



Questions and answers:

Northwest and West Community Forum

2nd November 2023 – Storeys Field Centre, Eddington.

Planning update including Darwin Green 2&3 - Philippa Kelly – Strategic Sites Manager, John Shuttlewood – Principal Planning Officer, Greater Cambridge Planning Service

Q: What type of water efficiency measures are needed to help with the water shortage in the east?

A: Both residential and commercial properties need to be assessed for water saving measures to ensure better use of water via the use of technology including grey water use.

Q: How is this checked in the real world?

A: The monitoring of this is something the local planning authority and the Environment Agency are working on but have no control over if owner wishes to subsequently retro fit e.g. power shower.

Darwin Green 1 - Adrian Jarman - Operation Director, Barratt David Wilson Homes

Q: How can your net zero carbon strategy be met with the building and demolishing work?

A: The target for 2040 is still a realistic aim however the demolishing was unplanned and now unavoidable.

Q: Can 'slow' signs be provided on both sides of the Windsor Rd crossings?

A: Yes, we'll provide an extra painted sign on the footpath.

Q: At present crossing the haul road from Windsor Rd can be precarious if fast moving cycles are coming from one side, is there anything that can be done regarding this?

A: We will have a look at this but if users are not being cautious or using the footways properly there is little that BDW can do.

Q: The opening hours of the large doors across the haul way need to be made clear, can this be improved?

A: Yes, we have been communicating with resident groups, stakeholders and local Councillors regarding this but will endeavour to make the existing signage larger.

Q: Can the lighting on the footpath be improved?

A: Yes, the current solar, PiR lights will be upgraded to normal grid electrical ones soon.

Q: When will more shared ownership properties come to market?

A: This will depend on the speed of current works and permissions from the Planning Authority including those for the demolition. As soon as they are on-line, we will be publicising them through the usual routes.

Q: When will the Central Park open?

A: At present we have a tender out for the footpath around the park and then will be the need to get the sport pitches operational. However, we will keep this forum, and our other channels of communication, up to date with opening dates of all facilities.

Eddington - Matt Johnson - Interim Head of Development, Cambridge University.

Q: How long will completion on plots M4&M5 take and what are the access arrangements during this time?

A: This is scheduled for another 3 to 4 years and following a road safety audit a manned crossing over the Ridgeway for sustainable travel options will be continuous. The access behind the school will include a flashing one-way sign also.

Q: Eddington Avenue could be viewed as a rat run between Madingley and Huntingdon Roads, are there plans to address this?

A: It certainly is not optimal but needs to be considered in the round with wider transport needs across the north of Cambridge. The construction of a loop road for the site is still several years away at present.

Q: Was it wise to close Storeys Way?

A: That's a historic decision which is outside the scope of the University's control?

Q: Can you give an up-date on the Health Centre?

A: A procurement process is currently underway to find an operator in conjunction with the NHS. Following fit out and finding GP's etc. it is hoped that this will be operational within 18 months to 2 years.

General Questions and Answers

Q: What is the latest with the sport pitches on Eddington?

A: The pitches have been laid twice but found to be not useable by the Football Association, this might be due to the type of soil and so a new option is being sought and the need to get them in use is keenly known.

Q: What is the access and management arrangement of the balancing pond on Darwin Green.

A: We are still at pre-commencement stage at present, when it is functional Barratt David Wilson will manage it in the interim until handover.

Q: What is the up dates on the courtesy crossing at the school, none working bollards and unreliable bus service on Eddington?

A: Work with the school regarding the courtesy crossing is on-going. The traffic bollards do not work when being driven in to and then need repair, which is happening too often, and a longer-term solution is being sought. We would like to replace them with Automatic Number Plate Recognition cameras, as in the city, however until the roads are adopted this is not possible. We are aware of the buses issue; however, the central Cambridge congestion means that a balance between more buses at peak times and them sat doing nothing at others, has to be struck.

Q: What are construction hours during demolition on DG1?

A: There will be no work on weekends so won't affect the footpath.

Q: Will the demolition trucks use Kings Hedges Rd during the 12-week period?

A: There will be a 'no right turn' sign erected but there is no reason for them to use that route as it's the wrong way to the disposal site.

Q: Can residents have in-put into the naming of new roads?

A: Depending on the Council in question consultation is undertaken with the city ward councillors (Cambridge), parish and district councillors (SCDC and HDC) plus Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue and Royal Mail with regards to New Street Names. As you can appreciate getting everyone's agreement takes some time already. Currently there are no plans to widen this engagement.

Q: Why is Eddington Sainsbury's seemingly inadequate. I.e., lack of food on shelves?

A: This is probably due to a lack of footfall numbers and relative stock issues resulting from this. However, this will be raised with them.

Q: Why are crossing points at Darwin Green during construction seemingly so tricky with comparison to Eddington?

A: Eddington has a logistics contractor for the whole site. BDW will be listening for future needs but will need to review the initial path, which has only been open for a number of weeks, first.