

Future Newsletters

Hoping that you found this edition of R&B useful and informative. The articles you have read have been submitted by Members of the Branch. If you have information, views, reports, news etc which you feel will be of interest to other members then please forward items to Paula Nolan at regional office by **8th December** for inclusion in the quarterly newsletter. Again the success of the newsletter relies on you producing the necessary copy. There must be things going on in your area that merits being communicated amongst a wider audience.

All enquiries to yorkshire@rtpi.org.uk

Useful links...

This edition and past copies of Root & Branch can be found on the Yorkshire Region website at:

<http://yorkshire.rtpi.org.uk/newsletters/>

Keep up to date with the conference programme and evening seminars at:

<http://yorkshire.rtpi.org.uk/diary/>

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Judd Farris
property recruitment

Autumn 2006

Royal Town Planning Institute
Yorkshire Branch Newsletter

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RTPI Yorkshire Region - A Word from the Chair

Well here we are into the Autumn and the summer holidays merely a wistful memory as was victory at the World Cup which was optimistically anticipated back in the Summer edition of Root and Branch.

In this edition of Root & Branch we have a report on the initial YORnet event which was significantly over-subscribed, and proved to be a successful event to boot. Thanks to Bhupinder, the RTPi Yorkshire Region Young Planners Co-ordinator. This presents a positive step forward for relationships between the Regional Branches of our sister Institutes within the Development Industry.

RTPi Yorkshire Region was invited to an inaugural meeting of a proposed Construction Industries Council (CIC) for the Yorkshire Region. This meeting, for senior representatives from the proposed CIC, includes members from sister institutes including RIBA, RICS, IHT, ICE, and is looking to provide a voice at Regional level for around 50,000 professionals in the Region working across all sectors of the development industry.

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Judd Farris
property recruitment



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Principally, you will be involved in planning appraisals, applications and appeals, along with some policy work. Schemes will include retail, commercial, industrial and residential - there is no doubt that this role is varied and extremely rewarding!

georgina.jones@juddfarris.co.uk Ref: GJ/062726

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A leading pure planning practice looks to contribute to their already successful workforce.

Holding over 5 years experience and chartered status, you will have the drive, determination and enthusiasm to manage and develop more junior team members, along with the technical ability to develop business in the given sectors favoring Retail projects.

This role is an excellent and rewarding prospect for an enthusiastic and confident professional to enter the organisation and have the scope and tenacity to create something long lasting.

georgina.jones@juddfarris.co.uk Ref: GJ/084146

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Work for an Organisation with an established reputation for providing sound planning advice in order to facilitate New Developments across a variety of sectors such as Mixed-Use, Retail, Residential, Commercial and Leisure.

Our Client is looking to employ a strategic thinker with the capability to understand client needs and expectations. Being a qualified planner you will be experienced in working on planning applications, or planning policy, either within the Public or Private Sector.

You will be involved in negotiation with local authorities, appraisals, applications, appeals and strategy advice. This is an excellent opportunity for a career focused individual.

vicky.tipper@juddfarris.co.uk Ref: VT/051486

Principal Planner

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A forward thinking Planning and Regeneration specialist is currently seeking 3 - 5 years PQE in order to strengthen the more senior end of their team.

This successful team is currently working on a portfolio of Retail, Mixed Use and Regeneration Schemes, Sports related development and Residential. You will be confident and eager to work with Directors and Associates to win new business, as well as being technically excellent.

In return for development control and policy experience, as well as commercial understanding, you will be rewarded with a salary and benefits package which is above market rate.

vicky.tipper@juddfarris.co.uk Ref: VT/092834

For our latest vacancies please visit www.juddfarris.com

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A successful model was presented of a CIC for the North West which seeks to deal with issues on training and skills shortage, promoting standards within the industry and promoting the stature of the industry. We have provided indicative support for the formation of the regional CIC provided that it complements but does not duplicate or compromise the activities of other regional

bodies and the RTPI.

Whilst writing this I have heard that the RTPI President Clive Harridge was recently in hospital, I would like to take this opportunity to send him our best wishes for a speedy recovery. "

Paul Leeming
Chair RTPI Yorkshire Region

Joint RTPI and Women in Property Seminar – Sustainable Design & Construction

The first joint seminar between the RTPI and Women in Property was held on 6 September in the brand new lecture theatre at Leeds Metropolitan University. The theme of the evening was 'Sustainable Design and Construction' and proved to be a hot topic with an impressive turnout not only from throughout the region but also from a varied number of different disciplines including planning, construction, architecture, surveying and the legal firms.

Cathryn Chatburn, Associate Director at Turley Associates opened the seminar and gave a wide ranging and thought provoking presentation on what could be considered to be the important aspects of sustainable development. She emphasised the significance of doing things in the right order with the right people.

Clare Shuttleworth, Associate at White Young Green, spoke on behalf of Envirowise - a valuable government-funded programme which provides free advice to UK businesses on practical ways to increase profits, minimise waste and reduce environmental impact. Her presentation focussed on the drivers and benefits of sustainable design and construction and gave delegates some useful pointers as to how both Envirowise and other initiatives could support them in their endeavours to make development more sustainable.

Both Cathryn and Clare touched on the wealth of legislation and guidance that exists – perhaps an overwhelming amount! So how can we be more sustainable? The consensus seems to be that the answer lies in understanding the context and background to the development proposals and breaking projects down into bite size, manageable chunks.

The event was kindly sponsored by Turley Associates and thanks also to LMU for hosting the seminar.

Reasons to be Cheerful?

Mick McLoughlin reports on this Year's Development Control Conference in York

Time certainly flies. It doesn't seem like 12 months since the last gathering at the Yorkshire Museum to hear about topical issues and developments in the field of development management. As with last year's event, Wilbrahams delivered a varied menu of papers to provide plenty of choice and stimulation for delegates – from the Planning Gain Supplement, through to Draft PPS3, Green Belt matters and the 'fine art' of public consultation.



Tim Willis:
Need for sound reasoning

However, for me the most rewarding presentation was by Tim Willis on 'Reasons for Granting Planning Permission'. Tim's choice of subject probably reflects his previous, substantial experience in local government, dealing with Planning and

CPO law. Tim qualified in 1993 whilst with Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council and his talk certainly gave all public sector planners present a sobering reminder of one of their many responsibilities.

Since December 2003, authorities have had a legal duty to include both a summary of their

reasons for approving applications and a summary of the relevant Development Plan policies and proposals used, on their Decision Notices – as a result of amended Article 22 of the 1995 General Development Procedure Order.

Nonetheless, discussion of a number of recent cases demonstrated that authorities are not necessarily following the letter of the law leading to challenges, and in some instances, planning permission being quashed. Tim cited key cases:

- **Wall 2004**
- **Chisnell 2005**
- **Birmingham 2006**

He used these to illustrate that simply referring to a list of policies in a Notice is insufficient and that post-hoc identification of makeshift reasons is unacceptable. Simply relying on a Committee Report and Minutes is not proper compliance with Article 22 either.

Tim explained that whether the Courts will actually quash a defective Notice under Judicial Review procedures, depends upon a 'spectrum of possibilities', including the degree of prejudice likely to be suffered by the applicant and the claimant.

He did conclude, however, by warning authorities that in the absence of an express right of Third Party appeal, people aggrieved by decisions will probably increasingly seek to use this area of Planning law as a means of bringing their cases before the Courts.

Mick McLoughlin
MJM Planning

In the **Wall** case, Mr Justice Sullivan noted:

"... disappointed applicants who have been refused planning permission or applicants who have been granted conditional planning permission have always been entitled to reasons from the local planning authority the requirement to give summary reasons for the grant of planning permission will principally be for the benefit of interested members of the public."

Student Work Experience at White Young Green

Sarah Cadman, final year Geography Undergraduate Student at Durham University takes us through her experience of working with planners for a week at White Young Green in Leeds and tells Root & Branch why she has chosen a career in planning.



What made you chose a degree course in Geography at University and what do you enjoy about your course?

I chose to study for a degree in Geography as I have always been interested in the way Geography relates people and places in both space and time. I really enjoy the way Geography embraces many disciplines,

drawing together information from different sources to form ideas about the world. I also enjoy the team work and problem solving offered in Geography, particularly on field trips!

How did you develop an interest in town planning, why choose planning as a career?

I think my interest in planning was a natural development from my interest in Geography. When I left school I was still unsure which career path to follow; Geography was ideal in that it gave me a range of skills. I have now completed most of my degree and found out about planning both through my own research and particularly my week's work experience at White Young Green. I have seen how planning incorporates many of the things I have most enjoyed in studying Geography; assessing the relations between people and places, analysing information and problem solving.

So what was it like working as a planner during your week long experience at White Young Green in Leeds?

Having had no previous hands-on experience of planning I found it really interesting to see what planners do on a day-to-day basis. I enjoyed looking over the variety of project schemes White Young Green were involved in. I particularly enjoyed a visit to Leeds City Council Plans Panel where I saw a major planning application supported by White Young Green approved. I enjoyed listening to the various debates and considerations of the panel, which was a real insight into the planning process.

So what are your plans for the future?

I have currently applied to do a 1-year RTPI accredited Master's course in Town and Regional Planning at Leeds Metropolitan University. I am really looking forward to learning more in my studies and a future career in planning!

Bhupinder Dev, MRTPI, White Young Green, Leeds & RTPI Yorkshire Young Planners Coordinator

YORnet Pub Quiz Summer 2006

The top floor of the Cross Keys Pub, Water Lane, Holbeck played host to the YORnet Pub Quiz on Thursday 13th July 2006. The event was a huge success, with 60 young engineers, architects, surveyors, planners and landscape architects in attendance. The light buffet sponsored by recruitment consultancy, Anders Elite was polished off before the quiz even began.



The Blockbuster style quiz was hosted by quizmaster Ricardo Ares from Whitelaw & Turkington Landscape Architects. The winner of the main round was the team from Browne, Smith Baker Architects who walked away with bottles of Champagne. The picture round winners were Chetwoods while the winners of the true or false round were Nick Beckett from Browne Smith Baker, Muna Ali from Seymour Harris Architecture and Simon Weaver from JMP Consulting.



Each received a bottle of wine which rounded off a very successful evening.

YORnet is the network for young built environment professionals in Yorkshire and is



attached to Concourse - The Leeds Centre for Art, Architecture, Construction, Landscape, Planning and Urban Design (see www.concourse.org.uk) whose aim is to provide a forum within which young planners, architects, engineers, surveyors, landscape architects, urban designers and other young professionals in the Yorkshire



region can develop their interest in planning, regeneration and design and also socialise and share experiences.

If you would like to register your interest and join YORnet then please email Yorkshire@rtpi.org.uk. It is free to register onto the emailing list and you will be kept up to date on forthcoming YORnet events and activities.

Bhupinder S Dev, MRTPI, White Young Green, Leeds and RTPI Yorkshire Young Planners Coordinator

YORKSHIRE PLANNING AID UPDATE - SEPTEMBER 2006

Staff changes are in the air at Yorkshire Planning Aid, as Alyson Linnegar is moving on to take up the post of Affordable Housing Officer at Selby District Council. This in effect means we are losing two members of staff, as Alyson combined two part-time jobs, 3 days as Caseworker and 2 days as Community Planner. However, Alyson has not completely escaped YPA's clutches, as she has nobly agreed to sign up as a volunteer. We congratulate her on this wise decision, and send her our very best wishes in her new role.

Other YPA News: It has been a very busy few months for Yorkshire Planning Aid, particularly with regards to Community Planning.

In May we ran four 'Planning for non Planners' sessions supported by the Regional Centre of Excellence, aimed at community workers, tenant participation workers, regeneration officers etc. All four events were fully booked, with 40 participants at each, so we got something right! The aim was to inform the people who work with our target clients about the opportunities for involvement in the planning system, and we hope that calls to the advice line will increase as a result, as well as enquiries for community planning support.

Staff and volunteers alike have led sessions or had information stands at events to help people engage with various Local Development Framework documents in the region – in Grimsby, Leeds, Sheffield, Kirklees and Hull. In the Harehills area of Leeds, for example, over 500 residents young and old, many from ethnic minority communities, gave their views on the future of their area at a series of events held in schools, community centres and luncheon clubs as part of a two

week consultation exercise developed by Community Planner Mike Dando.

Meanwhile Alyson took the lead on a joint piece of work with East Midlands Planning Aid, which involved delivering two training sessions on the planning system for Gypsies and Travellers, one held in each region. The sessions demanded a good deal of innovation and creativity, and Alyson & Helen will be writing up and evaluating the techniques they used to share with colleagues.

We have drawn heavily upon our volunteers too, in the past few weeks. Harvey Pritchard, Edward Wills and Bob Pritchard all contributed to the development of a training session on Section 106 Agreements, and the three then delivered this session to over 60 Parish Councillors at a Regional Training event. Other volunteers assisted with three workshops in conjunction with Hull City Council, explaining the City Centre Area Action Plan, and future development plans, to ethnic minority groups, to young people and to people with disabilities. Ken Burley was charged with explaining the Planning System in one hour (definitely a 'crash course!') to a workshop group at the Urban Forum National LSP Conference in York in July.

We are now embarking on an evaluation of our activities to help us develop our workplan for the Autumn and beyond. Plus we have 2,000 Annual Reports to distribute! Hopefully by the time you read this, the report will be available via the Planning Aid website: www.planningaid.rtpi.org.uk. However, if you would like a printed copy, please let me know: jacqui.baines@planningaid.rtpi.org.uk; tel: 0113 237 8486

Yorkshire Conference Series – forthcoming events

Wed. 15th November 2006 - Sheffield - Strategic Environmental Assessments

Wed. 13th December 2006 - Leeds - Community Engagement in Planning

Please contact RTPI Regional Office on tel 0113 237 8487 or email Yorkshire@rtpi.org.uk for further details.

ELECTRONIC REGION

To improve service and efficiency, the Regional office would like to increase correspondence to members via email, which is proving to be very successful and cost effective. In order that you don't miss out on Branch events, news and policy statements, as well as what's going on elsewhere in the region, complete the form below and return it to the Regional office. This will also help us to keep our records up to date and know where you all are!

Name:

Organisation:

Tel. No:

Email:

Return to: Paula Nolan
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The Green Sand Foundry
99 Water Lane, Holbeck,
LEEDS LS11 5QN

Or email details to: yorkshire@rtpi.org.uk

Visit the Branch's web pages at www.yorkshire.rtpi.org.uk