

Community Group Meeting
Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 31 July at 6.30pm
At the Temporary Community Room, Ryle Yard, Eddington

Those present

Janet Bunker, Parish of the Ascension (Chair)
Christine Bromwich, Girton Baptist Church
Sarah Christensen, Lansdowne Road
Matthew Danish, Cambridge Cycling Campaign
Bob Dawson, NAFRA
Cllr Douglas De Lacey, South Cambridgeshire District Councillor
Sue Finer, Storey's Way Residents Association
Jane and David Firman, Conduit Head Road
Harriet Gillett, Storey's Way Residents Association
Cllr Valerie Holt, Cambridge City Councillor
Brian Walker, Windsor Road Residents Association

University

Heather Topel (HT)
Warren Forsyth
Biky Wan

Apologies

Lynda Harford, County Councillor – Girton
Ian Grant, Conduit Head Road
Cllr Marie Louise Holland – Ward Councillor - Castle
Cllr John Hipkin – Ward Councillor - Castle
Jenny Greene, NAFRA
Claire Richards, County Councillor - Castle

1. TOUR OF EDDINGTON

Heather Topel gave a tour of the parts of Eddington that are currently publicly accessible. This included a walk into the courtyard of Lot 8 (University homes), walk around Swirles Court (student accommodation) and to the south of the site near Lots 1 and 3, before returning to see the site from the balcony of Lot 8 and the show home.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

There were no matters were arising and no comments were raised from the minutes of the last meeting.

3. PROGRESS UPDATE ON THE PROJECT AND EDDINGTON WORD MARQUE

Heather Topel said that the first residents moved in this summer which was a fantastic milestone for the project. There will be further progress in September will include the road and cycleway opening as well as Open Eddington on 9 September as part of Open Cambridge. The Community Centre will be opening in Autumn/Winter.

Planning permission was granted for M3 which will start on site in 2018. Early discussion with the planning committee is underway for S3 and S1 and S2 which Hill will be delivering. There are early discussions for the hotel and senior living. Decisions on Phase 2 may be made by the University hopefully in Autumn. Heather Topel explained that Eddington is the name of the new local centre and a word-marque drawing on the Cambridge street names is being worked up that will be used on hoardings around market square.

Q: Are there decisions on the future of the Madingley Road Park and Ride relative to discussions on the City Deal? (Harriet Gillett)

A: There is no more detail on the Park and Ride on Madingley Road (Heather Topel).

Q: Is there any news on light rail? The Mayor is a keen advocate of this. (Christine Bromwich)

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A: There is nothing to share on the light rail proposals linked to the City Deal. (Heather Topel).

Q: New developments are a nightmare for the emergency services – are you in touch with the doctors surgery? (Christine Bromwich)

A: All residents have been advised to register at Huntingdon Road and we will follow up with the surgery and NHS. (Heather Topel)

Q: There was a film of Eddington and Einstein was recently shown. (Harriet Gillett). Eddington is buried in the Ascension Burial Ground. (Janet Bunker)

A: Yes we will be looking into these connections. (Heather Topel)

Q: The green area of the courtyard is for residents that we saw and the inner courtyards for Swirles Court give a sense of gated communities for residents and students – these spaces in the centre of the site give a sense of insularity, which is in contrast to the urban open environment (Bob Dawson)

A: No one has moved into Swirles Court yet so it is still technically closed and it is still under construction. We understand what you mean – hopefully you will see change and difference when more parts of the development open. The courtyards at Lot 3 should be permeable and you should be able to walk through. There is not one size that fits all here – there are some courtyards which are semi private and others are publicly facing. The market square and western edge will be open (Heather Topel).

Q: Is the road between the edge of the Ridgeway and Storey's Way going to be resurfaced (Sue Finer)

A: Yes – these works will be done in August. (Heather Topel)

Q: The cutting of the nineteen acre field is likely to start in the next week or fortnight including the Ridge and Furrow (Bob Dawson)

A: Yes, works will start within two weeks but it may take time to get around the whole area. (Warren Forsyth)

Q: The Ridge and Furrow field has changed because it used to be grazed for the flora– how will it be maintained in the future? (Christine Bromwich)

A: In the short term between Phase 1 and 2, it will be mowed back after flowering but before the thistles start. (Warren Forsyth). Grazing had been previously talked about and when the estate management processes and this is something that we can revisit (Heather Topel).

4. FEEDBACK ON EDDINGTON AND COMMUNICATIONS

The group answered questions in response to their overall impressions of the development and completed a survey on communications. The questions included:

What are your first impressions of Eddington?

What are the most interesting aspects of Eddington?

What are the most important aspects of Eddington to you?

What do you think about the design quality at Eddington?

What do you think about the sustainability features?

What do you think about the community features & facilities?

If you could summarise in one word/idea your overall impression of Eddington-what would it be?

How does it compare to the plans and documents that you have studied?

Any other general comments?

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5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was raised. The next meeting would be in autumn around October 2017.