

In this edition

www.rtpi.org.uk/wales_young_planners

- Outgoing chair's comments
- YPC Annual General Meeting 2011
- RTPI Young Planners Conference 2010
- Steering Group Nominations for 2011
- Events

Chair's comments



Hello and welcome to our third edition of the Young Planners Cymru newsletter. It has been over 12 months since our last newsletter (oops!), but many of the group members have been busy delivering the 2010 National Young Planner's Conference which was held in Cardiff in October.

Many thanks to those who attended our quiz night in O'Neils in Cardiff in April - we raised £150 for Young Planners Cymru and Planning Aid Wales. We hope to be running further quiz nights and hope to see you there.

When the members of the steering group said to me they wanted to host the Young Planners National conference I thought they we're mad. However, I was proud to witness first-hand the determination and enthusiasm of the conference group members, who I'm pleased to report delivered a very successful conference (and dinner... I think there may have been more than a few sore heads the next morning!).

The theme of the conference sought to explore localism and how we as a community of young planners can help deliver localism through in our work in the future - I hope those that attended gained a real insight into such themes.

Many thanks to the Welsh Assembly Government, Savills and the other conference sponsors for making the conference possible, special thanks to those who helped to make the event a success, and of course, extra special thanks to everyone who attended.

As the year draws to close we are again seeking new members for our steering group.

We were founded with the following objectives:

- To deliver educational and networking events and dissemination services for young planners across Wales
- To raise awareness amongst young planners in Wales of the services the RTPI offers and how to get involved in the Institute
- To represent and raising the profile of young planners in Wales externally and within the RTPI

We have made a good start on delivering these objectives, but if you are interested in helping to continue to develop and deliver them, are interested in organising social, networking and training events, or just want to help out, please see page 2 for more information.

The YPC steering group was only founded two short years ago, and I'm pleased to see that the group has developed in numbers and enthusiasm during that time.

I'm even more pleased that the group has had some extraordinary achievements during its short life, and whilst I am sad to be stepping down, I am pleased to be leaving with the knowledge that the group will be in safe hands.

Good luck!

James Davies
Chair Young Planners Cymru 2009-10

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The YPC Steering Group 2011

www.rtpi.org.uk/wales_young_planners

Positions Available

Its that time of year again when nominations for YPC Steering Group are invited. With the success of hosting the RTPI National Young Planners Conference in 2010 the group will need to focus on providing a series of events for young planners across Wales.

Chair

Could you add something, have you got ideas about how we can take the network forward in 2011? Alternatively, do you know of someone who you feel would do a good job, why not give them a nudge?

National Representative

We are inviting **nominations** for all positions on our steering group. Steering group members will serve a full 12 months, and meetings take place on a monthly/bi-monthly basis.

Secretary

Eligibility

Members of the steering group will need to be signed up to receive the YPC Newsletter (please email us to register).

Treasurer

How to Nominate

To nominate yourself to one of the positions or to just join the steering group please send an email with a short statement (max 100 words) on why you want to volunteer on the YPC steering group by **29th November**.

Communications Manager

Process

In the event that nominations exceed the number of vacancies, members at the AGM on December 3rd will be invited to vote for their preferred candidate for the vacant positions. For further details of our AGM please see the following pages.

Student Representative

Deadlines

All nominations should be submitted by email to the address below by **29th November**.

Events Manager (South)

Events Manager (North)

The YPC Annual General Meeting

This years Young Planners Cymru AGM will follow RTPI Cymru's AGM on the **Friday 3 December 2010**, at the Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff Bay.

RTPI Cymru AGM will commence at 2pm which will be followed by Young Planners Cymru AGM around 4pm.

Feel free to invite any planners along who may be interested in becoming involved with Young Planners Cymru. Nominations for the Young Planners Cymru 2011 Management Group will be sent around shortly with the votes being undertaken at the AGM. For those who cant attend email nominations will be accepted.

The group then intends to go out for a few social drinks in Terra Nova from 5pm onwards so if you cant make the AGM feel free to come along for the social after.



The RTPI National Young Planners Conference – Cardiff 2010

The roar that went up in Cardiff's Millennium Stadium when Wales clinched victory in the 2005 Six Nations rugby tournament, the country's first since 1978, is considered to be reflected in the optimistic buzz that makes the city such an appealing place to visit.

Despite the Welsh planning system being isolated from communities secretary Eric Pickles's emerging localism agenda, the boost to national confidence provided the perfect backdrop for understanding and debating the implications of localism in planning – the theme of this year's RTPI Young Planners Conference in Cardiff last month.

It soon became clear that there is a lot that can be learnt from the Welsh way. A key message that was taken away by delegates was the importance and value of sharing best practice across the UK. Hosted by Young Planners Cymru and attracting more than 170 delegates and speakers from across the UK, the event brought together a range of speakers, debates, workshops and study tours to give a fresh perspective on localism.

Opening the proceedings, RTPI president Ann Skippers referred to how localism is dramatically changing the planning landscape across all sectors. With the decentralisation and localism bill expected later this month, Skippers looked at the opportunities and challenges faced by planners and the work that the RTPI is doing to tackle industry concern.



The President takes a break



The Conference Organisers

She described the RTPI's discreet lobbying of ministers and its alliance of business, environment and development bodies which stressed to Pickles the need to address larger than- local issues within the localist reform of the planning system. In this respect, the president reiterated her priority to work with other organisations and "to get on with it and grasp the opportunity".

Next up was Welsh Assembly Government chief planner Rosemary Thomas, who proclaimed that "we know about localism in Wales, we do localism in Wales". Having far fewer local authorities than England, this in effect enables co-operation and activity at a local scale, she explained. The need to use opportunities to talk about the way we do things, to take responsibility and be realistic in what we can and cannot do was emphasised to delegates.

Later in the morning, delegates heard international and local responses to local distinctiveness from 2010 Young Planner of the Year Tom Venables and Carole-Anne Davies from the Design Commission for Wales.

Tom Venables reflected on his trip to the American Planning Association conference in New Orleans. Davies followed with a discussion on how local distinctiveness has been achieved in Wales through appropriate and contextual design responses.



The RTPI National Young Planners Conference – Cardiff 2010



The afternoon saw delegates given a choice of breakout sessions linked to localism and local distinctiveness, including urban design language, development management and the historic environment.

To end the day, two speakers gave their contrasting perspectives on localism for planning. Savills director Chris Potts anticipated the impact on major sports development down to community stadia and the local provision of recreation facilities.

Finally, Paul Wimbrush from Lammas provided an innovative example of localism in a low-impact development based on permaculture principles in West Wales.

The second day saw presentations from Professor John Punter from Cardiff University and Lee Jones of TACP. This was followed by Young Planners Den, an interactive session led by RTPI

The event concluded with study tours covering areas of best practice including Cardiff Bay, St Fagan's National History Museum, St David's and Newport's waterside regeneration. The RTPI provided drop-in sessions on the assessment for professional competence and Planners in the Workplace.

One delegate summed up the conference as providing a healthy mix between learning exercises and opportunities to meet like-minded professionals. For another, meeting other planners has "re-ignited the passion for planning".



Delegates get to grips with the lanyard delegate packs



Judging the Planners Den

Further information including all the presentations from the 2010 conference have been uploaded onto the Young Planners pages of the RTPI website.

Members will need to login to access this information.

Thanks to the sponsors of the conference:



Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners



RTPI

mediation of space · making of place



Land Registry Procedure Seminar and Associate Legislation

In association with Young Planners Cymru, Civitas Law have kindly offered to present a seminar and Law update for RTPI members on the Land Registry Procedure and associated legislation.

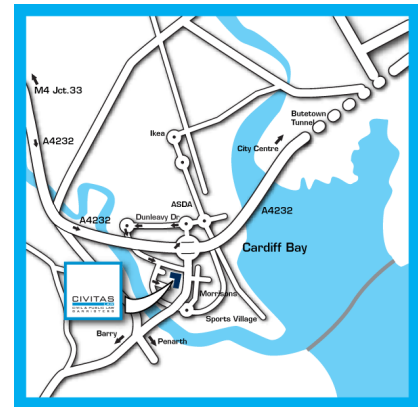
The half day seminar will commence at 9am and close at 12pm on the 17th December 2010. The event will be based in the Civitas Law offices at Global Reach, Celtic Gateway, Cardiff Bay, CF11 0SN.

To book your place email Emma Waddingham, the Business Development Manager on emma.waddingham@civitaslaw.com Telephone: 0845 0713 007

A full program of speakers will be sent out to attending delegates shortly
Cost: **Free**
Places are limited.

Civitas Law are a team of barristers dedicated to the practice of Civil and Public Law. Civitas Law was founded on the basis of a shared ideal that clients are best served by a chambers of specialist lawyers offering the highest standards of service in advisory work, drafting, mediation and advocacy. Civitas Law is the first such specialist set in Wales and we serve all regions throughout England and Wales.

"Civitas Law, Wales' first civil and public law set, 'has a focused approach which has led to higher standards of service'. " Legal 500, 2011.



Getting Involved

Got ideas for events ?

We want to help increase the number of networking and social events for young planners across Wales, but we need your ideas first.

If you have any ideas for an event no matter how crazy please let us know.



Social Networking

We have added a LinkedIn account to our Facebook page to help you network with fellow young planners across Wales .Search for 'Young Planners Cymru' and join in.



Welsh Translation

Can you volunteer to help us provide our newsletter bilingually?.
If you are interested please get in touch