

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Planning Committee

12 January 2011

AUTHOR/S: Executive Director (Operational Services) / Corporate Manager – Planning and New Communities

CAMBOURNE - DRAINAGE

Purpose and Background

1. This matter is being reported to the Planning Committee at the request of the Planning Portfolio Holder, following assurances given to Full Council on 22 April 2010 that it would be kept under regular review by Members.

Update as at 20 December 2010

2. Officers have continued to liaise with representatives of the Cambourne Consortium, its Resident Engineer and Anglian Water and the Senior Planning Lawyer attended a review meeting on 15 December where representatives of the Cambourne Consortium, its Resident Engineer, Bovis Homes, Taylor Wimpey and Anglian Water were present.

The main matters reported at that meeting were as follows;

- (a) WSP (Engineers) are producing a Final Report on the drainage survey work undertaken over an eight week period and such report to include an executive summary.
- (b) WSP confirmed contractors have completed the Infrastructure list of remedial works. In effect however these will only be checked following the next heavy rainfall event.
- (c) Bovis Homes confirmed their contractors are progressing with repair works (and subject to any additional items included in the latest inspection reports circulated by WSP on 15 December) Bovis Homes anticipated all repair works would be completed by 24 December 2010. Bovis Homes confirmed their willingness to provide a written certificate to confirm completion of their works. (In effect however the Bovis works will likewise only be checked following the next heavy rainfall event.)
- (d) Taylor Wimpey confirmed their contractors are progressing with repair works and about 90% completed (and subject to any additional items included in the latest inspection reports circulated by WSP on 15 December) Taylor Wimpey anticipated all repair works would be completed by the end of January 2011. Taylor Wimpey also confirmed their willingness to provide written confirmation of completion of their works. (In effect however the Taylor Wimpey works will likewise only be checked following the next heavy rainfall event.)
- (e) Update as to third party developers including site visits organised for later in the week with Persimmon Homes and David Wilson Homes.

- (f) Anglian Water confirmed a weather station has recently been installed at the Terminal Pumping Station and this will feed information directly into AW's telemetry control room. AW are preparing a Method Statement as to monitoring of flows and how flow predictions will be compared with actual flows following a rainfall event to assess the effect of the remedial works. AW has been asked (and have agreed) to attend the February Planning Committee to give a short presentation as to their work in relation to flow monitoring etc. It was thought it was best for the presentation to be in February rather than January on the basis of more flow information being available and on the basis that Taylor Wimpey repair works would not be completed until the end of January 2011.
3. At the meeting on 1st December 2010 it was reported that MCA were aware that there was no prospect of Planning Permission being granted in relation to the application for a further 950 dwellings at Cambourne until the Planning Committee was satisfied with the master programme and until that master programme has been implemented and shown to be satisfactory in addressing the infiltration of surface water into the foul water system. On 6th December a resolution was passed to grant planning permission for the 950 but this was strictly on the basis that a full drainage up-date will be reported back to the Planning Committee for the Committee's approval (i.e. as to satisfactory implementation of the master programme and also an up-date as to Uttons Drove) before the Section 106 Agreement for the 950 is completed and the planning permission is issued. Update reports will continue to be issued (unless the Committee decide otherwise) until the final report as to satisfactory implementation of the master programme.

Background Papers: No background papers were used in the preparation of this update: None

Contact Officer: Stephen Reid – Planning Lawyer
Telephone: (01954) 713195