

The Transformer



Newsletter of the CABE Urban Design Summer School • Bristol 2009

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£25 million awarded (virtually) to the best big project

Congratulations to PUBLIC REALM for being chosen by the Dragons' Den as the winning team at the 2009 CABE Urban Design Summer School.

The dragons (Lorna Walker, chair of the CABE education and skills working group and managing director of Lorna Walker Consulting), Yolanda Barnes (director of Savills Research) and George Ferguson (past president of the RIBA and chairman of Acanthus Ferguson Mann) were given an imaginary £10 million each to invest in one or more of the summer school teams' Big Projects.

The summer school facilitating team had shortlisted PUBLIC REALM as the best of the blue groups; ACCESS as the best of the green groups; and MARKET PLACE as the best of the red groups. The delegates had voted for NODE as the People's Choice.

PUBLIC REALM scooped £25 million of the possible £30 million, reflecting the dragons' confidence in what the group's scheme might achieve. ACCESS, the runners up, were awarded Sustrans' special prize for the best integration of cycling routes and pedestrian-friendly streets. ENCLOSURE won a prize for the best approach to engaging the community.

Individual prizes were awarded to, among many others, Ibrahim Bhayat of Birmingham as the most enthusiastic delegate and John Stimson of South Australia for the best confession. *The Transformer* asks delegates to remember their winning oath: 'Urban design is forever, not just for Christmas'.



Thought for the day

Density

How much density can a development include but still produce a quality place? The statement 'urbanity through density' still seems valid, but to create a sense of ownership and neighbourhood 'more front doors' is the way to go. How do we take the concept of density, but add other factors relating to economic, social or environmental capital?

Alan Baxter Associates is a sponsor of the CABE Urban Design Summer School.

Alan Baxter
INTEGRATED DESIGN

Hallmarks of a sustainable city

Climate change is one of the world's greatest and most urgent challenges. As we heard at the outset of the summer school, it offers an opportunity to redesign how we think and organise our lives.

The report *Hallmarks of a Sustainable City* sets out the practical and policy responses to climate change that CABE believes are needed to ensure that our towns and cities are sustainable places. Good urban design is, after all, sustainable design.

This publication is a great way to ensure that you recognise the factors that make places sustainable and how to make change happen. Download your free copy at <http://tinyurl.com/lsv5lv>

Hallmarks of a sustainable city



Edited by Rob Cowan and Julia Smachylo of Urban Design Skills

Your contributions to *The Transformer* are welcome. Contact us through the Summer School Office or email us at info@udss.org.uk



Join the CABE urban design summer school alumni network

The summer school is now but a memory. Or is it? In fact the summer school programme maintains a year-round presence through its online community, the Alumni Network. Think Facebook for urban design geeks. We already have more than 200 members who are happily interacting, sharing photos and thoughts, and making friends on the network.

The Alumni Network is a great place to:

- Keep in touch with your colleagues and meet delegates from previous schools
- View and share school photos and videos
- Discuss your ideas and issues with savvy folk
- Seek advice and guidance on problems you are facing
- Join and form interest groups around themes or locations
- Promote yourself and your work to your peers
- Share any entertaining design-related stuff you have stumbled across (the Telly-Savalas-does-Birmingham video is a classic)

To sign up, go to <http://cabedss.ning.com>. Don't forget to add any of your interesting content and links. Many people are already sharing their school photos on the site.

Please note that we will be sharing the official summer school photos only on the network. So if you want to view and download images from your time in Bristol, it is essential to sign up. If you have any questions or ideas about how we can grow and improve the site, please contact me. The Alumni Network is yours. We hope you enjoy using it.

Royson Robinson, CABE