

FOR PUBLICATION

PERCENT FOR ART SCHEME AT 125 SALTERGATE, CHESTERFIELD

MEETING:	PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE
DATE:	6 August, 2019
REPORT BY:	STRATEGIC & KEY SITES MANAGER
WARD:	BROCKWELL
BACKGROUND PAPERS:	Artists Brief Submission Documents

1.0 **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To consider a short list of artists for a permanent percent for art scheme at 125 Saltergate, Chesterfield (former Sports and Social Club).
- 1.2 To seek Sub-Committees endorsement of the preferred scheme.

2.0 **BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 A requirement to provide a public work of art was included in the S106 legal agreement associated with the approved planning application (reference CHE/15/00195/FUL) for a mixed use commercial and residential development comprising two ground floor commercial units with 10 flats above and to the rear. Details of the approved scheme can be seen via the link below: <https://publicaccess.chesterfield.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=NMHDZJEP00M00&activeTab=summary>
- 2.2 A sum of up to £8,000 was agreed for the project.

A project brief was prepared by CBC and agreed with A-Rock Construction who contacted a number of artists inviting them to make submissions. The brief can be seen via the link listed against Background Papers (see front page). The brief sets out the site details, potential location of the artwork and budget. Artists were invited to put forward concept design ideas and examples of previous work in the public realm. The process outlined in the brief was:

- For the commission to be managed by A-Rock Construction.
- To jointly review submissions and shortlist candidates for interview.
- For the final selection to be brought to the Planning-Sub Committee for endorsement.

2.3 Only one submission was received within the timescale. This was received from Sculpture Works operated by the artist Denis O’Conner. The submission documents can be seen via the link listed against Background Papers (see front page):

2.4 The artists submission was reviewed by the developer and a representative of council (Phil Smith, Senior Urban Design Officer) at a meeting held on the on Tuesday 16th June 2019 and Dennis O’Conner attended and presented examples of his work, showed previous completed projects and discussed his approach to the project.

3.0 **CONSIDERATIONS**

3.1 The concept aims for the proposal to create an artwork that celebrates the uniqueness of the Saltergate referencing its place name, industrial and sporting heritage and which strengthens the identity of the development.

3.2 The objective is to create a site specific artwork that is both functional, but visually dynamic and decorative and which enhances the site.

3.3 The artist proposes to work with the developer to establish a clear theme for the project, using detailed research to inform the final proposal. The developer has expressed an interest in a set of bespoke designed gates to the passageway through the front elevation of the building, which affords residents access to the communal garden and building entrances within rear part of the site. As such this is likely to form the focus of developing the artist’s concept into a more detailed proposal.

3.4 Sculpture works are experienced in delivering public art commissions and have provided many examples of their previous projects. These represent high quality works.

3.5 In addition, Sculpture Works have also made reference to:

- Working with the client team to agree the siting and implementation of the artwork.
- Make a work that is well-engineered and robust and made from durable materials (Stainless steel, Core-ten steel, bronze, natural stone etc.) reference to health and safety considerations i.e.

demonstrate that the proposal is safe, robust, durable and requires minimum maintenance.

- To maintain good environmental practices.
- To work within the budget considerations and timescales.
- To comply with relevant health and safety policies and insurance requirements. Stated public liability insurance of £5million and £10million public indemnity).

4.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 That members note the appointment of the artist and endorse the developers decision to select the artist for the commission.
- 4.2 It is proposed to bring detailed proposals back to Planning Sub-Committee once the design of the artwork has been progressed further.

5.0 **REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1 To assist in the implementation of the Chesterfield Borough Local Plan.

Further information on this report can be obtained from Philip Smith (Senior Urban Design Officer) on 01246 345795 (work days Monday to Wednesday).