Proposal: Maryhill Locks
Application Ref: Pre application
Architect: Elder and Cannon
Address: Maryhill Locks
Presented by: Gary Watt, ISIS
and Johnny Togneri, Elder and Cannon

Illustration indicates image of existing site as presented to the Glasgow Urban Design Panel 22nd August 2007

The Glasgow Urban Design Panel recognises the great opportunity this site represents, and noted the fine track record & aspiration of the developer, especially in relation to their sustainability policy.

It was acknowledged that the site is a fantastic opportunity, and while broadly supporting the general thrust of the masterplan it was felt that the adventurousness of the proposal did not match the potential of the site.

In particular we are concerned that the locks were not integrated into the proposal, being somewhat isolated, especially as some of the proposed housing turned its back on them. Moreover the challenge of making it a place to live & work was not fully addressed. The opportunity for work is not made clear. It is also a concern that the existing multi storey block, which will represent a large proportion of the housing on the site, was not integrated into the proposal. Lastly, as said above the developer has an excellent sustainability policy & we would like to have heard about it's application in the proposal.

All this being said, these criticisms are meant constructively, and we appreciate the quality of thought & intention apparent
in the proposals. We feel that it is a creditable approach but would like to see more adventure and bravado, matching the extraordinary bravado of the locks.