

Urban&Civic is the Ministry of Defence's development manager for the Waterbeach Barracks and Airfield site; one of the largest brownfield sites in the country.

If you would like to meet up with the team, discuss any ideas or issues about the development, have a tour of the site or look at the community facilities, then please get in touch with us:

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Waterbeach Barracks Newsletter

Summer 2019

8



Urban&Civic

Outdoor Cinema at Waterbeach Barracks



Join us on Friday 19th July, and enjoy the great outdoors in a unique setting at Waterbeach Barracks as you sit back, relax and enjoy 2018 movie of the year - Green Book on the big screen. This biographic comedy-drama, inspired by the true story of a tour of the Deep South in the 1960s, is certified 12A.

This is a free ticketed event being held as part of the Summer at the Beach Arts Festival, and you can book your place online through Eventbrite.

The outdoor cinema will be held between the Control Tower and the historic runway and in true

celebration of the Deep South, you can also expect to find a selection of street food, drinks, garden games, and live music to enjoy in the lead up to the movie. You are welcome to bring your deckchairs, blankets, friends and family.

To join us go to www.starandmouse.com and follow the link to book your tickets on Eventbrite.

Hello

In this edition:

Planning Policy Update

Local Plan	4
Supplementary Planning Document	5

Planning Update

Overview	6
Next steps: site preparation	7
The first phase of development	8-9
A10 corridor - next steps approved	10-11

Transport

New railway station	12
Waterbeach to Cambridge Greenway	13

Latest News

Running Festival	14-15
Summer at the beach	16-17
Home for hospital staff	18
Waterbeach Colts FC: Under 8s	19

Heritage

Millitary Heritage Museum	20-21
Remembering Waterbeach Barracks	22
Squadron 514 Reunion	23

Community

Farmland Museum and Denny Abbey	24-25
Tithe Barn	26
Wicken Fen	27

It's been over two years since we submitted the Outline Planning Application for the Barracks and Airfield site. Much of that time has been spent working through feedback and comments alongside the Planning Authority to ensure the key decision makers have all of the information they need. On 13 May, South Cambs District Council Planning Committee agreed a Resolution to Grant planning consent to the Barracks site, subject to Urban&Civic finalising with them the full legal and planning framework required, the conditions which must be met before development can happen, and the financial contributions to enable development to come forward, such as funding for schools, transport, health and other vital amenities. This enables the section 106 agreement to be signed and the development to move forward, which we hope will happen over the summer months.

Alongside that, we have been preparing the next stage of planning, which is for the first 1,600 homes, a primary school, transport hub and community facilities, and we have some details on that to share in this issue. We will be consulting on these over the next few weeks, and while we can start getting the site ready, we will need planning consent for phase 1 and detailed consent for buildings before anything new can be built on site.

We hope you have been able to or will attend some of the summer events at Waterbeach Barracks, including the ever popular Waterbeach Running Festival held in May, and coming up in July we have the calendar of creative events which make up Summer at the Beach. We were honoured to welcome back veterans and families of 514 Squadron for the Association Reunion in June and are delighted to support the publication of the history of the Royal Engineers at Waterbeach, following many years of research and writing by David Adamson and the team.

It is always a pleasure to use these pages to promote partners at Wicken Fen, the Farmland Museum and Denny Abbey, and Tithe Barn. As for our plans, the team is always happy to meet any groups interested in a tour around the Barracks and Airfield, so please do get in touch.

With best wishes

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Planning Policy Update



Since the last newsletter, there have been a number of developments in local planning, so we thought it would be helpful to provide a broader update:

Local Plan

South Cambridgeshire District Council's Local Plan, to deliver 22,000 jobs and 19,500 new homes by 2031, was adopted in September 2018 after Government inspectors who were independently reviewing the Plan found it to be sound.

The Council will now use the Plan as the cornerstone in all planning decisions made for the area. The Plan also contains the key housing sites the Council will be expecting to see developed over the coming years, which includes a new town north of Waterbeach.

The examination was carried out jointly with the Local Plan for Cambridge City Council's area, which was also submitted in March 2014. The Planning Inspectors' examinations included reviewing evidence supplied by the two Councils, representations of objection and support made during public consultations, site visits and a series of hearings.

South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge City Council committed to an early review of the Local Plans as part of the City Deal agreement, which will commence in 2019 with submission for examination in 2022.

Deputy Leader of South Cambridgeshire District Council and Lead Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport, Cllr Aidan Van de Weyer, said: "I am pleased we now have a final, sound and agreed plan that provides us and our communities certainty over how the area will be developed over the next decade or so. I am disappointed it took the planning inspectors so long to review the plan and get to this stage, but we must now look forward and work with existing communities, especially those living nearest to where new homes will be built, to make sure they are at the heart of developing plans."

Supplementary Planning Document: Vision for town north of Waterbeach confirmed

A Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for a vibrant, thriving new town north of Waterbeach was officially adopted by South Cambridgeshire District Council's Cabinet in February 2019.

The document sets out the Council's aspirations for the new town on and around the former barracks site and contains a vision for its future.

As well as proposing practical details, such as where the local centres and important community facilities will go, the document also sets out the need for the new town to have its own distinct identity and be a good neighbour to the village of Waterbeach and to the historic Denny Abbey to the north.

Several changes were made to the SPD following public consultation. These include alterations to the road layout within the new town, how people will travel within it and how flood risks affecting a small part of the site can be addressed.

The SPD outlines aspirations for the new town to be as environmentally-friendly as possible, and considers factors like how people will move around, with walking and cycling prioritised to reduce the use of private cars. The needs of horse riders have also been set out.

In addition to the relocation of Waterbeach Railway Station, which the Council's Planning Committee approved last year, the SPD builds on the Local Plan and outlines expectations for other links required, including:

- New public transport and cycle links to Cambridge.
- Improvements to A10 junctions which are not dependent on the future plans to dual the road, which are still being developed.
- Upgrades to the Milton Interchange.

The adopted SPD will provide clear guidance against which planning applications for the new town's homes and other uses will be assessed.

Cllr Aidan Van de Weyer, said: "The adoption of this planning document is a milestone in our aspirations for a thriving new community that is respectful of its surroundings. The SPD also sets out how we expect developers to help address some of the issues with building new homes in this area – such as by improving the A10.

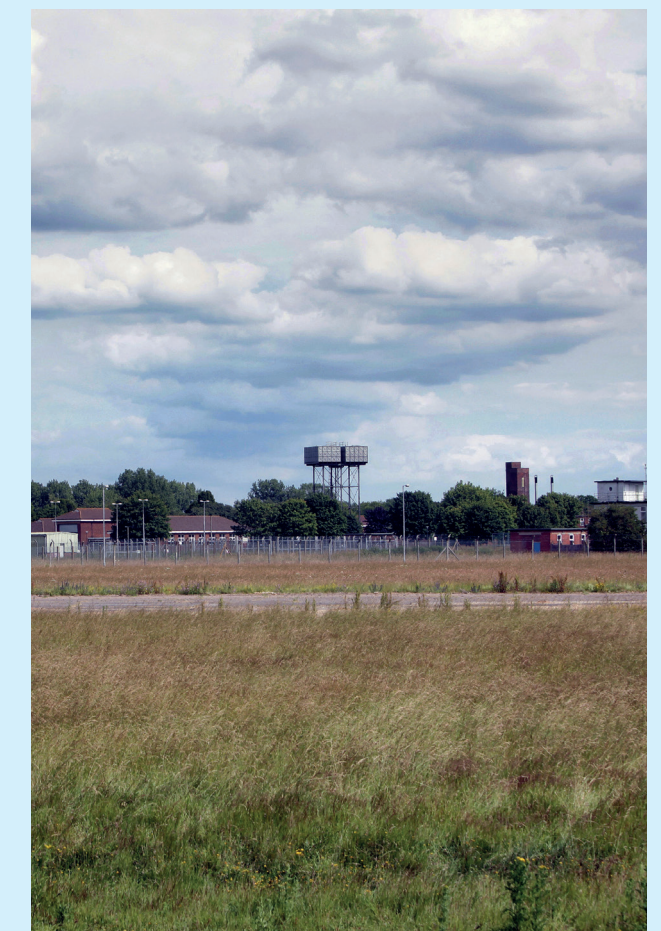
"This new community should be a place where people enjoy living and can move around easily. Our aim is for communities that are as green as possible where people can genuinely afford to live. We know transport is always right at the top of people's minds and are committed to working with our local partners, such as the Mayor, Greater Cambridge Partnership and County Council to ensure improvements come forward as new homes are built."

“

This is a milestone in our aspirations for a thriving new community that is respectful of its surroundings.

”

Cllr Aidan Van de Weyer



Planning Update



With the Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Document setting the planning policy and design framework for the development of Waterbeach Barracks and Airfield, South Cambridgeshire District Council's Planning Committee met on 13 May and gave a "Resolution to Grant" for the outline planning application for the former Waterbeach Barracks and Airfield site.

"Resolution to Grant" means that the planning application can now progress with the planning team and Chair of the Planning Committee to finalise the legal and planning framework that will allow the development of the site to start. This includes the Section 106 legal agreement, which details when key facilities need to be delivered by and secures £141 million funding

from Urban&Civic towards new local services and facilities. These contributions will include a new cycle way connecting Waterbeach to Cambridge Science Park and Cambridge Regional College, along with three cycle crossings – including a cycle bridge over the A10, a cycle connection to Cambridge Research Park and a three-metre wide walking and cycle way between Waterbeach and Milton.

The funding will also deliver local transport upgrades, including improving junctions along the A10 at Car Dyke Road / Waterbeach Road (the 'Slap-up' junction) and Landbeach Road / Humphries Way. Money has been set aside for traffic calming and cycle friendly public realm measures that will be co-designed with residents in Waterbeach, Landbeach and Horningsea.

Local bus services will also be changed to higher frequencies and a temporary park and ride will be established within the north of the Barracks and Airfield, to support connections down to Cambridge with a shuttle bus connecting through the village and to the rail station.

“**Waterbeach Barracks is the best brownfield site in the country, located uniquely in an area with huge housing need.**”

”
Tim Leathes, Development Director at Urban&Civic

Further facilities that will come forward as part of this area of the new town include:

- A secondary school, three primary schools and special needs school
- A healthcare centre
- A leisure centre with a swimming pool
- Four community centres and a library
- 29 hectares of outdoor sports space
- Seven hectares of allotment and community orchard space
- Play parks, recreation areas and woodlands

South Cambridgeshire District Council's Lead Cabinet Member for Planning, Cllr Dr. Tumi Hawkins, said: "This is a significant step forward in the delivery of our Local Plan aspirations for the area. In

supporting this proposal, the Council has carefully considered all of the concerns and opportunities that housing delivery at this scale entails.

"We know transport is one of the main concerns with any new development. That's why we're working extremely closely with Urban&Civic to agree a package of transport upgrades that not only include improvements to junctions on the A10, but also major improvements to local cycle and walking routes and bus services. We're also continuing to work with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority on larger-scale options to improve the A10.

"This proposal plays an important part in ensuring that the Council can secure the delivery of the new homes and high-quality places to live and work that we know we need."

Tim Leathes, Development Director for Urban&Civic, the Development Manager appointed by the Ministry of Defence to take

forward development of the site, said: "It has been a very intense five years of working with local communities and partners to pull together the right vision for the unique opportunity that the Barracks presents economically, environmentally and socially, to create an exemplar sustainable community.

"With medical staff from Papworth already living in refurbished accommodation and local residents using facilities on site every day, we are looking forward to getting going with the next stage of planning and preparatory works over this Summer, opening up the amazing lake next year and delivering much needed homes and facilities from 2022."

Next steps: site preparation

It is only when the S106 is formally signed that full consent will be given. At that stage work can start to prepare the site, and this will include over a million pounds worth of demolition and remediation, including removal of asbestos and checks for unexploded military ordnance across core areas of the site.

Alongside this the entrance from the A10 at the Research Park roundabout and an effective system of construction routes will be put in place directly from the A10 to minimise any impact on the village from work. This network would also enable a future connection for construction works on the new station to be established directly from the A10 when this goes ahead.

A full process will be established for any issues that do arise from construction to be effectively reported and dealt with, and this will be finalised with the Parish Council before any work starts.



The first phase of development

Tim Leathes, Development Director for Urban&Civic, said: “We are really pleased with the progress made on the Outline Application but are hugely conscious that the plans are still conceptual. As ever it is only when we get to show the great detail developing on the first school and other buildings, the green space and play areas, that we can fully share the quality of design and delivery that will be coming forward in this unique place.”

Alongside the planning and early works, the team has been continuing design work across the first phase of development, to ensure its delivery reflects feedback from consultation and discussions.

Further consultation on the plans will follow over the summer and autumn.

The first phase will include:

- 1,600 homes
- The first Primary School
- A community building, which will also provide interim health care and library, linked to services in Waterbeach
- An entrance off the A10, to keep construction traffic and car access away from the village
- A transport hub, with an initial Park&Ride and shuttle bus link by the Cambridge Research Park roundabout, along with bus, cycle and



pedestrian connections running through the development from the village to the A10

- Extensive green space, play areas and recreational uses around the lake

Alongside these new facilities, the existing facilities already open for use, such as the Sports Hall will see some improvement works. Urban&Civic is also progressing the refurbishment of the Sat Range building for Waterbeach Toddler Playgroup with the County Council.

Fundamental to the first phase is the reinstatement of the historic Causeway that connected Denny Abbey with Waterbeach Abbey and the Church. This will run as a central spine running through the site, promoting cycling, walking and leisure to access key facilities.

The first phase of this will ensure a link from the village up to the lake and access to the first phase of facilities, which will include a café, water sports and activities and walking routes around the 20 acre lake.

The vision for the first phase of development includes:

- Creating walkable neighbourhoods with easy access to the primary school and public open space. Facilities will be provided alongside leisure amenities to encourage activity – from rugby and football, to swimming and canoeing on the lake, and cycle and footpaths with healthy heart walks and trim trails.
- Reinstating the historic causeway to Denny Abbey. This will provide a priority route for pedestrians and cyclists, linking a series of leisure and activity spaces and providing public access to the lake.
- Opening up the lake for all to enjoy. This will include a community hub with café, shops and services; temporary health care provision and a library for new residents; and a jobs and business brokerage to help people access jobs and opportunities on site.
- £15m will be invested in transport infrastructure in advance of the planned strategic upgrade of the A10 corridor. This will include an early connection through the development - from the village to Cambridge Research Park; fund an extension of the Milton Park&Ride service to the development; connect a shuttle bus service from the A10, through the development and village, down to the rail station; and provide improvements to the existing train station – prior to the relocated station coming forward.
- Transport investment will also see delivery of the Mere Way cycle connection as an off road connection from the barracks to the Science Park and Regional College; alongside cycle improvements along the A10 to Milton and through the local villages: in schemes to be agreed with each community.

The team will be sharing more of the designs at events on site over the coming months, prior to consultation in the early Autumn.

Indicative timeline for next steps *This may be subject to change.*

2019

Summer/Autumn

Finalise Section 106 Agreement, which will include the amount of funding required for a range of community facilities and services, schools, transport, green infrastructure etc.

Autumn/Winter

Consultation and submission of masterplan for Key Phase 1 of the development, which will include 1,600 homes, the first primary school, transport connections, green space and parks, and a community hub around the lake, which will be a focal point for the existing and new community.

Determination of Key Phase 1 masterplan application by South Cambridgeshire District Council.

2020

Summer/Autumn

Early infrastructure works start and detailed (reserved matters) planning application on the first parcel of land for housing within Key Phase

Autumn/Winter

Subject to planning consent, work starts on first new homes.



If you would like to talk to the team or have a tour of the site to talk through the plans, please contact the main office on **01223 622533** or email Rebecca at rbritton@urbanandcivic.com

A10 corridor – next steps approved

Improving the A10 corridor between Ely and Cambridge is one of the Combined Authority's priority schemes and is seen as having a crucial role to play in better connecting the economies of Fenland and Greater Cambridge.

In March, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Board approved the procurement and development of the Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) for the A10 dualling between Ely and Cambridge and A10 junction improvement projects.

Development in the A10 Cambridge to Ely corridor has been forecast to generate up to 17,000 new homes and 14,000 new jobs, with further development anticipated in the East Cambridgeshire part of the corridor, including Ely.

More than 18,000 vehicles use the corridor daily, with capacity issues resulting in significant delays which is restricting growth. The corridor carries the highest level of north-south traffic flows in the county, and journeys over the 16-mile route can take over 45 minutes. The growth and development planned along the corridor will only exacerbate the existing congestion issues.

A prior study into the A10 corridor between Cambridge and Ely carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council and the Greater Cambridge Partnership took a broad view of how to increase capacity and reduce congestion. A package of measures was proposed including junction improvements, the relocation of Waterbeach rail station, and new and upgraded cycle and pedestrian infrastructure. However, the SOBC study will specifically look at the dualling of the route and junction improvement options.

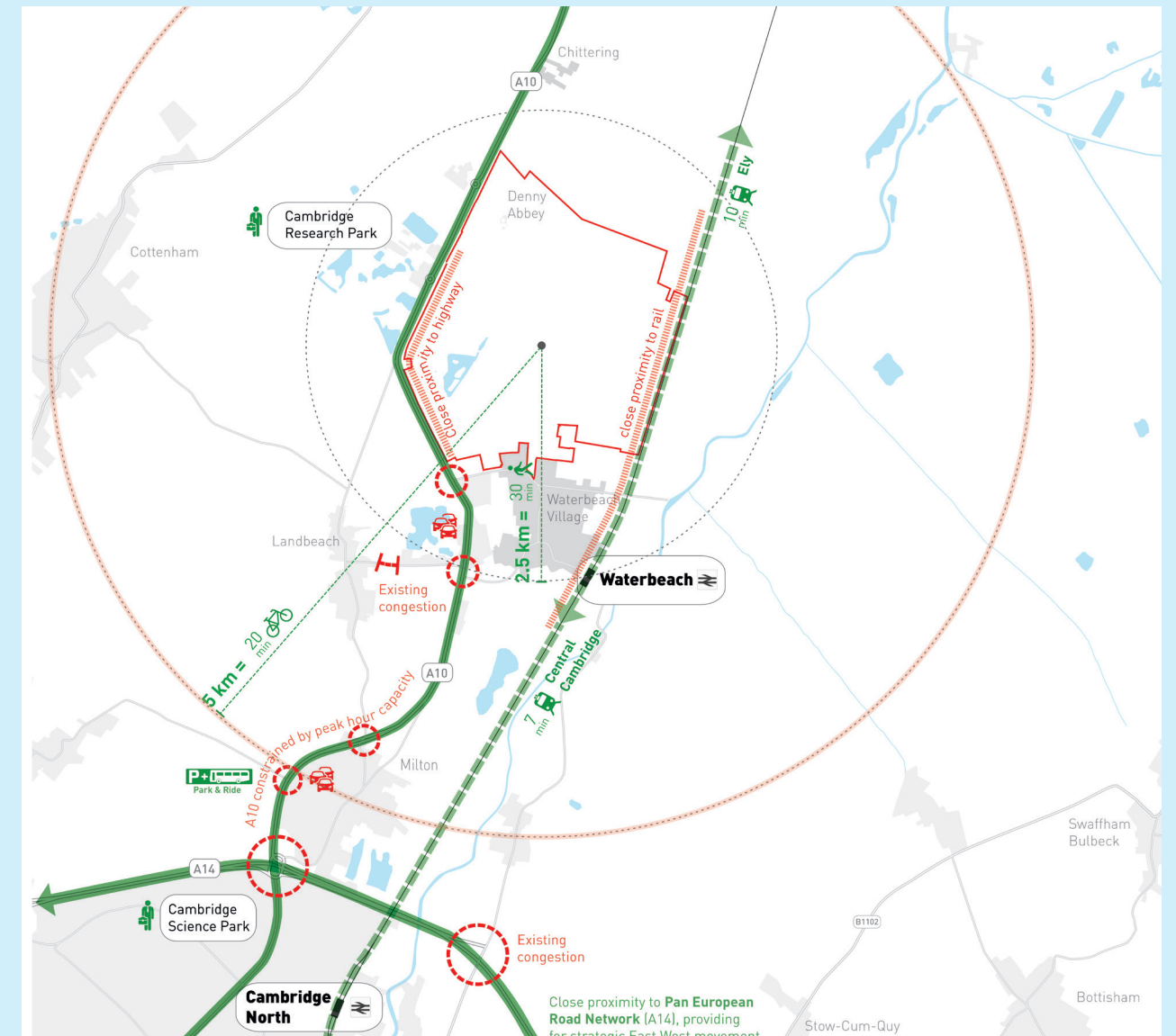
Other measures, such as the cycling and pedestrian infrastructure will be progressed by partners, including local developers as part of their

obligations to the local area, and public sector organisations.

Mayor James Palmer said: "Dualling the A10 between Cambridge and Ely has been on the local agenda for many years, but the Combined Authority has the opportunity to inject fresh impetus.

"The A10 is a significant growth corridor, with Ely, Waterbeach, and the Cambridge Fringe North East site all predicted to see housing, jobs and economic growth, so I am confident this business case will put forward a very strong case for investment."

In March, the Board also approved the approach towards engaging with the Department for Transport on potential funding streams for the A10. Early estimates of the cost of fully dualling the road range from £235-£500 million, with the SOBC intending to refine these estimates as part of the next phase.



Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro

and one at Cambridge Station), will be designed to integrate with existing transport infrastructure, including the national rail network, bus services and cycling and walking routes.

A detailed report examining the feasibility of a metro system for Greater has been published. The report found that the scheme would unlock significant growth, offers high value for money and would provide the transformational change required to the area's transport network.

The CAM would serve inner transport corridors in the Greater Cambridge area from the city to Cambourne, Granta Park, Waterbeach and Newmarket Road and Trumpington park and rides. It would also serve the regional area, with corridors extending to St Neots, Alconbury, Mildenhall and Haverhill.

This would help fulfil the Combined Authority's ambition of a 'modal shift' away from the private car, reducing congestion, emissions and accidents as well as contribute to improving quality of life.

Construction on schemes from the Greater Cambridge Partnership, which will form the first phase of the metro, could start as early as 2021. The core metro infrastructure is anticipated to be built between 2023 and 2029.

The Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro (CAM), which would include tunnelling under Cambridge city and two underground stations (one at the city centre

A copy of the report can be viewed at <http://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/assets/Uploads/CAM-SOBC-v2.1.pdf>



Waterbeach on track for new railway station

Plans to re-locate Waterbeach Railway Station have been formally approved after being supported by South Cambridgeshire District Council's Planning Committee in September 2018.

The plans will see the station moved from its current position on Station Road, to the north east of the village on land between Cody Road and the 'Fen Line' railway that runs between Cambridge and King's Lynn. It is a key planning policy objective for the new community planned at Waterbeach.

RLW Estates is a joint venture working on the eastern half of the proposals for a new town north of Waterbeach. In June last year, it submitted plans for up to 4,500 new homes on land between the former barracks and railway line.

A public consultation was carried out between June and July, and responses received were analysed.

The permission given to re-locate Waterbeach Railway Station includes:

- A two-platform station, with platforms long enough for eight carriage trains.
- Two pedestrian bridges, including one with a lift.
- A car park and cycle parking.
- Bus stops.
- A taxi rank.
- A passenger drop-off area.
- A shuttle bus service between the village and relocated station.
- An access road from Cody Road to the station car park.
- Platform lighting, station information and surveillance systems.

Planning permission has been given on the basis that the

developer meet several conditions, including contributing £50,000 towards local road improvements such as traffic calming measures along Way Lane and improvements for pedestrians at the junction of Denny End Road and Bannold Road.

Chair of South Cambridgeshire District Council's Planning Committee, Cllr John Batchelor, said: "By approving this application, we are on track for a new, safer, modern station that existing and future residents will benefit from. We have carefully weighed up the arguments and truly believe that this will be an improvement on the existing station, which is not in the centre of the village nor easily reached.

"This application had to be seen in the context of proposals for a new town in the surrounding area – a strategy backed by Government Inspectors who recently accepted our Local Plan by finding it 'sound'. Excellent railway links are a key reason for this site being suggested as the proposed location of a new town, and a brand-new station means both new and existing residents of Waterbeach will benefit."

Plans progress for Waterbeach to Cambridge Greenway

Last year, Waterbeach residents were asked to share their views on proposed plans for a new walking and cycling route from the village into Cambridge.

More than 400 responses were received on the proposed Waterbeach Greenway and some great ideas put forward during the consultation. The Greater Cambridge Partnership extended its thanks to those who took the time to attend events and share comments as part of this formal consultation.

The Greenways project is a community-led scheme that has evolved following engagement with Waterbeach residents since the start of 2018.

Over the last few months, the Cambridgeshire Research Group have been evaluating the consultation responses and the Greater Cambridge Partnership will be developing a route to best serve the community.



A report with the full findings will be released in the spring and, subject to funding, the Greater Cambridge Partnership will be back to discuss the updated proposals with the community later in the year.

It will also be consulting on the other remaining Cambridge Greenways routes including Horningsea, the Swaffhams and Bottisham routes in the summer.

The Waterbeach route is part of a wider network of 12 Greater Cambridge Greenways aimed at improved cycling, walking and equestrian routes that link surrounding villages with Cambridge, creating a safe, largely off-road environment for everyone to use and enjoy. These proposed Greenways are funded by the Greater Cambridge Partnership, which is investing in sustainable transport to help keep the area moving.

This is one of several cycle links planned, including the Mere Way connection that Urban&Civic will bring forward to connect to the Science Park and Regional College by the time of first occupation of new residents.

If you would like updates about the 12 routes or other Greater Cambridge Partnerships, you can sign up for email bulletins and updates at www.greatercambridge.org.uk/subscribe.

To find out more about the Greater Cambridge Greenways, visit www.greatercambridge.org.uk/greenways.





Waterbeach Running Festival

Despite a cloudy start, the sun shone and this year's Waterbeach Running Festival (11 May) was a record-breaking event with more people donning their running shoes than in previous years (nearly 800 registered), and around £4,500 raised for local charity Waterbeach Toddler Playgroup.

The event saw over a thousand people enjoy a range of stalls and activities alongside the serious business of running and Waterbeach Brass Band played near the homeward stretch to encourage runners as they neared the finish line.

On the track, Tony Bacon successfully defended his title despite tough competition to take his fourth consecutive win in the 5km men's race. The runner ups in last year's 5km women's race (Vicki Moignard) and 10km men's race (David Mclean) won their events this year and the winner of the 10km women's race (Emma Hodson) finished just 18 seconds behind David Mclean and was the second runner over the line.

Event organisers, Jessica Kitt, Vikki Ashcroft and Mim Christensen, with support from a team of volunteers, ensured the running events ran smoothly, while friends and family of competitors had plenty to entertain them between races in the Festival Village. This included a children's area with bouncy castle and slide, a cake stand, food and drink vendors and a variety of stalls including natural skincare products from Tropic Skincare and EF encouraging local families with a spare room to host visiting foreign students.

Wayne Badcock from Waterbeach Toddler Playgroup said: "The Waterbeach Running Festival is a lot of hard work and it's going from strength to strength with each year bigger and better than the year before. There is always a fantastic atmosphere and there's plenty to keep all ages entertained, whether they are racing or just out to enjoy a fun community event. We'd like to thank everyone who attended, all our volunteers and our sponsors who have helped us raise £4,500, so we can continue to provide great childcare support in Waterbeach."

Held at Waterbeach Barracks, the event covers a flat, off road course and many runners celebrated personal best times.

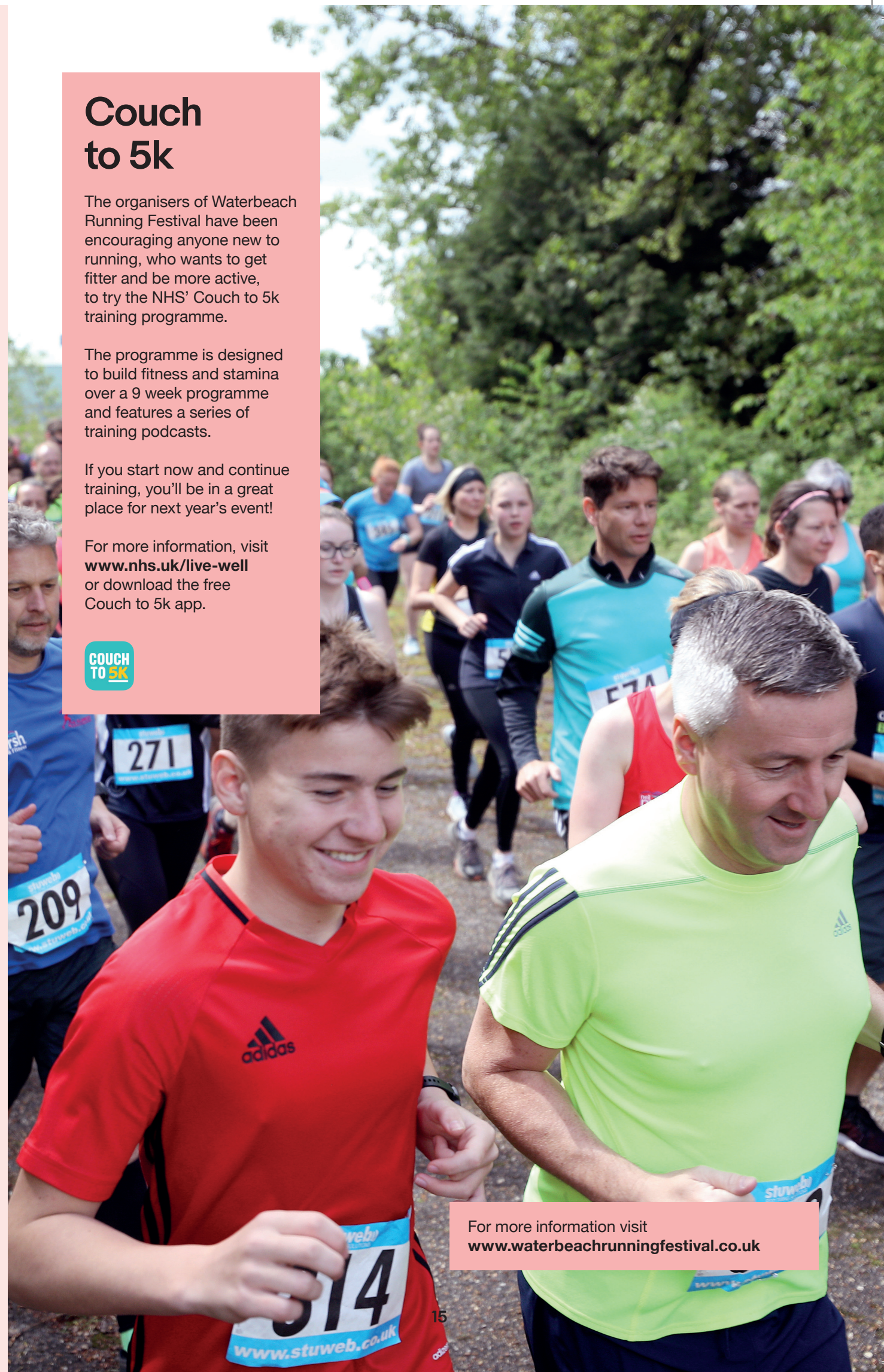
Couch to 5k

The organisers of Waterbeach Running Festival have been encouraging anyone new to running, who wants to get fitter and be more active, to try the NHS' Couch to 5k training programme.

The programme is designed to build fitness and stamina over a 9 week programme and features a series of training podcasts.

If you start now and continue training, you'll be in a great place for next year's event!

For more information, visit www.nhs.uk/live-well or download the free Couch to 5k app.



For more information visit www.waterbeachrunningfestival.co.uk

Summer at the Beach Arts Festival

6/7, 13/14 and 20/21 July 2019

Preparations are well underway for this year's Summer at the Beach, which brings together an eclectic mix of artistic talent as part of the Cambridge Open Studios event along with a range of local creative and community activities, during the first three weekends in July. The event, which is being held at Waterbeach Barracks for the fourth year running, will include:

Cambridge Open Studios Exhibition – with nine local artists displaying a range of paintings, prints, illustrations, photography, sculpture and textiles.

The Beach Sessions – showcasing original music in intimate spaces.

The Repair Café – so you can bring your broken objects along to be fixed, free of charge, by a panel of volunteer experts.

Pop Up Café – with a fantastic choice of delicious, home-baked goodies.

The Cafe Gallery – exhibition area for local residents to display artwork and crafts.

Graffiti Art Commission – watch internationally renowned artist Irony create a new artwork specifically for Waterbeach Barracks (on the village green on Saturday 13th July).

Art workshops – Graffiti Art demonstration and skills workshop by street artist Irony.

Talks and technical demonstrations from local artists using a range of different mediums.

The Great Nepal Book Swap – donate your unwanted books and discover new authors and genres to satisfy even the most ardent reader - with proceeds going to an orphanage in Nepal.

Giant Painting – help make a huge picture big enough to be seen by an aeroplane and watch it be filmed by a drone.

Artist Talk – hear author Guinevere Glasfurd-Brown talk about her exciting Arts Council Commissioned placemaking project to record and document the personal histories and memories of Waterbeach Barracks (see page 22 for more information).

Memory Space – where visitors can come and record their own personal stories about the Barracks and experience those of others.

We Love Waterbeach – stunning images of the village from local photographers.

Outdoor cinema event – enjoy the great outdoors as you sit back, relax and enjoy 2018 movie of the year - Green Book - on the big screen in a unique setting at Waterbeach Barracks. Tickets for this free event must be booked in advance.

Each year, Summer at the Beach adds exciting new events and activities that attract people from the local community and the wider area.

Last year, the 50metres long terrace area that used to store the Royal Engineers' vehicles, was transformed into the largest single art installation in the Cambridge Open Studios event. The buildings, which are very evocative of their period, were a focal point that sparked many people's imagination and it will be interesting to see how they are utilised at this year's event.

On the ground outside the garages, local artists painted a life-size silhouette of a Lancaster



using 70 litres of white emulsion paint. A life-size Spitfire was also painted on the ground and visitors of all ages were invited to add their artist talents.

Gideon Pain, local artist and event coordinator, said: "Summer at the Beach is becoming a well-established community event that attracts more diverse and exciting creative talents from within the Waterbeach area each year. There's something for the whole family to enjoy, whatever their interests, and we're planning to bring back some old favourites as well as new activities to this year's event."

If you live locally and have an artistic or creative talent you would like to showcase at next year's event, contact Gideon Pain at gideonpain@hotmail.com

To join us at the outdoor cinema event on 19th July go to starandmouse.co.uk and follow the link to book your tickets on Eventbrite.

More information on dates and times of this year's events are available at summeratthebeach.co.uk

“
Summer at the Beach is becoming a well-established community event that attracts more diverse and exciting creative talents from within the Waterbeach area each year.
”

Gideon Pain
local artist and event coordinator

Refurbished barracks provides home for hospital staff



“
It’s great to see the former barracks refurbished and providing a home for Papworth personnel. We’ve had really positive feedback from the staff who have moved in so far and are looking forward to welcoming the more when the hospital is fully relocated.”

”
Rebecca Britton
from Urban&Civic

Over 140 staff from Royal Papworth Hospital have moved into the refurbished barrack blocks at Waterbeach and are enjoying life in their new home.

To help them settle in, Urban&Civic prepared a welcome booklet so that those new to the Waterbeach area can find out more about the wide variety of the clubs, activities and facilities available on their doorstep and in the local area.

Staff will continue to move into the key worker accommodation over the summer, following Royal Papworth Hospital’s move to a state-of-the-art hospital on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus.

The barracks blocks, which were built in the 1990s and stood vacant after the former Barracks and Airfield closed in March 2013,

were given a new lease of life last year when they were transformed to provide 235 hospital staff with a single bedroom and shared living rooms, kitchens and laundry facilities.

Andrew Selby, Associate Director of Estates and Facilities at Royal Papworth Hospital NHS Foundation Trust said: “Royal Papworth Hospital is one of the leading cardiothoracic hospitals in Europe and we are very excited about having started a new chapter of our story at an amazing hospital on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus.

“Our staff are fundamental to our ongoing success and we are delighted that we can support them by offering quality, affordable accommodation in Waterbeach.”



Waterbeach Colts FC: Under 8s

Waterbeach Colts is a FA Charter Standard Club that encourages the playing and enjoyment of football for everybody in the community. It has teams playing mini soccer and colts league football at most age groups from under six to adult.

To help support budding young footballers in the local community, Urban&Civic has sponsored the kit for Colts FC under 8s, who play in the Cambridgeshire Mini Soccer League and regularly train and compete on Saturday mornings.

Although the teams play for fun at this age, the children are keen to learn and develop new skills that they can put into practice when competing against other teams.

Julie Durrant, parent representative for Waterbeach Colts FC under 8s, said: “The children really like their kit and it’s great to see them having so much fun training together and playing a sport they love. There’s a real sense of camaraderie among the team and it’s great to see them develop skills at this early stage without too much pressure on them to win.”



If you are interested in finding out more about Colts FC, or would like to volunteer for the Committee (which meets once a month) visit waterbeachcolts.org.uk/index.html

Heritage



The former Waterbeach Barracks and Airfield played an important role in the lives of the many military personnel that served here as well as those they sought to defend.

The history of the site through the centuries – as well as some of the individual stories of people who served here – will be echoed through the future development to ensure it continues to be told to future generations.

The Memorial Garden and the Military Heritage Museum are a huge part of that, and we are working up heritage trails, displays, wayfinding and public art that will connect with historic locations and engage people in the area's rich history.

Waterbeach Military Heritage Museum

Waterbeach Military Heritage Museum, which commemorates the men and women who served at Waterbeach Station from its opening in 1941 until the closure of the Barracks in 2013, has displays featuring a fascinating array of artefacts, memorabilia and photos.

Included in the Museum are details of Waterbeach Villagers who served and lost their lives in both World Wars, who can also be found listed on the Village War Memorials.

Over the last two years, Lt Col. (Retd). David Adamson, former Command Officer of 39 Engineer Regiment and Museum Trustee has been working with a small team to document the history of the regiment at Waterbeach Barracks - from 1966 until it departed for Kinloss, Scotland in 2012. The book, whose printing is being sponsored by Urban&Civic, will be available to buy at the Waterbeach Military Heritage Museum and other outlets.

Over 750 people visited the Waterbeach Military Heritage Museum last year and the team is looking forward to welcoming even more visitors and groups this year. The Museum is open from 10am to 4pm on the first Wednesday and first Sunday of the month from March to October. It will also be open during the Running Festival on 11 May and on the first three weekends in July for the Open Studios Art event.

Adrian Wright, Chairman of the Waterbeach Military Heritage Museum, said: "Waterbeach Barracks holds special memories for many in the village as well as those who served there. We are often asked what will happen to the museum when the New Town is built and we understand the Section 106 legal agreement which sets out what infrastructure developers need to do like roads, schools community facilities, will include provision for the museum; either to stay where we are or relocate within the development, so the future looks secure."

Friends of Waterbeach Military Heritage Museum

The Museum exists on donations and the sales of books, badges and cards. It has also established 'Friends' membership. If you would like to support the museum, join for £12 a year - and if you gift aid, it is worth an extra 25% or £2.45 from the government to the Museum. Friends of the Museum will receive updates and information about forthcoming events. Your support will be much appreciated and help ensure the continued care of these important local assets.

To become a Friend, collect a form from the museum, email waterbeachmilitarymuseum@waterbeach.org or write to Waterbeach Military Heritage Museum, Waterbeach Barracks, Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire CB25 9PA.

For more information, visit the Museum's Facebook page [@waterbeachmilitarymuseum](https://www.facebook.com/waterbeachmilitarymuseum).

The Museum recently unveiled its new logo, designed by one of the Trustee's former Royal Engineers, WO2 Mike Collins, who has also produced badges of 39 Engineer Regiment and the squadrons. The Chairman is already sporting a smart polo shirt with the new logo and goodies bearing the emblem are expected to go on sale later this year, with proceeds being used to support the ongoing maintenance and cataloguing of the Museum.

There have also been a few changes made to the Museum during the winter months. Some of the furniture has been replaced with military desks and a general spring clean has taken place. The Museum is still looking for mannequins to display its uniforms and if anyone has one or knows of any that might be hiding in an old store room somewhere, please get in touch.

Remembering Waterbeach Barracks

Waterbeach novelist, Guinevere Glasfurd-Brown has been awarded funding from the Arts Council for a placemaking project that will document the sights, sounds and memories of the former Waterbeach Barracks before it is transformed into a new town.

Working with four local artists – Chris Evans, Richard Youell, Theo Gayer-Anderson and Gideon Paine – Guinevere is going to capture and interpret the essence of the site through a variety of art and sound installations.

Guinevere is hoping that this project will demonstrate how the arts can form a bridge between Waterbeach village and the new town that will help create a sense of place.

Guinevere said: “Placemaking is a familiar concept in planning and design but it’s interesting to consider how the arts can be used to help create a shared sense of place.

“Waterbeach has a strong community that has been established over a long period of time and the village is rooted in hundreds of years of history. But how do you create that sense of place for an entirely new town that will be created over years rather than generations?

“The new town will rest on the foundations of the former Barracks and, with plans moving forward apace for the new town, I felt a sense of urgency to understanding exactly what the site means to people – those living locally as well as those who served at the Barracks when it was an active military base – and how those feelings and memories can be represented and shared through visual and sound art creations.”

The project is at an early stage of its development and over the next couple of months this creative team will be exploring the site to learn more about some its hidden gems and talking to Urban&Civic’s project team about their approach to design and placemaking and how this has been influenced by the Barrack’s heritage.

They will be inviting local residents to share their memories at the Summer at the Beach events at Waterbeach Barracks in July. Those memories



will then be interpreted through a variety of different mediums and the creative and artistic outputs from the project shared at an exhibition towards the end of the year or in early 2020.

The grant has been awarded by the Art Council as part of its Developing your Creative Practice fund, which is designed to “support independent creative practitioners to ensure excellence is thriving in the arts and culture sector.”

Rebecca Britton from Urban&Civic said:
‘Understanding and interpreting the heritage of the former Barracks site is very important and we will be supporting the project by providing the creative team with tours of the site and sharing how the site’s past and feedback from the local community has influenced our vision for the future. The Creative Arts can play a vital role in creating and celebrating a sense of place.’

Squadron 514 Reunion

At this year’s reunion, three veterans of 514 Squadron were joined by their families and the families of former Squadron members to remember those who had been stationed at Waterbeach Barracks.

The reunion started at St Johns Church in Waterbeach with a service conducted by Canon Brian MacDonald-Milne, former officiating chaplain at Waterbeach Barracks, to remember the 435 air and ground crew from the Squadron who lost their lives during World War II.

Following the service, people headed back to the Barracks to catch up over lunch in the Studio and visit the memorial garden to pay their respects to fallen comrades and family members. Unfortunately, adverse weather this year prevented the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight flypast that usually flies along the route of the former runway to pay tribute to the brave air and ground crew who served at Waterbeach during the War.

Attendees then visited the Waterbeach Military Heritage Museum before heading home. The Museum, which covers the RAF period and Royal Engineers occupation from 1940, was set up by the Royal Engineers at Waterbeach Barracks and was open from 1984 to 2013, when the Barracks closed. The Museum subsequently reopened in a building at the entrance of the site after the MOD appointed Urban&Civic as master developers of the site (see pages 20/21).

The military role of the airfield, along with many other layers of history, are expressed in future plans for the site including Runway Park, which will include commemorative features and a heritage trail that will cover the centuries of past activity on this unique site.



50th
Anniversary



Farmland Museum and Denny Abbey

The Farmland Museum, founded in 1969 by the Delanoy family, marks a significant milestone this year as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

The museum, which is located in the grounds of Denny Abbey, covers village and farming life of rural Cambridgeshire, and displays range from domestic items to large machinery. You can wander through a 1940s cottage complete with outdoor privy, re-creating what life was like for a farm worker and his family 80 years ago. Other interesting exhibits include display rooms about basket making, a farrier's workshop, a typical early 20th century village shop and a dairy. The museum also has a recreation of a fen man's hut.

The architecturally stunning Denny Abbey was lived in by three different religious orders until Henry VIII closed it and sold off the building and surrounding land during the dissolution of the monasteries. After it was sold off and the Countess of Pembroke's church extension demolished, farming families inhabited the former medieval church until the early 20th century.

The Farmland Museum and Denny Abbey is open from 11am - 5pm, Tuesday – Sunday (and Bank Holiday Mondays) from April until October, with plenty to see and do for all the family. The museum especially caters for younger children, with interactive exhibits, play area, ride-on tractors and a specially designed “play shed”.

The Docky Box Tea Room is open weekends, Bank Holiday Mondays and family activity afternoons, serving hot and cold drinks, sandwiches and cakes.

New for 2019 - standard admission tickets to the museum allow repeat entry at no extra cost for 12 months, excluding some special event days. See www.farmlandmuseum.org.uk for details.

This year's events include:

- Family craft and fun activities every Wednesday and Thursday in the school holidays.
- Festival of Archaeology children's event, part of the national Festival of Archaeology 2019 (25 July).
- Denny Time Machine, with the De Welles medieval re-enactors demonstrating crafts, weapons and other activities in costume during the August Bank Holiday (25-26 August).
- Heritage Open Day (15 September).
- Rats, cats and bats – a special Halloween-themed event with Raptor Foundation birds, broomstick races, pumpkin carving and willow wand making (27 October).

Volunteering:

The site is managed by a small team of staff, supported by volunteers who are essential to its continuing success. Volunteers undertake a variety of tasks including restoring farm machinery, making sure the buildings are secure and well maintained, looking after the museum's artefacts, helping at events (anything from car park duty to running an activity), helping with school visits, giving tours to booked groups and staffing information stalls at external events.

This year they are particularly looking for volunteers to help in the admissions kiosk and tea room. If this sounds like a role for you, please get in touch with the Farmland Museum (contact details below).

Volunteering is very good for mental and physical wellbeing – you meet new people and at the Farmland Museum you get plenty of fresh air!



Throughout the open season the museum runs a series of fun and informative special event days, children's holiday activity drop-in days, education programmes for schools, and pre-booked tours and talks for groups.

To find out more about the museum, forthcoming events and volunteering, visit www.farmlandmuseum.org.uk, email info@farmlandmuseum.org.uk or call 01223 860 988.

Tithe Barn

Tithe Barns are increasingly rare in the UK and the one at Landbeach is the only remaining one in Cambridgeshire in its original condition with thatched roof, timber frame, timber granary and brick threshing floor. Experts believe the Barn dates to the medieval period.

The Landbeach Barn is in a state of disrepair and needs restoration, so the Trust was delighted to receive a grant for £6,000 from the Architectural Heritage Fund and another £6,000 in match funding by the Pilgrim Trust last Autumn.

Gemma O'Shea, Chair of Trustees, said: "This is fantastic news and means a lot to the Tithe Barn Trust, as we're a small charity and not-for profit volunteer group committed to saving this unique Tithe Barn for everyone to enjoy. This essential funding is the enabler we need to help us reach our target of £260,000 to restore the special Grade II listed timber framed Tithe Barn. The public have been incredibly generous and donated over £60,000 already, but we still need to raise more."

Last year the Tithe Barn welcomed hundreds of visitors, who enjoyed a variety of events to raise funds towards the restoration of this national treasure.



Highlights from 2018 included:

Shakespeare at the Barn: Cambridge School of Visual & Performing Arts performed an abridged version of Shakespeare's comedy 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'.

Tithe Barn Heritage Open Day: threshing wheat on the historic brick threshing floor, grinding the grain to flour on a quern stone and even making their own Corn Dolly - an ancient tradition made at Harvest time from the last sheaf of corn cut. The Corn Spirit was believed to live in the corn doll and was kept until the following spring and then ploughed into the first furrow to ensure a good harvest.

Apple Gifting: visitors began their own apple gifting tradition and were able to get hands-on and decorate an apple with twigs, rosehips and candied fruit. In the past these were offered around the community as a sign of friendship, good health and good luck. There was also apple bobbing to try.

This year's events include:

- Tithe Barn Talk – 2pm on 6 July - join Dr Adam Menuge from the University of Cambridge for an account of the Landbeach Tithe Barn.
- Heritage Open Day – 1pm-5pm on 14 September.
- Outdoor gym – 10am-1pm on 9 November - get active and involved by helping tidy the hedge and meadow strip to the Tithe Barn.
- Carols - 2.30pm on 7 December – wrap up warm and start your festive season with carol singing, mulled wine or fruit juice and mince pies.

Volunteering: The Tithe Barn is a small charity and not-for profit volunteer group and always welcome help. Making new friends, working in an amazing place and knowing that you're helping a great cause – three fabulous reasons to get volunteering. If you'd like to get involved and help them achieve their vision, email tithebarntrust@gmail.com to find out about volunteering opportunities.

Check out the website for more information:
<https://tithebarntrust.org.uk/learning/>



Cuckoo at Wicken Fen by Richard Nicoll

Wicken Fen

Wicken Fen is one of Europe's most important wetlands home to over 9,000 recorded species including many rare species of plants, birds and dragonflies.

Throughout the year there's an amazing array of wildlife to see and hear, from booming bitterns and cuckoos in spring, rare orchids and dragonfly's in summer, to hen harriers and short-eared owls in winter. At the heart of the reserve is the ancient Sedge Fen, which can easily be explored via the all-weather Boardwalk trail.

In 1999, the National Trust launched the Wicken Fen Vision, an ambitious landscape-scale conservation project to extend the reserve from Wicken south towards the outskirts of Cambridge, providing new wetland habitats for wildlife, and recreational areas for humans to enjoy.

The National Trust celebrated 20 years of the Wicken Fen Vision and 120 years since it bought its first 2 acres at Wicken Fen on 1st May this year.

There are also a wide range of different events at Wicken Fen for all ages to enjoy throughout the year. This includes guided nature walks, pond dipping, talks and workshops.

Full details of all events and booking arrangements are available in the 'What's On' section of the Wicken Fen website:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen