architect is working on achieving the right proportions to daylight the important areas below.

New Building

The substantial issues which remained of concern to DCfW from the last review were the relationship of the building with the immediate landscape context and resolution of the level changes.

The architect repeated the brief for the building, to function as an interactive vessel for craft based activities. All the accommodation is now under one roof plane. The folded roof form requires only one central column internally within the main activity space for structural support, and will deliver a dramatic exposed ceiling soffit. This translation of the 'free form shelter' concept simplifies the volume form and makes the internal layout and functions more legible. The team is continuing to explore

innovative use of local materials, and in particular an exposed timber structure and green roof finish.

Sustainability

No information was provided on the sustainability strategy (apart from some drawings relating to the ventilation strategy), and we were informed that the bespoke BREEAM criteria were still being developed.

Crynodeb o'r prif bwyntiau a gododd o'r drafodaeth, i'w darllen ochr yn ochr ag Adran 2 yr adroddiad hwn.

Summary of key points arising from discussion, to be read in conjunction with Part 2 of this report.

The Panel was pleased to continue their consultation and engagement with this important project. We appreciate the progress that has been made since our last meeting, but we are conscious that much more detailed work remains to be done and major issues remain to be resolved. In summary:

Landscape

- More detailed landscape information is required, including 3D topographical plans and sections, drawn to scale, and close-up visualisations and photomontages of proposed and existing views.
- We are concerned about the scale of parking proposed in front of the existing building, and we do not think that the tree-lined route is an appropriate way to give legibility to the main entrance. The lack of funding for these proposals is a serious concern.

Existing Building

- The design for the existing building appears to be diagrammatic and lacking in architectural refinement. The relationship and junctions between new and existing elements needs careful attention.
- We understand the difficulties in reaching an agreed basic layout for the courtyard, and we accept the principle of the main entrance and exit located at different levels. However, we still have concerns about the landscape at the front of the building and the bridge link at the rear.

New Building

- The relationship of the new building with its immediate landscape setting is not adequately explained or justified in the material presented.
- The proposed concept of a floating roof form over a transparent shell is compromised by cellular division and internal partitions.

Sustainability

- We are very concerned that the development of an overall, site-wide sustainability strategy is lagging behind other aspects of the project. While we understand that work is in hand to ensure compliance with the BREEAM requirements, we strongly urge the team to prioritise the integration of these measures into the building and landscape designs.

Procedure

- A schedule of meetings for pre-application discussions with the project team, local planning authority and Cadw is now urgent.
- It was agreed that the next meeting between the project and design teams, and the Design Review Panel, should take place towards the end of November at St Fagans. A whole day should be set aside to include an opportunity for a site visit. We understand that Stage D is due to be signed off in mid January 2012.

Adran 2/part 2

Trafodaeth ac Ymateb y Panel yn Llawn Discussion and panel response in full

Landscape

The team have had limited pre-application discussions with the LPA and Cadw, whose main concerns relate to the wider impact on the Conservation Area, the Grade I Registered Landscape (including SINC) and designated Archaeologically Sensitive Area. With regard to tree loss, the landscape architect stated that clearing the woodland glades (excluding the rides) would amount to a 4% loss of cover. The woodland should be correctly referred to as a plantation and would need thinning as part of a management programme. Routes into the glades will be provided by minimal footpaths off subsidiary routes, not the main rides. The details of finishes are to be determined.

Discussions will need to be held with the LPA and Cadw on any plans for future expansion to the west, and the landscape design should take into account the historical character of the area.

To gain a better understanding of the impact on and enhancements to the landscape of the museum as a whole, the Panel thought that visualisations should be provided, showing existing and proposed vistas and views from different points along the spine path and woodland rides. Together with 3D and topographical information, this would convey a more immediate and accurate demonstration of what is proposed and would tell the story of the landscape. The current (not to scale) plans which were submitted prior to the review were too small and, for such a large site, difficult to read and assess. We thought that the new route to the castle should aim to retain some of the magic of discovery which characterises the existing route.

Existing Building

The representative from Cadw stated that they had not met with the design team since March and had been disappointed at the lack of consultation and the lack of a Conservation Management Plan (CMP). This should have been a driver for the design of the main building. We were informed that the project team needed to resolve the brief first, and that a draft CMP was now with the architect following receipt of client comments and should be issued next week.

The Panel was concerned at the ever larger 'sea of car parking' in front of the building and the extension of the disabled parking area right up to the building frontage to the east. While we accepted that mitigation, in the form of planting and removal of additions to the original building, has helped to preserve the views from the south west, we were not convinced by the tree lined route cutting through the car park and we thought that the balance between hard and soft landscape should be revisited. The legibility of the main entrance needs to be signalled by the building itself. A scaled A1 plan and sections of the relationship of the building, external works and car park area would be required for a full assessment.

The bridge link north of the building connecting to the new spine route needs further definition. Currently, it is not clear if it is part of the building or the landscape. It was agreed that this should have a function in terms of wayfinding and orientation and could obviate the need for a physical 'hub' at the junction with the spine. Level changes need to be resolved for the area outside the cafe to the north west. Care will be needed to ensure that the service yard and associated functions do not impinge on the protected view of the building from the south west.

The Panel thought that the drawings presented were very diagrammatic and did not show how the new elements related to the existing building. This relationship needs to be developed in the form of an overall 'narrative', whereby the architectural concept is translated into the physical details of junctions. The courtyard roof should respond to the clarity, language and logic of the existing roof form. The architect's intention is to keep the courtyard distinct from the existing building with a 'light touch' relationship.

The Panel questioned the visibility of the glass lift in the south west corner of the courtyard which will be partly hidden behind a structural fin. We accepted that the lift in the north west corner would be less visible, to discourage direct access to the open air museum.

New Building

The Panel thought that the relationship of the new building with its immediate landscape context was still unresolved. In particular there appeared to be tensions between the landscape and architectural proposals, which served to underline the need for an integrated approach to the design of the external spaces. The extent of the hard landscape around the building and how it blends into the softer woodland setting needs more detailed consideration. The relationship of the building with the bridge and the steps is unclear and requires further definition, by means of scaled plans and sections.

The floating roof over transparent walls is an interesting architectural concept, but we questioned how far this might be compromised by servicing requirements, sustainability considerations, and by a cellular internal layout with full height partition walls. Integrating a flexible and functional lighting system will be essential to the integrity of the concept for the 'floating roof'. The flexible activity space which is an important client requirement is in our view awkwardly shaped, but the client and

exhibition designers are content with the arrangement. As with the lighting system, devising a service strategy which is both flexible and responsive to the range of activities proposed will be a key factor in its success. Power cables will be routed through the floor and not impact on the ceiling, although the Panel questioned how lighting would be flexibly provided without affecting the clear ceiling plane. It was confirmed by the client that the 'wet activity' space needed to be physically separate from the main area in order to protect vulnerable objects located there. However it was considered that this need for separation further compromised the idea of the roof. Consideration could be given to loadbearing walls which would eliminate the need for even a single column within this space.

Sustainability

The new building will have an air-based heating system delivered through a raised floor. Passive measures will be considered first, to achieve thermal and humidity stability, followed by LZC feasibility studies for both buildings. In particular the M&E team are looking at ways to reclaim and reuse heat from the dehumidification process. A new CHP plant is under consideration for the main building. Consideration of sustainable drainage is in progress.

Mae Panel Adolygu Dylunio Comisiwn Dylunio Cymru a'r staff yn croesawu rhagor o ymgynghoriad, a bydd yn hapus i ddarparu rhagor o adborth am yr adroddiad yma a/neu lle bo'n briodol, dderbyn cyflwyniadau pellach. Diolch am ymgynghori â'r Comisiwn a chadwch mewn cysylltiad â ni os gwelwch yn dda ynglŷn â hynt eich prosiect. A fyddech gystal â'n hysbysu o ddatblygiad eich prosiect. Diolch yn fawr am ymgynghori â'r Comisiwn.

The Design Commission for Wales Design Review Panel welcomes further consultation and we will be happy to provide further feedback on this report and/or where appropriate, to receive further presentations. Please keep us informed of the progress of your project. Thank you for consulting the Commission.

***Mae copi iath Gymraeg o'r adroddiad hwn ar gael ar ofyn.
A Welsh language copy of this report is available upon request.***

Atodiad 1/appendix 1 Mynychwyr/attendees

Asiant/Client/Datblygwr
Agent/Client/Developer

Amgueddfa Cymru (John Williams-
Davies, Steve Howe, Elfyn Hughes, Beth
Thomas)

Pensaer/Dylunydd Trefol
Architectural/Urban Designer

Fielden Clegg Bradley Studios (Richard
Collis)
Purcell Miller Tritton (Jamie Coath)
TEP (Graema Atherton)

Ymgynghorwyr/Consultants

Arup (Sam Shooter)
Focus (Richard Aston)

Trydydd Parti/Third Party

Cadw (Judith Alfrey)

Awdurdod Cynllunio/Planning Authority

Cardiff CC (Sandy Williams, Annabelle
Evans)

Y Panel Adolygu Dylunio/
Design Review Panel
Cadeirydd/Chair
Swydog/Officer
Prif Banelydd/Lead Panellist

Wendy Richards
Cindy Harris
Kieren Morgan
Toby Adam

Sylwedyddion/Observers

n/a