

Hello

Welcome to the third
community newsletter
from Urban&Civic



Urban&Civic has been appointed by the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) to take forward the development of the former Waterbeach Barracks and Airfield site.

It has been a busy few months and we continue to work with strategic partners and the community to develop a shared vision for the future development of this site.

In this edition, we provide an update on the workshops held from January to March and details of the next sessions on 21 and 23 April, at which we will present feedback from the workshops, share developing thoughts and outline the next steps.

There is also information about a couple of the local groups that are using the facilities that have been reopened for community use, information on the A10 Transport Corridor Study and an update on the Local Plan.



Community facilities update

The recently refurbished and reopened facilities at Waterbeach Barracks are proving popular with local community and activity groups. The facilities include the sports hall and studio area, squash courts, and community room, as well as some open space for outdoor activities. They are available for regular weekly bookings for local groups.

In this edition of the newsletter, we are providing a focus on sport and music.

Waterbeach Colts Football Club

Waterbeach Colts FC was established in 2002 and, over 14 years later, the Club is growing and increasing its teams with the same ethos as when it started: to let the children play.

The Club now has 13 teams for boys and girls from Under 6s through to Under 16s as well as two adult teams that play on Saturday and Sunday in the village. The teams up to Under 11s play non-competitive football in the Cambridge Mini League, while Under 12s to Under 16s play in the Cambridge and District Colts League. The adult teams play in Division 3B of the Cambridge County League and in the Cambridge Friendly League.

Gary Fletcher said: "I am proud to be Chairman of this great Club with a fantastic Committee behind it, great coaches, enthusiastic parents and family members. But most important is to be able to see all the children and adults playing and demonstrating their skills in the game they love at grassroots level. We are truly a Club that offers the community an opportunity to play football.

"Training for the children is an important part of their development and the majority of our winter training now takes place in the gym in Waterbeach Barracks, which is a great safe environment to learn, both in size of the location and availability. Without this venue the coaches would need to be travelling to Cottenham or further, paying more in fuel and subs."

The Club provides fully qualified coaches that are not only trained in the appropriate level of coaching to meet the needs of the FA but are also trained First Aiders, have qualifications in the Safe Guarding of Children and are DBS checked. The Club also has a coach that is qualified in training those with disabilities.



A referee course is available to players over 14 years old so they have other opportunities to develop in the sport and also earn a good rate of pocket money for doing something they love when they are not playing.

Each year on the second bank holiday weekend in May the Club runs the popular Football and Beer Festival, which has become a great community event with people gathering to play football and catch up with friends while sampling real ales as well as a range of soft drinks.

To join the sport and festivities, head along to Waterbeach Recreation Ground:

- Football from 9am on both Saturday, 28 and Sunday, 29 May
- Beer Festival from 6pm until 11pm on Friday, 27 May
- Beer Festival from 1pm until 11pm on Saturday, 28 May
- Beer Festival from 1pm until 9pm on Sunday, 29 May

To find out more about Waterbeach Colts FC, whether you are looking to play, coach or join the Committee – visit www.waterbeachcolts.org.uk or give Gary Fletcher a call on 07789 747347.



Waterbeach Brass Band

Waterbeach Brass was formed in 1978 and has grown from a handful of players into a successful contesting band. In the early years, the band used to rehearse in the library at Waterbeach School and still performs its 'home concerts' in the school hall.

For many years up to the closure of the barracks the army provided Waterbeach Brass with a rehearsal space in the training cinema and storage for its music library and growing collection of percussion instruments. Since 2013, when the band left the barracks, Waterbeach Brass has had to find rehearsal and storage space outside Waterbeach.

Richard Dean, Chairman of Waterbeach Brass said: "The band was delighted to be able to return 'home' to Waterbeach in 2015 when Urban&Civic offered us a rehearsal space and storage in one of the buildings on the barracks site.

"Waterbeach Brass is always pleased to welcome new players, and now it is based back in Waterbeach we hope to attract local players who are already residents or those moving into the area."

Waterbeach Brass continues to be in demand to play concerts throughout the year including events at Wimpole Hall, Cambridge, Ely and the bandstand in Hunstanton. On 20 March 2016 Waterbeach Brass achieved third place out of 16 bands in the London and Southern Counties competition and will be promoted to the second division.

The next local performance will be on Saturday, 11 June 2016 at Waterbeach Feast on Waterbeach Village Green – come along to hear the band play and show your support.

The band rehearses on Monday evenings from 7:45pm to 10:00pm. More details about Waterbeach Brass, contests and concerts can be found at www.waterbeachbrass.org

"Early discussion with our neighbours, the Parish Council and community groups highlighted how much local residents missed some of the facilities they had previously enjoyed on the site and it's great to see young people filling the sports hall and to be able to welcome back Waterbeach Brass Band for their rehearsals."

Rebecca Britton, Urban&Civic



To find out more about hiring any of the community facilities please contact Rebecca Britton (see back page for contact details).

Next edition →

Yoga classes and the
Cambridgeshire Cadet Force

The future development: update and next steps

Over 400 people attended the Open Days held in October to introduce the Urban&Civic team and discuss local views and aspirations for the site. Since then, the team has been busy working through the feedback.

One clear message was that Urban&Civic and RLW Estates (RLW) should work together to develop and present a cohesive vision and plan for the whole area being proposed for new development. This would enable people to see the bigger picture and engage more effectively.

This is being taken forward through the creation of a Development Framework Document. The Framework will provide key principles evolved in discussion with local partners and residents, and can inform the vision for a new sustainable community on the wider development area encompassing both the former airfield and barracks area and the land to the east up to the railway line.

It can stand alongside and support the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan processes but also provide a context for outline planning applications coming forward.



The design teams of both RLW and Urban&Civic have been working together, going through the feedback from the Open Days and developing designs that respond to the ideas, issues and views raised to create the Framework. These have been tested and developed further through a series of workshops, which have been designed with themes that reflect the Neighbourhood Plan priorities.

The workshops were held by Urban&Civic and RLW from January to March 2016 and focussed on:

- Vision and principles
- Green infrastructure
- Transport and utilities
- Heritage
- Community facilities, recreation and amenities.



Each workshop included a session with local authority officers – including South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and statutory partners such as Natural England, Historic England, Environment Agency – and a session with the local community, members of the Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan Working Group. The sessions examined:

- the current facilities and assets across each theme, including existing deficits and challenges;
- the requirements of a new development to meet the needs of new residents and existing communities around the site;
- core principles on how elements are delivered and potential locations or approaches to new facilities.

Key elements that came through the workshops were:

- the need to ensure the new development protects and enhances the character of the existing village;
- ensuring the transport strategy prevents traffic running through the village, but enables local residents to access facilities on the new development;
- ensuring phased investment in key infrastructure – in road, rail, bus and cycle facilities – to ensure the capacity is in place as new homes are delivered;
- welcoming the commitment to protect and enhance the existing landscape and habitats, including the lake, woodland and rich grassland areas, and celebrating the fen edge;
- opportunities to reconnect the village with Denny Abbey by opening up the historic Causeway and commemorating the military heritage, from the Roman legend of Soldier Hill to the air and ground crew of the Second World War and the innovation and bravery of the Royal Engineers;
- the importance of early investment in facilities such as primary and secondary schools, health care, sports facilities and other services, and that they should be accessible to local residents;
- the opportunities to reconnect Waterbeach residents to the airfield and barracks site, creating links between neighbouring communities, whilst ensuring each retains its character and identity.

Urban&Civic is holding two drop-in sessions to feedback from the themed workshops, share and test the evolving thinking about the development of the former airfield and barracks site, and update people on the next steps as the teams progress the Development Framework Document. The drop-in sessions will be held in the Community Rooms on:

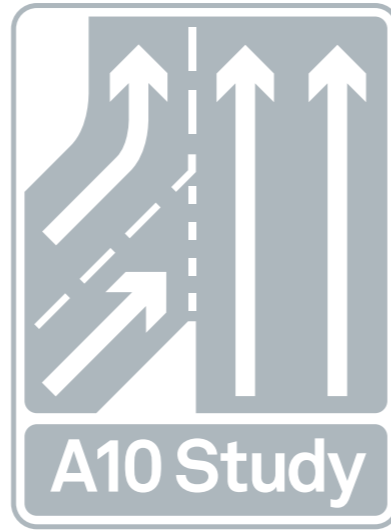
Thursday 21 April — 3pm-8pm
Saturday 23 April — 10am-3pm

Tim Leathes, Development Director of Urban&Civic, said: “We would like to thank everyone who came along to the workshops and gave freely of their time, expertise and opinions. The workshops were very productive and informative and have helped progress the Development Framework. We’re looking forward to sharing the outputs and next steps at our April drop-in sessions.”

Notes from the community workshops are available at www.waterbeachbarracks.co.uk. It is anticipated that further events will be held to present the Development Framework Document in the early Summer.

A10 Transport Corridor Study

Transport has come up at every discussion we have had as a key concern for people. In our discussions, we have frequently referred to the A10 Transport Corridor Study, and promised more details about the study and to provide an update.



An independent transport study is being undertaken to assess the potential impacts on the A10 corridor from new developments that may come forward in the area over the next 15 years and beyond. This will include those proposed at Waterbeach, Cambridge Northern Fringe East, Cambridge Research Park, in East Cambridgeshire to the north of Ely and at Littleport. The study will consider all modes of transport – including rail, road, bus and bicycle – and will look to develop the solutions required to meet the challenges ahead from the additional new homes and jobs.

Specialist transport consultant, Mott MacDonald has been commissioned by Cambridgeshire County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and a consortium of private stakeholders to undertake the study and make recommendations for integrated transport solutions.

The study will consider current and future travel patterns and demand on the A10 Ely to Cambridge corridor, highway capacity and junction improvements, opportunities for rail/busway, ways to reduce short cuts via less appropriate routes, and pedestrian and cycle links between Waterbeach and Cambridge, Ely and surrounding villages. Specific transport requirements, access options, costs, acceptability and any implications for the phasing of development will also be considered. This will then enable discussions with City Deal, Central Government, the Local Enterprise Partnership and developers along the corridor to secure the funding needed.

Tim Leathes, Development Director for Urban&Civic said: “The study will enable all the partners involved to have options that can be programmed in to spending and commitment plans. This will ensure that we work together to secure the investment needed. The study is taking a strategic look along this main priority transport corridor – knowing that there are existing issues to resolve and capacity that needs to be built in early for future developments that run from Cambridge up beyond Ely.

“Critically it is not all about the A10 as a road: the solutions have to be about providing options and capacity across a number of means of transport, and encouraging people who do not need to use their cars to use the bus, rail or bike.

“The new developments provide both challenge and opportunity for transport, and represent a chance to bring in the investment needed to make this growth corridor work for existing communities, new residents and businesses coming to the area.”

The initial findings of the study are expected to report in the Autumn and the proposed transport solutions will then be further informed through stakeholder and public consultation exercises. Urban&Civic will continue to work with the County and District Councils, the consultants and RLW to ensure we develop fully integrated proposals to support the new development and the existing community.

Planning update South Cambridgeshire Local Plan

The Local Plan is a set of policies and land allocations that will support the delivery of new jobs and homes in South Cambridgeshire up to 2031. It has been developed and submitted jointly alongside the Local Plan for Cambridge City and is in the process of being examined by the Planning Inspectorate.

The examination had been halted as Government Inspectors queried whether enough homes were being planned to meet local needs and whether the strategy of focusing the majority of homes in new towns and villages was sound.

Additional work commissioned by the two Councils endorsed the majority of the proposals originally submitted to the Government for examination, including the strategy to deliver growth through new towns and villages and protecting the green belt.

Some small modifications were suggested though. These included:

- increasing the housing target for South Cambridgeshire by an additional 500 homes, up to 19,500, to meet needs locally;
- lifting restrictions to allow the proposed new town north of Waterbeach and new village at Bourn Airfield to begin earlier, which gives more flexibility;
- bringing forward more of the land that was earmarked earlier for housing near to Cambridge Airport. The proposals would see 1,200 homes built north of Cherry Hinton and toward Teversham across the two areas. This would not affect the airport's operations; and
- reducing the land made available for employment next to ARM off Cherry Hinton Road.

Additional consultation was carried out by the District and City Council teams, which closed on 25 January this year. Following this public consultation the Councils took a report on 14 March to a Joint Strategic Transport and Spatial Planning Group, South Cambridgeshire Planning Portfolio Holder meeting and Cambridge Development Plan Scrutiny Sub Committee. On 23 March 2016 both Councils held special meetings to discuss the results of the consultation and the proposals were agreed.

The Councils have now submitted the further work and associated modifications to the Inspectors for consideration before the reopening of the Local Plan examination hearings.

The Planning Inspector Team running the examination has recently published a potential programme of the specific hearings, which indicate an outline of blocks of time for future Cambridge City Local Plan and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan hearings. South Cambridgeshire sessions start in the ninth block of hearings, with the strategic sites including Waterbeach being looked at in Block 13. The timing of this has not yet been made clear but the examination will not resume until at least June.

For further information on the Local Plan please see the South Cambridgeshire District Council website www.scambs.gov.uk/services/planning-policy



Forthcoming events

Drop-in Sessions 21 & 23 April

Waterbeach Barracks Community Rooms

Thursday 21 April 3pm-8pm
Saturday 23 April 10am-3pm

These events will share feedback from the recent workshops and test the evolving designs for the airfield and barracks site. It is anticipated that further events will be held to present the Development Framework Document in the early Summer.

Waterbeach Running Festival Saturday 14 May

Waterbeach Toddler Playgroup is holding its first running festival at the Waterbeach Barracks on Saturday 14 May.

Whether it's the 100m toddle for under 5s (adult assistance permitted!), a 2km fun run (with fancy dress welcome), a 5km or 10km race – whatever your age and ability – there's a race for you!

Come along and enjoy the food stalls and kids' entertainment in the Festival Village and cheer on the runners as they race past you to the finish.

To find out more – including how to enter, volunteer as a marshal, become a sponsor or have a stall in the Festival Village – visit www.waterbeachtoddlerplaygroup.org.uk/event-details



Get in touch

If you would like to meet up with the team, have a tour of the site or look at the community facilities, then please get in touch with us:

Rebecca Britton Communities & Partnerships
E: RBritton@urbanandcivic.com
T: 01480 413141 | M: 07739 339 889

waterbeachbarracks.co.uk

Waterbeach Art Open Day 2/3, 9/10 & 16/17 July

Summer at the Beach will be an exhibition showcasing the talents and skills of Waterbeach's many diverse artists and makers. Following on from *A Day at the Beach* in 2014 and in conjunction with Cambridge Open Studios, this event will examine, celebrate and explore everything that makes Waterbeach the unique and inspiring place it is.

Information about the participating artists can be found on the Cambridge Open Studio's website: www.camopenstudios.co.uk

Open from 11am-6pm on the weekends of 2/3 July, 9/10 July and 16/17 July – signposted from the Barracks main entrance.

The exhibition opens with a special day of events on Saturday 2 July, including drop in talks, presentations and displays for all ages – there will also be a special appearance by the village's famous 'Pop Up Café'. The full schedule of events will be posted on Facebook nearer the time: www.facebook.com/DayAtTheBeach2014/

Regular events

Monday evening Yoga Community Rooms, 7pm-8pm

Kate offers a weekly beginner class for adults, providing an introduction to basic Yoga postures. It is suitable for men and women, all ages and abilities – the main requirement is enthusiasm!

The next five week block is: 4 April-16 May (two week break 25 April-2 May).

Further classes will follow. If you are interested in joining or have questions, please email lemmie9@hotmail.com or call 07791 200984.

Friday morning Fitness4Living Community Rooms, 10am-12 noon

Join physiotherapist Margaret Coles' chair-based exercise group to keep the body, mind and spirit active. For more information, call Margaret on 07801 754599 or email margareta.coles@gmail.com

Monday evening Badminton Sports Hall, 7.30pm-9.30pm

Waterbeach Badminton Club welcomes experienced players and those in need of good competition and help with their game. Please check with Club Secretary, Norman Setchell first to see if there is space available: christian9@tiscali.co.uk or 07565 298834.

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