

Issued 24<sup>th</sup> July 2017. For Immediate Release.

## **TORTWORTH ESTATE SELECTS ST. MODWEN AS ITS PARTNER FOR THE BUCKOVER GARDEN VILLAGE, SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

The Tortworth Estate has selected St. Modwen, as its partner to deliver the Buckover Garden Village concept. The decision was made following a competitive process involving over 20 expressions of interest from a range of national and regional developers.

St. Modwen, in partnership with the Tortworth Estate, will now work up plans for this scheme which is to be located on non-greenbelt land owned entirely by the Estate. It will be based on a Garden Village concept and is likely to comprise a mix of housing and employment uses, alongside a range of health, education and community facilities, as well as transport and communications infrastructure, retail provision and green open spaces.

Robert Moreton of Tortworth Estate, said:

*"The Estate is extremely pleased to have reached this important milestone. St. Modwen impressed us, and our advisors, with their 30 year track record of successful regeneration and development expertise in both the residential and commercial sectors and as an award winning housebuilder. Furthermore, they have demonstrated great commitment to work collaboratively with us in taking Buckover Garden Village forward. Having such a well respected partner on board provides reassurance that the project is achievable and can be delivered in the time scales of the emerging Joint Spatial Strategy."*

Rupert Joseland, Property Director, West and Wales, St. Modwen said:

*"As a regional and national developer with expertise in creating new communities, we continually strive to change places to create better futures. We believe our philosophy complements the Buckover Garden Village concept which sets out to deliver a sustainable new community that will benefit the local and broader area by providing new homes, much needed community facilities and creating employment opportunities; all of which will be designed to complement the existing area and ensuring that the estate leaves a legacy to be proud of in years to come."*

*“We are extremely pleased to have been selected by the Tortworth Estate and we look forward to drawing up plans and consulting more broadly with the surrounding community as they start to take shape.”*

Remaining true to the Garden Village Principles, Robert Moreton confirmed that the Estate will retain its “master builder” role and added:

*“St. Modwen shares our vision and aspirations for Buckover with the Estate continuing to be fully involved - after all, a successful exemplar Garden Village at Buckover will be our legacy for the future.”*

On behalf of the Tortworth Estate, leading property advisors GVA were appointed to take the partner selection process forward. Gordon Isgrove, Regional Senior Director at GVA said:

*“This is an exciting opportunity to deliver a new mixed use settlement and the interest and ideas from the development market has been exceptional.”*

**Notes to Editors:**

What is Buckover Garden Village?

*“The vision for Buckover Garden Village is to deliver a holistically planned free standing garden village which enhances the natural environment and provides local employment, community facilities, in a beautiful, healthy place with diverse communities with strong local governance.”*

*(Mark Chadwick, Senior Director, Hunter Page Planning Ltd, 2016)*

The project will offer a mix of housing and employment uses, alongside a range of health, education and community facilities, as well as transport and communications infrastructure, retail provision and green open spaces. The adherence to the three core principles of Garden Villages i.e. the landowner retaining the role as the “Master Builder”, ensuring land value capture is reflected in onward community investment and community governance, are enshrined in all the Estate is seeking to achieve.

The area concerned covers approximately 170 hectares of predominantly agricultural land under the sole ownership of the Tortworth Estate Company. The Company is promoting the Garden Village through the West of England (WofE) Joint Spatial Plan.

Further information on the Buckover Garden Village can be found on our web page at:-  
<http://www.tortworthestate.com/gardenvillage>

**For further information, please contact:**

**Tortworth Estate**

Rob Garnham

Mediation in Planning Ltd

07799895929

[rob@mediationinplanning.co.uk](mailto:rob@mediationinplanning.co.uk)

**St. Modwen**

Charlotte McCarthy/ Emily Boswell

0121 222 9400

[corpcomms@stmodwen.co.uk](mailto:corpcomms@stmodwen.co.uk)