

Local community will shape Langarth Garden Village plans

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A place with great indoor and outdoor spaces where community initiatives can take root and flourish. Truly affordable and well insulated zero carbon homes for local people which are cheap to heat and run. Wide open spaces with trees and wildlife and recreational and play equipment for all ages. Sustainable transport with affordable electric bus services and walking and cycling routes.....these are just some of the positive ideas put forward by people taking part in the listening events held in and around the location of the new Langarth Garden Village.

Cornwall Council is determined to ensure that the development of the proposed Garden Village is shaped by the local community. The last two weeks saw the launch of the first in a series of community engagement events where local residents are being invited to come and talk to members of the masterplanning team and share their ideas, aspirations and concerns for the site.

The first four drop in sessions were held in St Agnes, Hightertown, Threemilestone and Chacewater Village Hall with another taking place at Shortlanesend Village Hall between 2pm and 7pm on Friday, 25 October.

As well as talking to members of the masterplanning team, local residents were also invited to complete a questionnaire setting out their views on the emerging scheme. An [online version of the questionnaire is also available on the Council's website](#).

"It was great to see so many people take the opportunity to attend the engagement events" said Councillor Bob Egerton, Cornwall Council cabinet portfolio holder for Culture, Planning and Economy "We want the masterplanning of Langarth Garden Village to be shaped by the community and I would encourage people living in and around Shortlanesend to come along to the event taking place later this week."

"We will be staging further engagement events over the coming months but in the meantime anyone who has been unable to attend this round of events can fill in the [online questionnaire](#) or email the team at LangarthGV@cornwall.gov.uk with any queries or comments".

The feedback from the public engagement events and the questionnaire, together with the views of key stakeholders, will inform ongoing master-plan thinking, most immediately three options for the proposed Garden Village site.

Details of these options will be published in early November with further public engagement events in Threemilestone on 08 November and in Truro on 15 November. Feedback from these events, plus that from stakeholder working groups, forums, workshops and meetings, will go on to inform a preferred Masterplan option in early 2020.

This preferred option is due to be considered by the Council's Cabinet in February. A formal application for outline planning permission will then be submitted to the Council in the spring.

Local residents attending the engagement events welcomed the opportunity to put forward their views on the scheme. While some wanted the site to be left as a green area, the majority of people recognised that the existing planning permissions meant that development would inevitably take place. They welcomed the Council's decision to intervene and work with the local community to create a vibrant and distinctive new community at Langarth.

Some raised concerns over the potential impact of the development on the existing roads into Truro, and increased pressures on health and education facilities. Others emphasised the importance of providing well designed affordable homes for local people, including shared ownership houses and accommodation for key workers; work spaces for small and medium sized businesses, green areas, with allotments, wild flower meadows and community orchards, as well as walking and cycling routes and general community open spaces.

Many welcomed the Council's commitment to providing key infrastructure, such as the new Northern Access Road, improved public transport links, a new primary school, effective water and drainage systems, and additional health and dental services at the start of the project rather than at the end when all the housing had been built.

"We will be taking all these views on board as we continue to develop the masterplan" said Bob Egerton. "We are working with partners and developers to ensure that the scheme connects with existing settlements, as well as with existing and planned retail developments in the rest of Truro.

"We recognise the concerns which have been expressed by people living in Threemilestone at the potential impact on their village. We have agreed to invest in key community facilities as part of the overall project and are working closely with Kenwyn Parish Council and the local Cornwall Councillors to identify potential projects".

Using the stadium as a local community hub to provide sports and leisure facilities, work spaces, community meetings and culture and arts events.

Ensuring that plans for the new school make the most of the natural environment, and promote outside learning for pupils, as well as working alongside and complementing the existing Threemilestone School.

Thanking Panel members for their ideas, Chair Dulcie Tudor said they would now be asking the local community what they want for the scheme.

“We want to ensure that the Masterplan reflects the vision and values of the local community“ she said. “We will be holding a series of events and drop in sessions in Threemilestone and in Truro over the next few months so we can make sure that the voice of local people is heard clearly at every stage of the process. “

Details of the engagement events will be published on the Love Truro website and on the websites of Cornwall Council, Truro City Council and Kenwyn Parish Council and publicised as they are confirmed.

Note to editors

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