

## **Annex 24**

**13 October 2010**

### **NW BICESTER ECO DEVELOPMENT MASTERPLANNING IN PARTNERSHIP PUBLIC CONSULTATION 13 – 16 OCTOBER**

This week (11 October 2010) sees the start of a further round of public consultation on the Exemplar (the very first settlement) stage of the NW Bicester eco development. This is ahead of a planning application to be submitted to Cherwell District Council in November 2010.

This phase of public consultation seeks to illustrate more of the detail that will be included such as transport hubs, layouts, house design and details of proposed infrastructure.

The Exemplar will be the first community in the NW Bicester eco development. It will provide over 400 homes, 30% of which will be affordable housing with community facilities and will provide local employment. The Exemplar site covers 51 acres and brings to life the look and feel of the first 'village' in the eco development. 36% of the site will be open space (not including private gardens).

The Exemplar is a small part of the long term proposals for NW Bicester and gives the chance to test ideas. What is learned from the Exemplar will inform later phases of the development.

The site has been designed to work with the laws of nature, with landscape as the key driver for the layout of the Exemplar. Care has been taken to preserve and enhance hedges and water courses and for the natural landscape to be accessible for residents to enjoy.

The Exemplar site was selected for the following reasons:

- It is big enough to be the first 'village' and can support a commercial hub
- It leaves workable fields for farmers and Home Farm intact
- Land ownership tied to timescales
- The landscape - field patterns, hedgerows

The Exemplar is designed to enhance and complement existing facilities in Bicester town centre rather than to compete with it or drain local resources. To strive to achieve this, the Exemplar proposals include:

- A new cycle and pedestrian crossing from the Exemplar to the town and a new regular bus service
- Prioritising local businesses and local employment
- Providing homes which match what is needed locally and the local housing market

Ian Inshaw, Chair of P3Eco Bicester said, "The Exemplar aims to set new standards in eco development, therefore it has been crucial for the professional team to gain input from the local community to ensure we reflect their needs and views."

Public exhibitions and drop-in sessions are taking place at the following locations:

- **Wednesday 13 October, Bure Park Community Hall, Bure Park Primary School, 92 Lucerne Avenue, 6.30pm – 8.30pm**
- **Thursday 14 October, Bure Farm Pub, Barberry Place, 12.00 – 8pm**
- **Friday 15 October, Market Stall, Sheep Street (in front of Tesco), 10am – 4pm**
- **Saturday 16 October, Wyevale Garden Centre, Oxford Road, Bicester, 10am – 4pm**

In addition to these public events there will be a static exhibition in the entrance to Bicester Library from Wednesday 13 October until Monday 18 October 2010.

- Ends -

**For further information, please contact Fiona Brenner on 0207 930 3606 / 07976 057509 [fbrenner@pmc-uk.com](mailto:fbrenner@pmc-uk.com) or Catherine Nestor 0207 930 3581 [cnestor@pmc-uk.com](mailto:cnestor@pmc-uk.com)**

### **Notes**

#### Approximate Project time lines:

<b>June 2009</b>	NW Bicester receives Government designation as an 'Eco Town'
<b>November 2009</b>	Cherwell District Council (CDC) hosts Bicester Summit on the town's future
<b>February 2010</b>	Eco Town Fund allocation confirmed providing £9.7 million to CDC to support the Eco Town Status
<b>March 2010</b>	CDC Core strategy published for consultation, including NW Bicester

<b>June 2010</b>	P3Eco's professional team hosts 'Open Planning Week' to gather comments and ideas from local residents and community representatives
<b>September 2010</b>	P3Eco publishes 'NW Bicester: Testing Masterplan Ideas' and presents initial Exemplar ideas. CDC begins consultation on Eco Bicester, One Shared Vision
<b>October 2010</b>	P3Eco detailed consultation on the Exemplar
<b>November 2010</b>	P3Eco with A2Dominion will submit Exemplar Planning Application to CDC for consideration
<b>Autumn / Winter 2010/2011</b>	Ongoing work on the Masterplan
<b>Spring 2011</b>	Masterplan submitted to CDC for planning consideration
<b>Late 2011</b>	Subject to planning, intended start for building on the Exemplar site