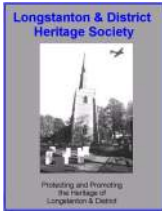


Northstowe Phase 2 Approved



June 24, 2015 was another historic day for the Northstowe project with approval being given for another 3,500 homes to be built on part of the RAF Oakington site. In keeping with past decisions, many reservations remained about the planning application submitted by the Home and Communities Agency (HCA) but the plans were approved

by a narrow margin. Was this approval a surprise? Not really, it has been clear for a long time that the national government sees the Cambridge area as pivotal to their plans to generate growth in the economy and Northstowe is an essential part of their agenda.

LDHS welcomes this decision, not because we necessarily approve of all aspects of the planning application because we do not. The proposal to build thousands of new homes and not include a burial ground in the plans is bizarre. It is hoped that the developers will set aside some land for a woodland burial ground. This would be rather an appropriate use of land for an exemplar eco town.

We welcome approval of this application because the existing villages, and Longstanton in particular, have been in a state of limbo for far too long. Now a decision has been made we can turn our attention to working towards creating a successful and welcoming community for Northstowe residents.



Paul Kitson (HCA), Tim Witherspoon (chair of Northstowe Steering Committee) & Alan Joyner (Gallagher) at the approval of Northstowe Phase 2

On the official Northstowe website Paul Kitson, Head of Northstowe for the HCA is quoted as saying:

“This is a major step forward for Northstowe which has been in the planning stages for many years. Momentum is really building now which is really exciting and we will soon see houses coming out of the ground next year in addition to a new school to serve Phase 1. Building the right sort of community is at the very centre of our approach...”

We also hope to be able to provide members with an update at the AGM on September 4 - ‘hope to see you there.

Hilary Stroude, LDHS Secretary

Pre-Northstowe Ph 2, recent Occupancy



These black/ white photographs were taken by Aldon Ferguson in 1998 when the buildings on the old RAF site were occupied by the Army.

The photograph above is of the HQ

Admin building previously occupied by the RAF, from the beginning of WWII, in 1939, until late 1974. Sadly, even though we had been told that HCA they would be retaining this historic structure, we now understand it will form no part of Northstowe Phase 2 and is to be demolished.



At the moment the future looks brighter for the Officers Mess, above, pencilled in to be integrated into the surrounding housing

development as possibly a school or offices.



The old guard house to the left, also appears within the Phase 2 plans. It is within this building (or part thereof) that LDHS is of hopeful

of building a strong case for a museum to be housed. It would not only contain the LDHS archive, that is representative of present Longstanton & District but some, if not all, of the new finds found under the Northstowe footprint. The finds already discovered in the course of the Phase 1 dig confirm a rich history going back to Saxon, Roman and even further in time. Northstowe with its projected potential for 10,000 plus homes will deserve a museum that is both convenient to access and that has its own roots deep within our living memories.

For those that served the nation on the airfield during WWII and after, in first the RAF and then in the Army until 1999, this site provides a rich fund of memories also crying out for a museum.

Hilary Stroude, Secretary, Longstanton & District Heritage Society, The Manor, Woodside, Longstanton, Cambridge. CB24 3BU
For more information on any of the above, please contact us on: Tel: **01954 782560** or e-mail **hilarystroude@hotmail.co.uk**

LDHS AGM & Public Autumn Talks

AGM followed by a talk ‘Shopping Through the Centuries’
by **Gilly Vose** from the Norris Museum St. Ives

Friday 4th September

‘The Boar in our Heritage’

Friday 2nd October

by **Derek Booth** from the Cambridge Antiquarian Society

TBA for more information visit our Website **www.ldhs.org**

Friday 6th November

All talks/ AGM to be held at 7.30pm in the Village Institute, High Street, Longstanton.

Everyone welcome: members free - non-members £2.00. Talks followed by tea, biscuits and chat.