

Consultation Results - the future of Hastings & St Leonards and Bexhill

APPENDIX C

Hastings Millennium Community

Hastings Millennium Community

Hastings Millennium Community is an exciting project to create vibrant neighbourhoods on under-used land near train stations.

It is one of seven projects selected by the Government to demonstrate innovative, sustainable approaches to 21st Century living from which others can learn.

The Hastings Millennium Community project is the only one to be built in the area. It will take place in the separate areas covering 130 acres around existing and planned open rail line stations, linked by a metro rail service running on existing track.

Selected plans for work areas will be shown up during 2001, fully involving the local communities.

The first new homes will be completed in 2005 and the whole project by 2010.

BETTER LIVING In the 21st Century

1000 OUTSTANDING NEW HOMES
All of size, value and location to suit local needs. Including homes that you can live and work in and self-build homes. 30% will be "affordable". All will have broadband internet access.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES
Shops, health, leisure and employment facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS
New parks, gardens, public squares, paths and cycleways.

HIGHEST DESIGN QUALITY
In all aspects of the project, fresh modern designs by the best architects.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
In planning and design of homes and facilities. Local jobs created through training in construction.

INNOVATION IN DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
Better use of materials, less waste, faster and cleaner construction, buildings that use less energy to heat and run.

The Six Hastings Millennium Community Sites

- Glyne Gap Cauldwell Park
- Marine 150 homes
- Sulverhythe 150 homes
- Hastings, St Leonards 150 homes
- St Leonards Warner Square area 50 homes
- One Valley 150 homes

Produced by Clive Jacotine & Associates Limited
with Nick Wates Associates

On behalf of English Partnerships

With support from Hastings Borough Council
and the South East England Development Agency

January 2003

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Consultation document

A *Better Living in the 21st Century; Hastings Millennium Community* brochure

If not attached, available on www.hastings.gov.uk
or from Hastings Information Centre, Queens Square, Hastings TN34 1TL
01424 781111 hic_info@hastings.gov.uk

1 Introduction and conclusions

1.1 ABOUT THIS APPENDIX

- 1.1.1 This Appendix sets out the results of public consultation which took place during November and December 2002 on the Hastings Millennium Community
- 1.1.2 The exercise was part of a wide ranging consultation programme on the future of the area. This Appendix covers only the feedback relating to the *Better Living in the 21st Century; Hastings Millennium Community* brochure and related exhibition material. It should be read in conjunction with the main report on the programme (*Consultation Results; the Future of Hastings & St Leonards and Bexhill*) as well as the Appendices on other plans and strategies. The feedback on the Masterplan consultation in particular contains much of relevance to the Millennium Community project (see Appendix B).

1.2 THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 1.2.1 A 6-page colour brochure was produced which included a tear off reply-paid questionnaire (see *Better Living in the 21st Century; Hastings Millennium Community*). This was made available at consultation events throughout the town, and could be obtained at numerous information points. People could also access the document and complete the questionnaire on-line on Hastings Borough Council's website – www.hastings.gov.uk
- 1.2.2 The aim of the brochure was to inform people about the general principles of Millennium Communities and to secure feedback both on people's general reactions and on their specific requirements.
- 1.2.3 The results are intended to endorse the concept and standards of the Hastings Millennium Community, help guide the development of the project and particularly help shape the more detailed local consultation that will be taking place on proposals for individual Millennium Community sites during the coming years.
- 1.2.4 The brochure and questionnaire were designed to have a reasonably long shelf-life for use during first half at least of 2003. Questionnaire responses are being fed into a database which will be built up and developed during the life of the project.

1.3 THE CONSULTATION RESPONSE

- 1.3.1 A total of 68 completed questionnaires from *Better Living in the 21st Century; Hastings Millennium Community* have been returned to date of which 52, processed before the end of December, have been analysed for this report. See section 2.
- 1.3.2 See main report, *Consultation Results*, for details of event attendance and press coverage.

1.4 CONSULTATION FINDINGS SUMMARY

- 1.4.1 There appears to be overwhelming support for the Hastings Millennium Community in principle. Over 80% of respondents thought it would be good for the area and only 2% thought it would not be. This level of support is similar to that found from the consultation on the Masterplan (see main report para 6.2 and Appendix B).
- 1.4.2 People have high expectations for the Hastings Millennium Community and have contributed a menu of ideas which will be useful for refining the aims and content for individual sites. Detailed involvement at a local level has been promised.
- 1.4.3 A high proportion of those who completed the questionnaire expressed interest in taking an active part in the development. For instance:
- 27% in buying a new house,
 - 21% in self build,
 - 33% in a live/work home,
 - 17% in workspace,
 - 25% in providing paid expertise,
 - 21% in sweat equity
 - 23% in being involved in community planning and design.
- 1.4.4 There is roughly equal interest in all the Millennium Community sites.

1.5 CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS

1.5.1 Important for disseminating information and collecting data

The consultation has been important for informing people about the Hastings Millennium Community project and giving them the opportunity to make their general views known. It has demonstrated considerable public support for the proposal and provided a great deal of data which will be useful in developing the project. This has included the beginning of a valuable database of potential users and their requirements.

1.5.2 Continue encouraging responses

Responses to the questionnaire should continue to be encouraged over the coming months, so building up more data. For instance it might be worth distributing the brochure door to door in key Millennium Community site areas, together perhaps with information about the development of proposals for those areas. It can also be distributed at local meetings and continue to be made available at local information points. It may also be worth arranging for one-to-one help for people completing the form for certain target audiences. It is recommended that suitable and consistent arrangements are made to collate and analyse responses coming in during 2003.

1.5.3 Disseminate results

General feedback on the consultation should be disseminated, through *About* magazine, on HBC and SEEDA websites and through appropriate local newsletters, for instance *Warrior* and *Ore Valley News*.

1.5.4 Coordinate with Local Action Plans

The results need to be coordinated with the Local Action Plans and distributed to the relevant local forums. Where local forums do not exist, for instance in West St Leonards, it may be worth considering helping to set up suitable local arrangements.

1.5.5 Personal responses needed

Specific replies need to be given to those who have indicated interest in being involved. Respondents should be contacted individually to explain how and when they can become involved.

1.5.6 Continually updated information on progress

Ways of keeping people continually updated with progress need to be established to keep people feeling involved. For instance a dedicated Millennium Community website, e-mail and printed newsletters, local site offices or information points. A Friends of Hastings Millennium Community network might be worth considering.

1.5.7 Working groups

It might be worth establishing working groups on specific topic areas, for instance live/work homes, starting with those who have already expressed an interest.

2. Questionnaire results

2.1 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1.1 This section sets out the results of the 52 questionnaires processed before the end of December.
- 2.1.2 Responses have been minimally edited for clarity.

2.2 GENERAL VIEWS

Do you think the Hastings Millennium Community Project will be good for the town?

<i>Yes</i>		<i>No</i>		<i>Not sure</i>		<i>No response</i>	
<i>no.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no.</i>	<i>%</i>
43	83	1	2	5	10	3	5

2.3 OBJECTIVES

- 2.3.1 Question asked: **What are the most important things for the Hastings Millennium Community Project to achieve?**
- 2.3.2 Responses are listed below, roughly grouped into general themes. Numbers in brackets indicate the number of people making the same point. Other numbers refer to the questionnaire number to facilitate follow up.
- 2.3.3 **Sustainability**
1. Providing and demonstrating the viability of sustainable living. 11
 2. Sustainable, environmentally friendly, active, fun, friendly and thriving community at affordable prices. 13
 3. Provide most of what you need - home, work/ etc - that is within walking distance or at least do not rely on the car. 45

4. A craft-led partially self-sufficient society - an island of low environmental impact homes, surrounded by paths and gardens - where you have a 10-minute walk to get to your car. 52
5. Sustainable regeneration without losing unique character and identity. 36
6. Emphasis on recycling. 20
7. Using renewable energy sources. 20
8. Solar panels. 20

2.3.4 **Identity**

1. To be a natural 'organic' part of the overall regeneration of the town. 32
2. To live up to its expectations, not just on paper but in reality. 32
3. A modern town and community and making the most of its history. 35
4. Lasting improvements to the community not just bricks and mortar. 37

2.3.5 **Community**

1. A feeling of local ownership of the area. 9, 50
2. Cultivate community spirit, civic pride and self improvement and expectation among residents. 51
3. To uplift the spirit and the lives of local communities. 32
4. Pride in the town. 12
5. A sense of a community that works together and has pride. 14
6. A safe prosperous place where all neighbourhoods work together to preserve our history and preserve what we will achieve. 18
7. Communities where people feel connected to each other and their shared environment. 39

2.3.6 **Housing**

1. Affordable housing for local people/first time buyers. (8) 7, 8, 16, 17, 31, 38, 42, 44
2. Affordable homes built to high quality innovative designs that champion the public consensus. 41
3. No social housing. 1
4. New homes for old. Knock down some of the present unwanted, unsuitable and badly planned housing and re-build. 46

2.3.7 **Economics**

1. More/sustainable jobs. (4) 1, 12, 31, 38
2. Promoting the visual arts - exhibition spaces and affordable studios. (4) 21, 22, 27, 34
3. Bringing prosperity to the area - producing well-paid permanent employment. 43
4. Free broadband for everyone. 4
5. Broadband access for unemployed first. 1
6. Eliminating poverty. 4

2.3.8 **Environment**

1. A safer environment. (2) 1, 42
2. An area to encourage people to grow food organically/allotments. (2) 20, 23
3. High quality (but sensitive) design. 40
4. High quality - especially urban design, open spaces, landscaping. 50
5. High quality developments only. 2
6. To blend in visually, compliment and enhance local architecture and environment. 32
7. Pleasant environment. 6
8. Well lit areas. 15
9. Promote environmental awareness. 51
10. Good use of derelict land. 25
11. Retain all existing green areas. i.e. new houses only on sites of existing buildings. 51
12. Environmental improvements. 40
13. Regeneration of dilapidated properties. 47
14. Retail and leisure facilities. 41
15. Community facilities (nursery/community centre). 7
16. Architecture courses/school in Hastings. 52

2.3.9 **Transport**

1. Sustainable community with integrated transport links. (2) 17, 41
2. Reduce car use and ownership. 51
3. Improve the road system substantially. 49
4. Safety on roads. 4
5. Better train service. 10

6. Good public/community transport. (2) 17, 29

2.3.10 **General**

1. Stable environment without overcrowding. 2
2. Reducing crime. (2) 3, 4
3. Education for local people. (2) 4, 30
4. Reduce domestic abuse. 4
5. Security. 15
6. A sense of security with enjoyment appropriate to a seaside town. 28
7. Good quality of living. 29
8. Help when needed, not when red tape allows. 4
9. Creating a more considerate disciplined life style. 43
10. Disability awareness. 4
11. No increase in population density near rail stations. 1
12. No increase in disadvantaged residents. 1
13. No new development out of keeping with the elegance of Warrior Square. 1
14. Stabilisation of the population. 9

2.4 PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS

2.4.1 If you want to get involved in the Hastings Millennium Community Project, tell us what you are interested in?

(To maintain confidentiality only general information is provided in this report.)

2.4.2 Homes

		<i>1 person</i>	<i>2 people</i>	<i>3 people</i>	<i>4 people</i>	<i>5 people</i>	<i>Not Spec</i>	<i>Total demand</i>	<i>Resp %</i>
a	Buying a new house	3	4	4	2	1	0	14	27
b	Renting a new house at market value	1	1				1	3	6
c	Renting from a housing association	4	3				1	8	15
d	Self-build or partly self-build	2	3		3	2	1	11	21

2.4.3 Live and work home

	<i>type</i>	<i>demand</i>	<i>Response %</i>
a	House with an office	10	19
b	House with a studio	4	8
c	House with a workshop	3	6
	TOTAL	17	33

2.4.4 Workspace

	<i>Use</i>	<i>demand</i>	<i>Response %</i>
a	Art/ceramics studio	1	
b	Builder	1	
c	Artists studio – affordable	2	
d	Computing and art	1	
e	Crafts	1	
f	Social photographer	1	
g	Solicitors	1	
h	Surveying	1	
	TOTAL	9	17

2.4.5 Retail Unit

	<i>Use</i>	<i>demand</i>	<i>Response %</i>
a	Art/ceramics gallery/showroom	1	
b	Crafts	1	
c	Specialist Board Games	1	
	TOTAL	3	6

2.4.6 Providing paid expertise.

Responses: 13 (25%)

Profession/Trade:

- a) Architect/Surveyors;
- b) Bricklayer;
- c) Brickwork/roofing;
- d) Chess Coaching;
- e) Decorating;
- f) Designer/Builder/Consultant/Decorator;
- g) DTP, writing, editing;
- h) Legal;
- i) Landscaping Architect;
- j) Landscape architect/planning;
- k) Quantity Surveying;
- l) Renewable energy/sustainable living consultancy;
- m) Visual artist;

2.4.7 Volunteering

Responses: 7 (13%)

Activity:

- a) Any I'm able to help with;
- b) Community Artist/Teacher Moral hack;
- c) Credit Union;
- d) Representing current residents views;
- e) Secretarial

2.4.8 Donating labour in exchange for a reduced price home ('sweat equity')

Responses: 11 (21%)

2.4.9 Community planning and design

Responses: 12 (23%)

2.4.10 Training in construction skills

Responses: 1

2.4.11 Other:

- a) Public consultation questionnaire design, ascertaining residents views. 1
- b) Controlling the impact of development on existing areas. 2
- c) Transport links. 2
- d) Link to EYDCP [?] re: Nursery Project. 7
- e) Organising murals and community projects. 13
- f) Room for visitors and carers. 18
- g) High quality exhibition spaces; e g. ground floor 44-45 Robertson Street, refurbishing front of St Mary's in the Castle as gallery, potential gallery space in Warrior Square. (2) 21, 22
- h) Environment - green gardening areas. 23
- i) Networking between various groups (especially 1066 Business Club). 28

2.5 SITE INTEREST

2.5.1 Which of the Millennium Community sites are you interested in?

<i>site</i>	<i>Expressions of interest</i>	<i>Response %</i>
Glyne Gap	15	29
Bulverhythe	16	31
Marina	17	33
Warrior Square	22	42
Hastings station	17	33
Ore Valley	14	27

3. Organisation responses

3.1 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1.1 This section of the report sets out the results of responses from organisations specifically in response to the Hastings Millennium Community brochure. Other organisational responses on the Millennium Community can be found in the Masterplan consultation results (see Appendix B).
- 3.1.2 Two responses were received in the form of a letter and a report.
- 3.1.3 The results are set out in the same order as in the *Hastings Millennium Community* brochure, starting with a 'general' section. The original source material is available both on paper and electronically.
- 3.1.4 Contributions have been only minimally edited for clarity with original wording maintained wherever possible. Points are numbered to assist with referencing and discussion. Sources are shown in brackets.

3.2 ORGANISATIONS RESPONDING

- 3.2.1 Responses were received from the following:
1. East Sussex Transport 2000 (Report 6.12.02)*
 2. Sussex Wildlife Trust (report 18.12.02)*

3.3 GENERAL POINTS MADE

3.3.1 Support for policy

The major elements of these – developments around existing and reopened railway stations – have been East Sussex Transport 2000 policies for at least fifteen years; we are delighted that at last they have become part of mainstream transport and environment thinking.
(*East Sussex Transport 2000*)

3.3.2 Reduced transport impact omission

We presume that the omission of ‘reduced transport impact’ on the environment is unintentional and look forward to its explicit inclusion (and energetic promotion) as an objective.

(East Sussex Transport 2000)

3.3.3 Environment sector representation needed on steering group

Millennium Community Project Steering Group has no obvious representation from the environment sector, despite the impact that proposed development will have on the natural environment, e.g. Combe Haven SSSI, Filsham Reedbeds LNR, Ore Valley SNCI, Bulverhythe Shingle Beach SNCI and Glyne Gap Marshes SNCI.

(Sussex Wildlife Trust)

3.3.4 Create best practice examples

Examples of best practice could be created through sustainable development.

(Sussex Wildlife Trust)

3.3.5 Brownfield development preferable

Re-development of existing low quality urban areas is preferable to developing new areas. Environmentally sensitive land should be avoided and mitigation and compensation should be seen as a last resort. Developing areas within the towns' boundaries rather than increasing pressure on surrounding countryside can help halt urban sprawl.

(Sussex Wildlife Trust)

3.3.6 Consider wildlife

Environmental improvements must take local wildlife into consideration at all stages and there must be a policy of native planting, in order to sustain local species. Green spaces within urban areas are havens to wildlife and all green spaces should be considered as part of the network of designated sites, e.g. SSSIs, SNCIs etc.

(Sussex Wildlife Trust)

3.3.7 Sustainable transport

Employment centres, shops and leisure facilities must be easily and safely accessible by safe, convenient, affordable and sustainable transport methods.

(Sussex Wildlife Trust)

3.3.8 Green gyms

Health facilities could encourage the use of green gyms etc. for both physical and mental well being.

(Sussex Wildlife Trust)

3.3.9 Innovation in design and construction

Sustainable methods of building design, construction and operation should be used, e.g. sustainable drainage systems, renewable energy sources etc.

(Sussex Wildlife Trust)

3.3.10 Sense of ownership through community projects

Community projects can encourage a sense of ownership and appreciation of wildlife in and around towns and increase public awareness of biodiversity.

(Sussex Wildlife Trust)

3.3.11 Sustainable construction and operation

This should incorporate sustainable methods of construction and operation as well as aesthetics to minimise environmental impact. There must be agreements wherever mitigation or compensation measures are enforced to ensure that work is undertaken and maintained in the long-term.

(Sussex Wildlife Trust)

Hastings Millennium Community

Hastings Millennium Community is an exciting project to create vibrant neighbourhoods on under-used land near train stations.

It is one of seven projects selected by the Government to demonstrate new, sustainable approaches to 21st Century living from which others can learn.

The Hastings Millennium Community project is the only one by the sea. It will take place in six separate areas - covering 320 acres - around existing and planned new railway stations, linked by a metro rail service running on existing track.

Detailed plans for each area will be drawn up during 2003, fully involving the local communities.

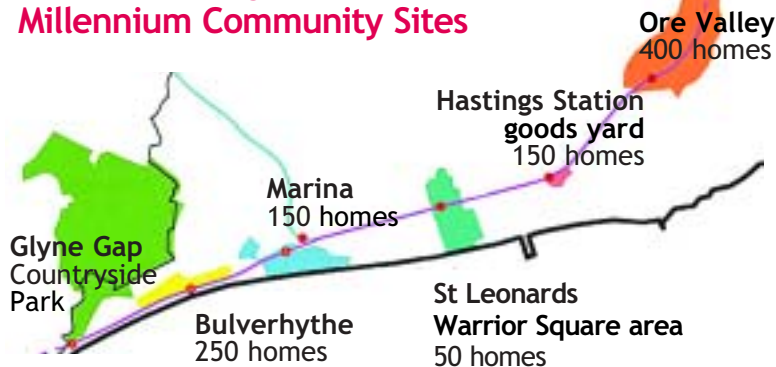
The first new homes will be completed in 2005 and the whole project by 2012.

November 2002

Better Living in the 21st Century



The Six Hastings Millennium Community Sites



1000 OUTSTANDING NEW HOMES

Mix of style, size and tenure to suit local needs. Including homes that you can live and work in and self build homes. 30% will be 'affordable'. All will have broadband internet access.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Shops, health, leisure and employment facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

New parks, gardens, public squares, paths and cycleways.

HIGHEST DESIGN QUALITY

In all aspects of the project. Fresh modern designs by the best architects.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

In planning and design of homes and facilities. Local jobs created through training in construction.



INNOVATION IN DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

Better use of materials, less waste, faster and cleaner construction, buildings that use less energy to heat and run.

Hastings Millennium Community

Sustainable neighbourhoods are places that are good to live and work in.

Places where most things you need are within walking distance so you rarely need to use a car.

Places where public transport is reliable and frequent when you need to go further afield.

Places that feel safe because there is always life on the streets. However old you are.

In a sustainable neighbourhood, buildings and public spaces are designed to the highest standards to reduce running costs, and to make sure that they meet the needs of tomorrow as well as today.

And, above all, in a sustainable neighbourhood, local people are involved in running the place so that they can deal with problems as they arise and continually make improvements.

Creating Sustainable Neighbourhoods

Places that work better, last longer and use less energy

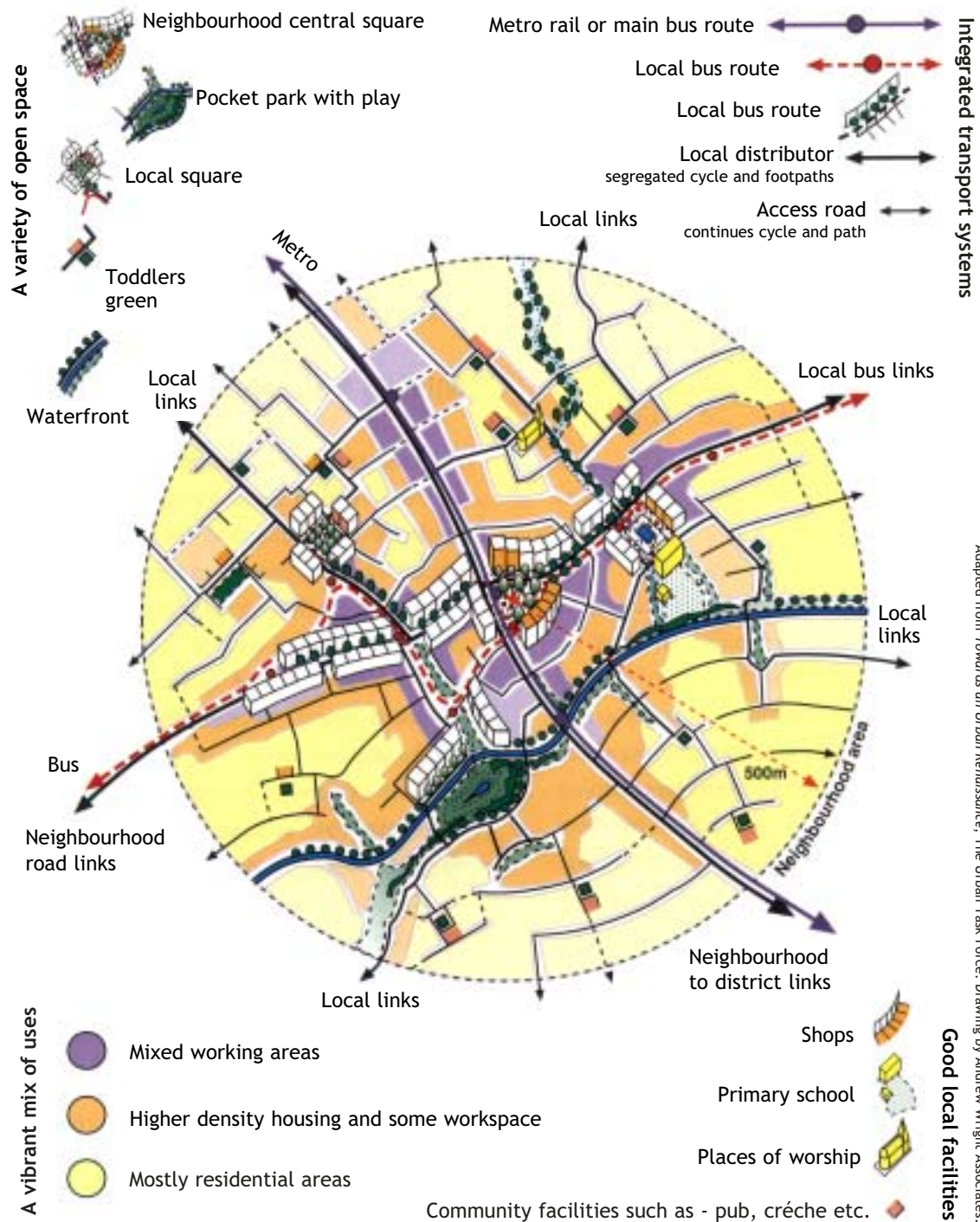


Diagram showing how a typical sustainable neighbourhood might work





Better Design and Construction

Pioneering cleaner, faster and environmentally friendly building

The latest technology and international best practice will be used to prove that it is possible to build more efficiently than in the past.

The Hastings Millennium Community has to achieve high standards. Performance will be compared with typical normal development schemes and tough targets have been set.

LOW ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- Reduce energy used in construction by 50%.
- Reduce energy used in producing building materials by 50%.
- Reduce energy consumption in the home by 50%.
- Reduce water consumption in the home by 20%.
- Reduce domestic waste in the home by 50%.
- Use renewable sources for 10% of energy consumption.

HIGH DESIGN QUALITY

- Design competitions used to select the best designs for all buildings and public spaces. All new buildings to be designed by architects.



- Increase plot and dwelling size to new key standards.
- Incorporate broadband in every home and business.
- Improve daylight levels and noise proofing to 10% above current standards.
- Zero defects apparent on handover of homes to occupiers.

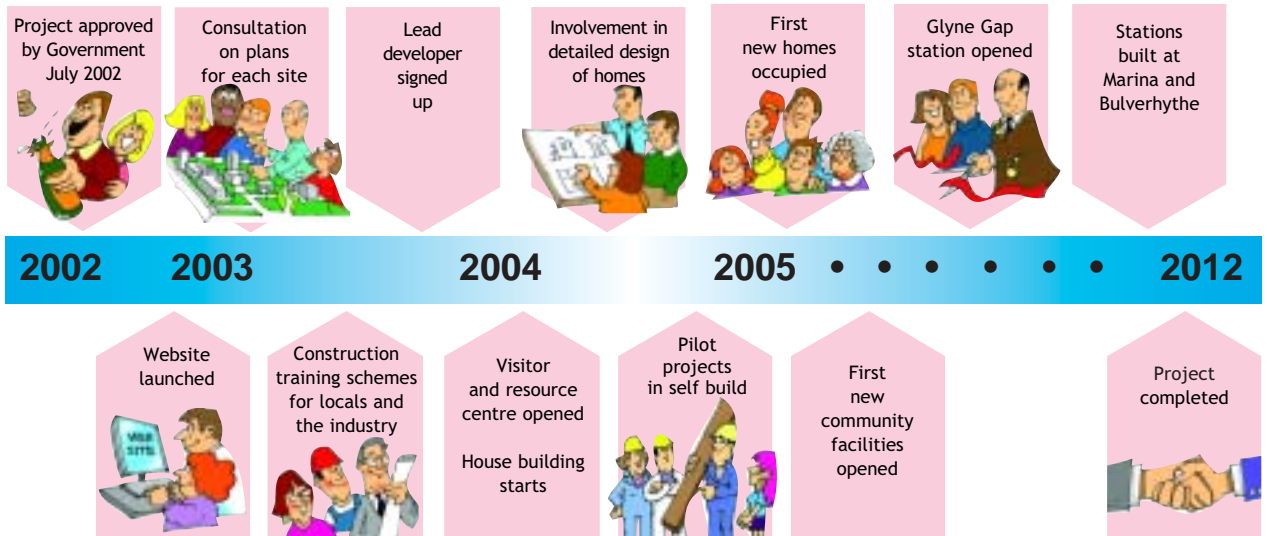
LOW CONSTRUCTION IMPACT

- Reduce construction costs by 20%.
- Reduce construction waste by 50%.
- Reduce construction time by 20%.
- Reduce reportable construction site accidents to zero.



Photos by Chris Parker, Peter Greenhalf and the ABC Project. Images of Greenwich Peninsula courtesy of English Partnerships. Metro image courtesy of the Urban Task Force.

Working Together How and when you can get involved and benefit from the project



There will be many different ways to become involved with the project over its 10-year life. Fill out the questionnaire on the next page to let us know your interests and to be kept informed about our progress.



Further Information

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www.hastings.gov.uk

The Regeneration Centre
45a Robertson Street
Hastings TN34 1HL

Opening hours:
Tues - Sat 11am to 4pm

01424 429438
www.ourfuture.org.uk

Background

The Millennium Communities programme was launched by the Government in 1997 with a competition for Greenwich Millennium Village in London. Since then, a range of locations has been chosen to show that energy efficient, environmentally responsible development is achievable anywhere.

Sites chosen in date order:

- Greenwich Millennium Village
- Allerton Bywater, near Leeds
- New Islington, Ancoats, East Manchester
- Nar Ouse, King's Lynn, East Anglia
- East Ketley, Telford
- Oakgrove, Milton Keynes
- Hastings

More details at www.englishpartnerships.co.uk

Questionnaire

Do you think the Hastings Millennium Community Project will be good for the town? Yes No Not Sure

What are the most important things for the Hastings Millennium Community project to achieve?

If you want to get involved in the Hastings Millennium Community Project, tell us what you are interested in. Tick all that apply.

- Buying a new house For how many people?
- Renting a new house at market value For how many people?
- Renting from a housing association For how many people?
- Self-build or partly self-build For how many people?
- Live & work home House with an office or a studio or a workshop
- Workspace Activity Size if known
- Retail Unit Activity Size if known
- Providing paid expertise (eg. design or building) Profession/Trade
- Volunteering (eg. Local contact point) Activity
- Donating labour in exchange for a reduced price home ('sweat equity')
- Community planning and design
- Training in construction skills
- Other Please specify

Which of the Hastings Millennium Community sites are you interested in? Tick all that apply.

- Glyne Gap Bulverhythe Marina Warrior Square Hastings Station Ore Valley

Name/s

Organisation (if applicable)

Address

Tels

Email

Anything else you think we should know about you or your requirements.

Tick here if you would like to be kept up to date with progress. Hastings Borough Council will not pass your information on to any third parties.

Please hand in to The Hastings Information Centre, Queens Square, Priory Meadow, Hastings or fax to: 01424 881985 or post to FREEPOST PTL. You can also fill in the form on-line at www.hastings.gov.uk/newdawn