

**Southern Fringe Community Forum
7.00pm, Thursday 9 February 2012
Trumpington Village Hall**

Cambridge Community Stadium and Sporting Village

Panel

Cllr Andy Blackhurst (AB)	Chair, Ward Cllr for Trumpington
Cllr Salah Al Bander (SAB)	Ward Cllr for Trumpington
Andrew Roberts (AR)	Company Secretary of the Trumpington Residents Association

Supporting Officers

Liz Bisset (LB)	Director of Customer and Community Services, Lead Officer supporting the Forum (Cambridge City Council)
Sara Saunders (SS)	Planning Policy Manager (Cambridge City Council)
Caroline Hunt (CH)	Local Development Framework Team Leader (South Cambs District Council)
Joseph Whelan (JW)	Head of New Communities (Cambridgeshire County Council)
Glenn Burgess (GB)	Committee Manager (Cambridge City Council)

Presenters

Ed Skeates (ES)	Grosvenor
Chris White (CW)	Wrenbridge
Colin Campbell (CC)	Savilles

Welcome and Introduction

The Chair welcomed the public and explained the format of the meeting.

**Developer Presentation:
Cambridge Community Stadium and Sporting Village**

Ed Skeates gave a presentation on proposals for a Cambridge Community Stadium and Sporting Village.

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Public Questions

Q) Whilst this project could make a positive contribution to Cambridge I have serious concerns about the impact it would have on the residents of Trumpington. Increased traffic and pollution would be a major issue.

A) ES: We are aware of the concerns regarding additional traffic and pollution and will be undertaking detailed research to inform future Travel Plans. However the proposed site does have the benefit of being located near to the M11 and a Park and Ride site.

Q) An additional 10,000 children accessing the area to use the facilities will cause major traffic problems.

A) ES: Whilst it was estimated that the new sporting facilities could benefit up to 10,000 children, it was not envisaged that this would all take place at the Trumpington site. Officers would still work with children and a variety of groups out in the community.

Q) At a recent presentation you indicated that the NIAB site was also being looked at. Is this still an option?

A) ES: Whilst the NIAB site was in the original list it was no longer deemed viable due to land ownership issues. We have looked in detail at 10 sites and Cambridgeshire Horizons have looked at 16.

Q) So far Trumpington has had a new Park and Ride Site, a new supermarket and 4000 new homes. The area cannot cope with any further development.

Noted

Q) Cambridge United Football Club have been in a difficult financial problem for many years and on an average match day only attract 2000 supporters. Why is a stadium holding 8000 people being proposed?

A) ES: The football club have been in operation for over 100 years and attracts between 2500 and 3000 supporters each week – making it the best attended sporting event in Cambridge. The current ground holds 9617 and on a number of occasions in recent

years games have attracted over 7000 supporters. We therefore feel that a capacity of 8000 is appropriate.

It is also envisaged that the facilities will be used by many other users and discussions are taking place with Cambridge City Football Club, Cambridge Rugby Club, Anglia Ruskin University and Cambridge Regional College.

Q) Parking around the current stadium on match day is horrendous. How would this be addressed at the proposed new site?

A) ES: Provision of parking for the stadium would form part of any future Travel Plan. There may also be an option of additional parking at the Park and Ride site.

Q) Additional sporting facilities are needed in Cambridge but this is not the right site. A centre of excellence, incorporating a wider range of sporting facilities, on a larger site would be a better option.

A) ES: Unfortunately this is the largest site on the edge of the City that we have been able to find. Locating a site further away from the City would result in more people having to use cars to access it.

Q) A 'Jubilee Garden' on this site would be a better option.

A) ES: As part of this proposal the Country Park would be extended. Whilst this particular site would not be right for a 'Jubilee Garden' we will discuss further options with the Wildlife Trust.

Q) When will reserved matters applications on the remaining 850 houses of the current scheme be submitted?

A) ES: It is hoped that a developer will be identified by the end of 2012 with work starting in 2013.

Q) What is the timeline for the new Local Plans and the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)?

A) CH: This work is currently in its early stages and we will be consulting with the public on issues and options during summer 2012.

Whilst the proposal for a Community Stadium and Sporting Village has been put forward we have yet to consider it in detail. The merits of this proposal (alongside over 300 other potential housing sites) will be looked at as part of a wider SHLAA process.

Q) When looking at future plans we need to be aware of the importance of retaining arable land for future food production.

Noted

Q) When will you release the results of your recent survey of Cambridge United fans?

A) ES: The results have been analysed and will be added to the website as soon as possible.

Q) Over 50% of home supporters travel to the current Cambridge United stadium on foot. This will not be possible at the Trumpington site and will result in over 1000 people having to access the site by different methods.

A) ES: The proposed new site would have better public transport links than the current stadium.

Q) Due to boundary changes Haslingfield Parish Council may have governance responsibility for part of the site. We support Trumpington Residents Association in their opposition to the new proposals.

Noted

Q) Members of Granchester Parish Council also support Trumpington Residents Association in their opposition to the new proposals. The roads from Trumpington to Granchester are already very narrow and dangerous and extra housing will add to the problem.

Noted

Q) Why not finish the current scheme before we look at any new proposals?

A) ES: If we are considering new proposals it would be better to do so whilst current construction is underway.

Q) Why after all the work finalising the original Master Plan has a need for 400 additional houses been proposed?

A) ES: There is an identified need for an additional 40,000 homes in Cambridge over the next 30 years. This site has been identified as having the potential for 400 additional housing and will be looked at through the SHLAA process. It is expected that a further review of the Green Belt may be inevitable.

Q) Infrastructure for the approved Trumpington Meadows development was based on a certain number of new residents. Adding more to the site will cause problems.

Noted

Q) You have mentioned at previous meetings the possibility of concerts taking place at the stadium. I have concerns about noise pollution from these events.

A) ES: This was just one of many options suggested for the stadium.

Q) If the current Park and Ride site was moved would this result in additional houses on this site?

A) ES: There is a proposal to move the Park and Ride site to the southern side of the site but this would be a decision for Cambridgeshire County Council.

A) JW: There is a covenant on the current Park and Ride site for at least 20 years and any additional site would need to be progressed through the full planning process. If there was an extension to the guided busway there would be a requirement to move the Park and Ride site.

Final remarks from the Company Secretary of the Trumpington Residents Association:

- Thank you to the other Residents Associations and Parish Councils that have voiced their support for our views.
- Open agricultural land and the Green Belt needs to be preserved and not used for housing. This proposal will result in the countryside being destroyed.
- This site will be the main gateway into Cambridge and needs to be preserved.
- The whole infrastructure of the approved Southern Fringe development (which includes new schools, allotments and community facilities) was based on a set number of new houses. The 'balance' of the whole development will be upset by any changes.
- Developers will be seeking to put pressure on local authorities during the Local Plan reviews and the SHLAA.
- The plans for the Community Stadium and Sporting Village on this site are unacceptable and should be dropped.
- We urge the developers to concentrate on delivering the current approved proposals before suggesting additional ones.

Final remarks from Ed Skeates:

- Thank you to all members of the public that have attended.
- We will continue open dialogue with all residents.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.48pm