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| **URBAN UPDATE** | **23rd October 2015** |
| **Main news**  **New Jobs – Turley, Shepway District Council and over 8 others**  **Creating profit and value - conference report**  New UrbanNous Videos to View  **Why Partnership is the key to successful regeneration and urban design**  Do Supertall Buildings Help or Hurt Cities?  **[Up to 27 seconds of inattention after talking to your car or smartphone](http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2015-10/uou-ut2102115.php)**  China’s disposable cities  **Australian car-free development thrown out for having no car-parking.** | **from the Urban Design Group**  *A free service for all individuals and organisations who care about life in cities towns and villages ………for - planners – landscape architects – architects – conservation practitioners – engineers –surveyors – masterplanners – managers – urban designers - urbanists – health professionals - politicians – public*  ***Urban design – the design of towns and cities – streets and spaces*** |

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| **National Urban Design Conference Reports**  ***Paul Osborne of LHC Architecture and Urbanism reports on the session -* Creating profit and value’.** | | | | | | | |
| Yolande Barnes presentation provided detailed analysis regarding the benefits of ‘urban design’ over contemporary development, and the shortcomings of short-term market-led development in relation to longer term investment in a site (through landed estates, social landlords and local authorities), which can deliver long term income streams which support the added investment in good quality design.  This is interesting in relation to our work – client’s such as Clinton Devon Estates value the longer-term view and seek joint venture delivery mechanisms with housebuilders to | | control quality and secure legacy, traditional housebuilders seek to maximise value and dispose of sites as quickly as possible.  Chris Crook discussed the added value of good quality design and the potential return on sales values, whilst Mike Robert’s from HAB discussed the value of community over commodity.  One of the issues raised during discussion was affordability – better quality design may drive up sale price and increase returns to the housebuilder/investor but it may increase the gap for first time buyers or lower income families – pricing them out of better quality | | | | | developments.  It seems unlikely that the government’s starter homes plan will address this.  Noel Farrar highlighted in the morning session that over 75% of housing schemes in the north of England do not have an architect or landscape architect involved in the design process – and it seems we are in danger of 2-tier housing development with higher quality housing for those who can afford it, and poorer quality schemes for those on lower incomes.  ***View Yolande Barnes’ presentation on UrbanNous***  <http://www.urbannous.org.uk/development-economics.htm> |
| **Why partnership is the key to successful regeneration and urban design**  ***Reflections on the National Urban Design Conference 2015***  ***Andrew Dakin,***  ***Conference Co-Convenor and discussion panel member***  The location of the Conference at the SS Great Britain on Harbourside represented a particularly déjà vu experience for me. I started my formal career in property, planning, and regeneration in Bristol almost 40 years ago. And while I was still training to become RICS qualified, I found myself managing my then employer British Rail’s considerable property interests in Harbourside. This included the location of what is now the SS Great Britain’s new conference facility, which was the principal accommodation for the Conference.  All was dereliction at the time within the Bristol Docks, and with the land owners (and there were a lot of them, big and small eg British Rail, Bristol City Council, coal merchants etc) all wanting to maintain and exploit their real estate assets. Today, we know that one of three ‘foundation stones’ of successful regeneration is partnership, the other two being strategy and sustainability. However, it was early days in the then evolving and mercurial world of regeneration, and only just after the issue of the first ever Urban White Paper in 1977(..as I suggested at the Conference, there has only ever been two Government White Papers published on urban policy, and the second one was as long ago as 2000, so we certainly now need a fresh White Paper given the ever increasing emphasis on the ‘urban’), and working in partnership with other stakeholders was not, at the time, seen as a top priority’. | | **Bristol Harbourside - From Dereliction to Global Attraction in 40 years**    *Aerial photos of Bristol’s floating harbour taken in 1946 and 2012 show how the area has successfully transformed from industrial docks, to commerce, residential, retail, leisure and heritage. (taken from “Know Your Place”)* | | | | | |
| I just wasn’t a good ‘strategic partner’ at the time on behalf of my employers. But why should this be at all significant to the National Urban Design Conference? At the very beginning of the discussions that Dan Black and I had with Robert Huxford regarding content, we talked about the importance and the need for joined -up working. Hence, our efforts to get lots of different institutions and organisations to work in partnership on the conference…which eventually culminated in achieving eight logos on the publicity material:  *RIBA, RICS, RTPI, LI, RSA, AoU, ULI and UDG*…  is that a ‘first’ within the built environment sector?  Anyway, my personal reluctance to work in partnership cumulated in British Rail attempting to go it alone, and we made a planning application to develop industrial units on what is now the location of the SS Great Britain conference facility. Bristol City Council didn’t like my proposals… | | I was horrified…how dare they…and what was the reason given?… the need for a comprehensive and strategic approach to regeneration and development in Harbourside....a new name on me…I thought it was the Bristol Docks.  So if we had built the industrial units….yes, they could subsequently have been demolished and the site redeveloped (but this wouldn’t have been in accordance with the aspiration of John Ruskin about making sure that when we build, we build for ever…). However, the worst case scenario may have been that the units eventually became a food retail outlet, in which case in this particular location in Harbourside, their value may have meant that they would be there over the very long term, preventing a better and more imaginative development of the site The SS Great Britain conference facility might never have been built in this particular location…or indeed maybe not at all. Retail units rely on the local economy; the SS Great Britain Conference centre adds to the local economy, bringing in cash from outside Bristol. This is what real regeneration is all about. | | | ***The lessons of 40 year’s experience***  What are the lessons?..... Certainly, something about the need to see the big… and potentially very long term future….and the need for real estate owners to engage in pro-active compromise. And for the statutory planning process and its representatives, to always have the courage of their convictions, even in the face of powerful land owners, and their sometimes arrogant and young representatives… that was me…way back then.  Of course the issue of the negative effect of personal and corporate self-interest looms large in this story, and maybe the only way to reduce and negate this and to facilitate the ‘greater good’, would require more state intervention via ‘regulation, persuasion, and conversion’. However more state intervention is unlikely in the current political climate.  Notwithstanding the current difficulties of negating personal and corporate self-interest I believe that all practitioners have a moral and ethical dutyto do their best to act as true partners in the development of the built environment.  And if we all discharged this duty with honesty and effort, our towns and cities would be the better for it. | | |
| **Urban Design Awards**  **Developer Award**  **1 week to the deadline!**  ***Do you know any developers or public bodies who you think should enter the 2016 awards?***  ***if so***  ***please let them know and please encourage them to enter!***  Full details of how to apply:  **Developer Award**   * Deadline 30 October 2015   <http://www.udg.org.uk/content/urban-design-developer-year-award-2016-opportunity-enter>  **Student Award**  **£600 Francis Tibbalds Prize**  Deadline 9 November 2015  http://www.udg.org.uk/content/national-urban-design-awards-student-award  Shortlisting of practice awards is currently underway | | *Urban Design 136*  ***Designing Housing***  *Available to UDG Members by Subscription* | | | | **UDG London Events**  **28th October event cancelled**  **11 November – Housing**  On the current edition of Urban Design –  Speakers include  Andy von Bradsky, PRP Architects,  Tim Pharoah  **Comparing House Builders’ approaches to Urban Design**  **A pilot study to understand its role and value to the industry**  **Major Research report produced for the UDG by Richard Hayward, Ivor Samuels, Louise Thomas launched at the National Urban Design Conference**.  ***Download the full report***  [***http://www.udg.org.uk/content/house-builders-and-urban-design***](http://www.udg.org.uk/content/house-builders-and-urban-design) | |
| **Events and Webinars** | |  | | | |  | |
| **Other events**  The number of events is on the wane as we approach the holiday period, but there are still events to go to for those that seek them…  **Academy of Urbanism**  <http://www.academyofurbanism.org.uk/events/>  **Learning from Europe**  November 5 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm  **The Urbanism Awards Ceremony**  November 6 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm  ***Booking now open!***  **BOBMK Events**  <http://bobmk.org.uk/our-programme/>  Future of Transport and Innovation November/ December 2015  @ Milton Keynes  **Landscape Institute**  **Rethinking the Urban Landscape Exhibition**  Leeds, Sheffield – see website for dates  <http://www.landscapeinstitute.co.uk/events/>  **MADE**  <http://made.org.uk/events>  **Planning Law Update**  10th November  **Neighbourhood Planning**  26th November  **Architecture for an Ageing Population**  26th November West Midlands Urban Design ForumEngage Liverpool **Liveable Liverpool Seminar** 28th October  <https://www.engageliverpool.com/events/> Museum of Walking **Norton Folgate Lost with Tom Bolton**  Wednesday 11 November 6.00pm – 8.00pm  **http://www.museumofwalking.org.uk/events/** Urban Design London Events coming up – extensive programme some free, some charged/ £175+VAT  (Free for subscribers)  <http://www.urbandesignlondon.com/events-listing/>  **Heritage Skills: Collaborating on Heritage Strategies**  28th October  **Cycling Infrastructure Skills: London Cycle Design Standards – Two Day Course** 29th October & 5th November  **Design South East / Kent Design**  <http://www.kentdesign.org/events/>  Event Calendar  <http://www.kentdesign.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Event-Calendar-2015-16-edited-14.4.15.pdf>  **Garden City II Eastgate,**  Springhead Park  28 October  **Designing Kent's Infrastructure**  Maidstone  19 November  **East Anglia**  **Changing Chelmsford**  **Chelmsford - Heritage strategy**  October 29, 2015 @ 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm - Civic Centre - Chelmsford  <http://www.changingchelmsford.org/event/heritage-strategy/?instance_id=1127>  **Colchester**  **Colchester Metro Town - An Alternative Strategy for Colchester's Local Plan.**  27th November 2.00pn Great Tey, Essex  Local group CAUSE (Campaign Against Urban Sprawl in Essex) have come up with a transit-based solution to accommodate Greater Colchester's growth over the next 20 years.  A free half-day conference will present this strategy to local planning authorities and MPs.  Speakers include Nicholas Falk of URBED, James McColl of Campaign for Better Transport, Alan Stones, Tim Pharoah, Joanna Chambers and Bernard Jenkin MP.  Venue Barn Brasserie, Great Tey. If you would like to attend, please notify Rosie Pearson on 07766 650208, who will arrange transport to the venue from Kelvedon Station. | | **Latest Lectures  on UrbanNous**  ***New***  ***Three lectures from the National Urban Design Conference***  **Weather in the City – How Design Shapes the Urban Climate**  **Sanda Lenzholzer**  <http://www.urbannous.org.uk/climate-and-city-design.htm>  *All urban designers, architects planners, and highway engineers should have a knowledge of this subject.*  **Urbanism: Improving quality and value**  **The importance of product, land and money**  Yolande Barnes - Savills  <http://www.urbannous.org.uk/urbanism-quality-and-value.htm>  **Garden Cities Past and Present. Potential morphologies explored**.  Dominic Papa S333 Architecture and Urbanism  <http://www.urbannous.org.uk/garden-city-morphologies.htm>  **Garden Cities: Is there a Business Case?**  Jim Coleman, Buro Happold  <http://www.urbannous.org.uk/garden-city-economics.htm>  **Health and Urban Design**  Lucy Saunders, GLA, TFL<http://www.urbannous.org.uk/health-and-urban-design.htm>  ***UrbanNous Catalogue available on-line***  *Highlights include Christopher Alexander, George Ferguson, Hans Monderman and scores of others.*  [www.urbannous.org.uk](http://www.urbannous.org.uk)  Urban Nous is produced and operated by Fergus Carnegie for the benefit of practitioners worldwide.  **Jobs**  **VIA Consultant / Senior Consultant– Turley - London**  [**http://www.udg.org.uk/jobs/london-and-south-east/consultant-senior-consultant-turley**](http://www.udg.org.uk/jobs/london-and-south-east/consultant-senior-consultant-turley)  **Urban Designer, CSA Environmental - Hertfordshire**  <http://www.udg.org.uk/jobs/urban-designer-csa-environmental>  **Conservation Officer - Shepway District Council - Folkestone**  <http://www.udg.org.uk/jobs/london-and-south-east/conservation-officer-shepway-district-council-folkestone>  **Architectural/Urban Design Assistant - Define - Birmingham**  <http://www.udg.org.uk/jobs/west-midlands/architecturalurban-design-assistant-define-birmingham>  **Senior Architect/Urban Designer - Define - Birmingham**  <http://www.udg.org.uk/jobs/west-midlands/senior-architecturban-designer-define-birmingham>  **Masterplanners & Urban Designers Broadway Malyan Southwark/Weybridge**  <http://www.udg.org.uk/jobs/london-and-south-east/masterplanners-urban-designers>  **Senior Urban Designer – Sustrans – London/ Birmingham/ Bristol**  <http://www.udg.org.uk/jobs/east-midlands/senior-urban-designer-sustrans>  **Business Development Manager - Urban Planning - PLACE LOGIC**  <http://www.udg.org.uk/jobs/london-and-south-east/business-development-manager-urban-planning-place-logic>  **Urban Designer - JTP London Studio**  <http://www.udg.org.uk/jobs/london-and-south-east/urban-designer-jtp-london-studio>  **Opportunities for creative Urban Designers - Savills Urban Design - Southampton - Oxford**  <http://www.udg.org.uk/jobs/opportunities-creative-urban-designers-savills-urban-design-southampton-oxford>  **Architecture and Design Scotland**  <http://www.ads.org.uk/category/news/>  **Place Challenge 2015 – Town Centre Living Event**  **28-29 October 2015**  **IHBC**  **Housing in Scotland: Learning from the Past, Building for the Future**  <http://ihbc.org.uk/events/?p=5429>  **Centre for Cities**  **Urban grit or suburban comfort: where do people prefer to live?**  3 November – Carlton House Terrace – Central London  <http://www.centreforcities.org/event/urban-grit-or-suburban-comfort-where-do-people-prefer-to-live/>  **Landor**  **The Intelligent City Mobility Event 2015,**  **12th November - KIA Oval, London**  Discounted places for UDG members, up to 30 per cent off  A major one-day event including three conferences  *Pick and mix the best sessions for your needs*   * The Car & the City * Parking World * Space & Place   Book online at [www.IntelligentCityMobility.uk](http://www.intelligentcitymobility.uk/) and quote Promocode CAC2015 | | | | Home  PROJECT OF THE WEEK  **Riverside Walk Enhancement Strategy**  [**Burns + Nice**](http://www.urbandesigndirectory.com/practices/burns-nice)    Burns + Nice were commissioned to produce a comprehensive strategy for the enhancement and management of the Riverside Walk within the City of London as it extends from Victoria Embankment to Tower Pier. It proposes a range of improvements to this prominent open space corridor along the River Thames, which is part of the Thames Path National Trail. The walkway encompasses 16,000m2 of open space and the importance of the River Thames and its shore-line for wildlife is highlighted by its designation as a Site of Metropolitan importance in terms of Nature Conservation.  The strategy offers the opportunity to create a high quality riverside environment dealing with both public and private space in a coherent manner. The aims of the strategy are to provide universally accessible connections between the riverside and the rest of the City and new and improved green spaces to enhance people’s enjoyment of the Thames.  The strategy provides for:   * A more spacious, better connected and continuous walkway along the water’s edge and away from the busy traffic corridors with new entrances and active frontages facing the River * A fully accessible walkway including accessible routes into the City of London * Public art, activities and spaces to host events such as the City of London Festival and Thames Festival and increase the vibrancy of the walkway * Open spaces for people to enjoy with planting and increased greenery to soften the environment and strengthen biodiversity along the riverside.   ***Read more***  <http://www.urbandesigndirectory.com/projects/riverside-walk-enhancement-strategy>  **Silk Cities**  **Silk Cities Exchange Workshop**  Free one day event  29/10 UCL  <http://www.udg.org.uk/events/silk-cities%E2%80%99-exchange-workshop>  **CIRIA**  **Valuing urban ecology and city resilience** **3 November 2015, London**  https://www.ciria.org/CIRIA/Navigation/Events/Event\_Display.aspx?EventKey=E15232  **Place Alliance**  **The Big Meet**  27 October  **The importance of the Linear Forest**  A day devoted to the possibility of creating a tree-lined roadscape against the conservatism of highway design and road safety audit.  25th November Kew  <http://treeworks-seminars.co.uk/seminar/tree-lined-routes-the-linear-forest/> PTRC <https://www.ptrc-training.co.uk/Training/UpcomingCourses.aspx>  **An Introduction to Highway Design & Construction**  The Principles of Traffic and Transport 20-Week Evening Lecture Series, London and Bristol | |
| Urban Design around the WorldAustralia **Green building with no car parking thrown out by VCAT for having no car parking**  VCAT the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal have been criticised as being out of touch  <http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/green-building-with-no-car-parking-thrown-out-by-vcat-for-having-no-car-parking-20151022-gkfia5.html> China **Half the houses will be demolished within 20 years": On the disposable cities of China**  <http://www.citymetric.com/skylines/half-houses-will-be-demolished-within-20-years-disposable-cities-china-1470> India **Time to build Delhi around its people**  <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/Time-to-build-Delhi-around-its-people/articleshow/49473977.cms> New Zealand *Duncan Ecob - International Correspondent*  **New Urban Design Forum Launched**  <http://urbandesignforum.org.nz/links>  **Queenstown's first special housing area 'not a slum', says urban design expert**  <http://www.stuff.co.nz/business/industries/73177473/queenstowns-first-special-housing-area-not-a-slum-says-urban-design-expert> UK **uSwitch Quality of Life Index ranks 138 towns in the UK-**  <http://www.thisismoney.co.uk/money/news/article-3283019/Best-places-live-UK-Edinburgh-soars-138-areas-quality-life-league.html> England **The housing bill doesn’t go far enough. It’s time to build on the green belt**  <http://www.citymetric.com/politics/housing-bill-doesn-t-go-far-enough-it-s-time-build-green-belt-1496>  **Half million pound study to explore Oxford to Cambridge Expressway**  <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/half-million-pound-study-to-explore-oxford-to-cambridge-expressway>  “Improved road links between Oxford and Cambridge will allow hard working families to have better access to jobs, shops and leisure facilities” said a DfT spokesman. Or should they have said, “Uncontrolled investment in inter-urban roads risks leading more people into car-dependent, environmentally damaging lifestyles, bringing a higher chance of developing obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer, blindness, loneliness, and dependency on the state in older age.”  **Homeowner hauled to court and fined £550 for leaving wheelie bin in front of his own house**  <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3276642/Homeowner-hauled-court-fined-550-leaving-wheelie-bin-house.html>  **The Saffron Lane Estate, Leicester I: ‘moving into paradise’**  <https://municipaldreams.wordpress.com/2015/10/06/the-saffron-lane-estate-leicester-moving-into-paradise/>  An illustrated essay on a 1920s suburb. USA **Somerville Wins Urbanism Award for Gilman Square Station Plans**  <http://patch.com/massachusetts/somerville/somerville-wins-urbanism-award-gilman-square-station-plans-0>  **Grisby Square street redesigned to feature new low-impact design**  <https://communityimpact.com/2015/10/21/grisby-square-street-redesigned-to-feature-new-low-impact-design/> | | | Latest Research, Policy and PracticePolitics, Philosophy, Economics **The Just City Essays: Visions for Urban Equity, Inclusivity and Opportunity**  https://nextcity.org/features/view/just-city-essys-toni-griffin-theaster-gates-angela-glover-blackwell  <http://www.thenatureofcities.com/the-just-city-essays/>  **Richer Londoners are being priced out of their homes, too. Here’s why that matters**  <http://www.citymetric.com/politics/richer-londoners-are-being-priced-out-their-homes-too-here-s-why-matters-1511>  **Environmentally friendly office buildings have higher rents and occupancy rates as well as more satisfied tenant**  <http://news.uoguelph.ca/2015/10/green-buildings-bring-in-more-green/>  **Escaping the office: The growing movement to take work outdoors**  <http://theconversation.com/escaping-the-office-the-growing-movement-to-take-work-outdoors-48807> Built Environment **Do Supertall Buildings Help or Hurt Cities?**  <https://www.inverse.com/article/7314-do-supertall-buildings-help-or-hurt-cities>  **Skyscrapers, built too close, threaten downtown livability**  <http://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/skyscrapers-built-too-close-threaten-downtown-livability/>  **How a Not-Entirely-Polite Card Game Is Changing Urban Planning**  <https://nextcity.org/daily/entry/cards-against-urbanity-new-game-for-urban-planners>  **How Future Cities Will Reconnect Humans and Nature (Interview)**  <http://singularityhub.com/2015/10/22/how-future-cities-will-unite-humans-and-nature-interview/>  **This is what a city where everyone rides bikes looks like**  <http://www.bicycling.com/culture/advocacy/what-city-where-everyone-rides-bikes-would-look>  An interesting thought experiment as to what one might do to create a continuous infrastructure for cycling – involving ramps, easy gradients, protection from the elements, and the ability to cycle into and within buildings. But it also presents a vision of treeless spaces, and uniform mass-concrete structures, and overall an inhospitable environment. Movement **L.A.'s CicLAvia significantly improves air quality in host neighborhoods -** Even one-day 'car-free' events can reduce presence of harmful particulate matter  <http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2015-10/uoc--lcs101515.php>  **Crash risk: Lifestyle, occupational factors that may put truck drivers in danger**  <http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2015-10/uouh-crl102115.php>  **[Up to 27 seconds of inattention after talking to your car or smartphone](http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2015-10/uou-ut2102115.php)**  <http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2015-10/uou-ut2102115.php> Humans, Health, Society **Sugar – the leaked Public Health England Report**  <https://www.scribd.com/doc/286428648/Sugar-Reduction-the-Evidence-for-Action>  **People with sedentary lifestyles are at increased risk of developing kidney disease**  <http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2015-10/ason-pws101915.php>  **High-fat diet may cause changes in the brain that lead to anxiety and depression**  <http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2015-10/w-hdm101915.php>  **New study suggests that repeated antibiotic use could lead to higher BMI long term**  <http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2015-10/jhub-cw102115.php>  **Study finds where you grow up may influence risk-taking behaviour in young adults**  <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/10/151020191715.htm>  **Plague infected humans much earlier than previously thought**  It looks as though it has been a feature of human life since the bronze age. Mentioned in the article are The Plague of Athens 2500bce, the Antonine Plague 165-180, the Justinian plague 540-541 , the Black Death 1350s,, and the “Third Pandemic” (1850s China). A tiny organism has hugely influenced the human race, wiping out up to 1/3 of the global population each time, and disrupting politics, social and economic structures and the development of towns and cities.  <http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2015-10/cp-pih101515.php> | | | | |

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