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Proposed Buckover Garden Village for up to 3,000 homes

On-going Community Involvement

Following the submission of a concept document to the West of England's Joint Spatial Strategy (JSP) call for sites earlier this year, the Tortworth Estate began a series of engagement meetings with Parish and Town Councils and had contact with members of the public.

During this summer work has continued with further fact finding and building on the work that went into the initial concept document. We have also begun our community involvement work and at separate meetings of Falfield Parish Council and Thornbury Town Council a total of over 90 local residents attended and we were able to hear more about the fears and concerns, and wishes and ideas, of local people.

This engagement work will continue through the autumn where we now want to talk to specific stakeholder groups such as health and education providers, older and younger people community groups, employers and the wider range of community groups that can be found in the local area. It is then planned for a more formal direct engagement process with the general public to take place early in 2017.

The added benefit of having the direct public engagement at that time will help avoid any overlap with the West of England's own JSP public consultation due to happen later this year.

Robert Moreton of Tortworth Estate said: *"Once the concept document was published we made a pledge to the local community that we would engage with them and that work has already begun. Listening to local people and our councils is very important and is already proving very helpful as we add more flesh to the bone of what we think could happen at Buckover."*

Rob Garnham of Mediation in Planning said, *"The more focussed work with stakeholder groups is another key step in our consultation process and I will be contacting groups shortly. However, if there are any community groups, of any kind, that wish to be more proactive and get involved then please contact me at the Garden Village email: bgv@mediationinplanning.co.uk We want to work with the local community to understand their concerns but also, if the Garden Village is to proceed, then what would be their wishes for such a community."*

Notes to Editors:-

This statement has been issued by Rob Garnham, Mediation in Planning Ltd, on behalf of the Tortworth Estate. For all further enquires please contact Rob directly on 07799 895929 or email rob@mediationinplanning.co.uk

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