Note of Meeting between Cllrs Coleman and De'Ath with relevant officers and representatives of Governside Ltd – 30th January 2017

Attendees:

Councillors: Coleman, De'Ath Council Officers: Ellen Whitchurch and Simon Taylor (part) Autor Architecture: Frederic Akuffo, Steven Fitzwilliam DP9, planning agent: Sunny Desai Quatro, public relations: Paul Dimoldenberg

Agenda:

The applicants had requested the meeting to update Councillors on their current planning application at 284 - 288 North End Road (2016/04876/FUL) for a hotel and retail scheme. There was no formal agenda.

Meeting Record:

- The architects and agent described their analysis of the site constraints and the earlier pre-application scheme which included a 10 storey hotel building. This proposal had not been supported by officers.
- The team described their current planning application for a 103-bedroom hotel including retail at ground floor level. The building would comprise 5 storeys above ground, and 2 below. Courtyards within the site would give light to the rooms in the lower floors. The scheme aimed to contribute to local economic activity as well as supporting regeneration of this part of North End Road.
- In answer to Councillors' questions the architects clarified details of the design including its quality, the building line, internal courtyards, relationship to the adjoining Listed building, viability requirement for 100+ rooms, and intended 3* hotel rating.

Councillors noted that the scheme would be subject to a full assessment by officers before any submission to the Planning committee, but made observations including: The need to include "greening", such as a green wall to the north elevation, The need to generate "economic and social value" through employment of local people and businesses in the construction and operation of the hotel. The need for awareness of parking and servicing issues and avoidance of conflict with existing traders in the area.

The need for appropriate relationships to surrounding buildings including day and sunlight, outlook, and historic assets.

The need to ensure appropriate and early engagement with the local residents and business community.

Meeting ended