

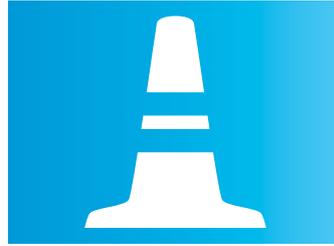
Festive fundraiser supports families at Christmas



New starter drives jobs and skills at Alconbury Weald



Latest news on the Ermine Street enhancement works



2nd Alconbury Brownies go from strength to strength



Make | News

Alconbury Weald Newsletter | Spring 2018



Government launches Homes England at Alconbury Weald

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Hello

Hello and welcome to our latest newsletter, which provides an update on the latest developments at Alconbury Weald.

A lot of hard work and meticulous planning has gone into developing the first phase of Alconbury Weald and Housing Secretary Sajid Javid extolled its virtues when he launched new national housing agency – Homes England – at Alconbury Weald earlier this year.

The master developer approach focusses on creating a community that people can be proud to call home: with new homes delivered alongside infrastructure, community facilities and employment opportunities, and care taken to support the most important part of any community: people. It's going to be work in progress for all of us for the next few years and we continue to welcome feedback to ensure we make Alconbury Weald the best place to live, work and enjoy.

Alconbury Weald's first nursery and primary school both celebrated their first anniversary at the end of last year and have become well established as a focal point of the new community – with Ermine Street Church Academy's facilities being enjoyed by a range of community groups including the 2nd Alconbury Brownies and Huntingdon Table Tennis Club.

New residents are moving into Alconbury Weald every week and there are a wide range of Hopkins Homes, Morris and Redrow houses now to choose from – and show homes and marketing suites open to view. Work is also now underway on Urban&Civic's new Civic Living homes next to the Boulevard, which will reflect the modern architectural styling of the Campus.

The Campus also continues to thrive and it won't be long before IKO PLC moves into its new facility and we welcome tenants to the new office building nearing completion on the Boulevard. Alongside that the Skills Centre iMET will be opening soon and Urban&Civic has invested further in this area, appointing Victoria Denny-Morley to drive forward our skills strategy and lead the EDGE partnership.

We continue to work with local partners and communities and raised over £11,000 with our contractors, tenants and supply chain to buy equipment for the MacMillan Woodlands Centre and make Christmas a little bit brighter for local children and families in need.

If you want to find out more about Alconbury Weald or take a tour, please do get in touch with us.

With very best wishes

Becca

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Homes England launched at Alconbury Weald

In January 2018, a new national housing agency – Homes England – was launched at Alconbury Weald by Housing Secretary Sajid Javid.



The launch was a key part of the Government's drive to bring forward the delivery of quality homes quicker, to address the national housing crisis.

The new agency will bring together the existing planning expertise of the former Homes and Communities Agency with new land buying powers. Homes England will play a major role in securing land in areas where people want to live, support smaller and more innovative house builders into the market and resource brownfield sites from across the country to deliver new homes.

The launch was centred on Alconbury Weald as an example of best practice, where the planning approach and master developer role of Urban&Civic has halved the time that it would normally take for a site of this scale to start delivering. At the same time providing a robust planning and design framework that ensures and maintains quality delivery.

The Secretary of State – who in the recent Cabinet reshuffle added *Housing* to his title and priorities – was keen to explore how the approach enables smaller housebuilders to get involved and deliver quickly on big schemes, and to ensure that infrastructure such as schools and transport investment comes in alongside houses. Homes England has been working with Urban&Civic to support further acceleration of the development, including bringing forward funding to deliver the southern access to the site from the A141 ahead of schedule.

Following a tour of Alconbury Weald, the Housing Secretary Sajid Javid said: "This Government is determined to build the homes our country needs and help more people get on the housing ladder. Homes England will be at the heart of leading this effort.

"The new agency will be key in replicating this approach right across the country and will help us build a Britain fit for the future."

Sajid Javid also met apprentices working with Redrow and Morris Homes, and was supportive of the jobs and skills approach on the development, which is essential to ensuring housebuilders can grow to deliver the increased demand.

Local authorities across the country are publishing brownfield registers and Homes England will develop a new commercial approach to acquiring, preparing, managing and developing land in areas of high demand and strategic importance. Using both the land and money to support builders of all sizes to increase supply will continue to support accelerated construction on a selection of sites.

Nigel Hugill, Chief Executive of Urban&Civic, said: "We were pleased to host the launch of Homes England at Alconbury Weald. Strategic sites are a key part of quality delivery at pace, which will help tackle the housing crisis. Urban&Civic's unique master developer model has halved the time through planning and into delivery; enabled smaller and regional housebuilders to deliver on site quickly; and ensure quality from the first tree to the last brick. By working with Homes England, we have been able to further accelerate our delivery of homes by bringing forward vital infrastructure across a number of sites."

The development at Alconbury Weald is a prime example of how the agency has worked to deliver thousands of new homes, as well as improve roads and create space for local businesses.

Sajid Javid Housing Secretary



OFFICE ZONE

MID-TECH CAMPUS

BESPOKE BUILDINGS



iMET
Opening
Summer 2018

The Club
Café, Gym and
Events Hall

Cricket pitch
Playable from
Spring 2019

The Incubator

The Boulevard

New office space
Completing late
Spring 2018

**Housing
Civic Living**

**Key
Phase
One**

Update on the first phase of development



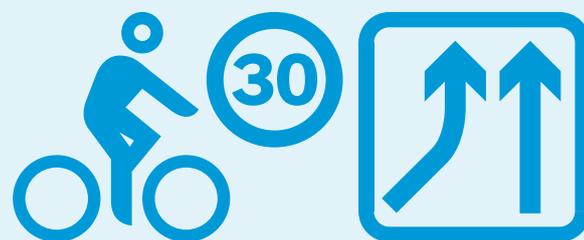
Watch Office
Refurbishment to Community Room and Groundwork East HQ starting February and completing Summer 2018



Infrastructure

Ermine Street enhancement works

As part of our commitment to minimise the impact and maximise the benefits of Alconbury Weald to the local area, we have been working with Stukeleys Parish Council and local partners on a scheme of environmental enhancements along Ermine Street.



The final details of the scheme takes into account feedback from consultations held in 2016, and revisions made through the required Road Safety Audit assessments carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council. Information events were held in the Stukeleys on 7 and 11 December last year to set out the detailed works and programme.

The principles

The aim of the proposed scheme is to reduce the number of vehicles on Ermine Street passing through the Stukeleys and to control any increase along this route as a result of the new development by:

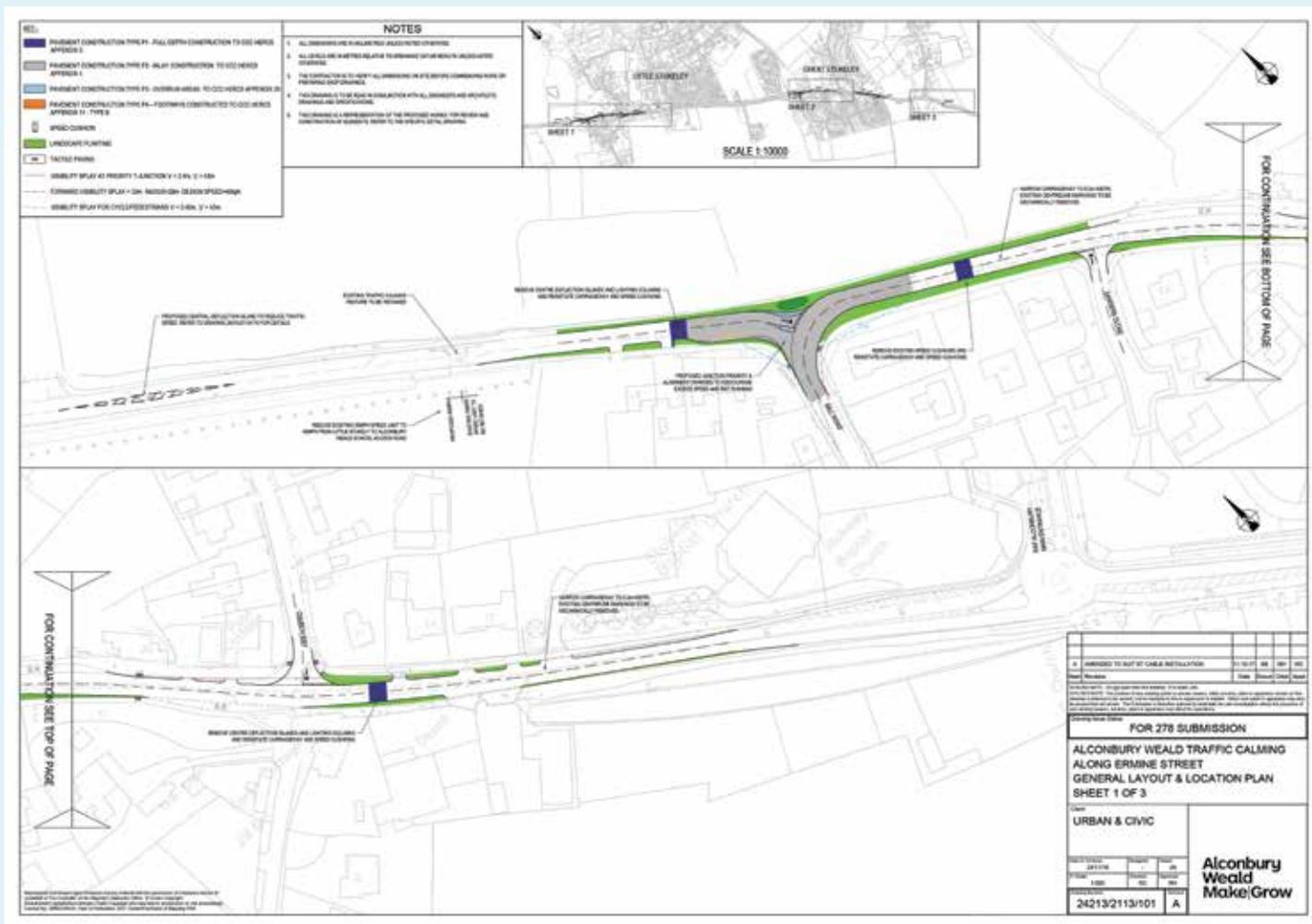
- Reducing the attraction of Ermine Street to motorised traffic, encouraging use of the A14 and A1 to the north of the development site;
- Reducing speeds within the Stukeleys and improving access for residents of the villages; and
- Improving the look and feel of the route by enhancing the village feel and making it more attractive for pedestrians and cyclists.

Final proposals

The final proposals moving forward include:

- Narrowing the width of the Ermine Street carriageway, by bringing in the kerb on both sides.
- Changing the priority of key junctions through the village.
- Reducing the existing 40mph speed limit at the south end of Great Stukeley to 30mph.
- Retaining the central crossing refuge at Owl End junction, with amends made to the road narrowing scheme in this area.
- Street lighting at Church Road (South) junction.
- Overrun areas at new roundabout layouts to include blockwork rather than granite setts.





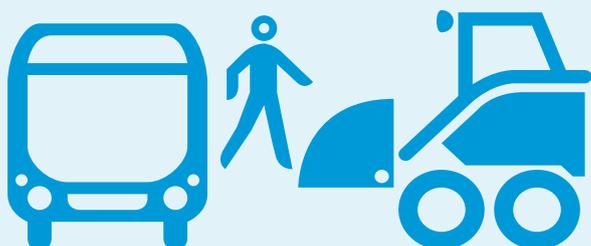
Example of a plan showing the new layout approaches. Full details available at alconbury-weald.co.uk

The work programme

We have been working with local contractor Breheny Civil Engineering on delivery plans that minimise disruption for how this work will be carried out, but it will inevitably cause disruption.

- The works will be delivered within a 21-week period, and are planned to start during February/March 2018.
- They will start at Little Stukeley north (Mill Road) and work one junction after the other, finishing at Great Stukeley south (Church Road south).
- Works will take place outside peak traffic hours, although traffic management may need to extend through peak hours for operational and safety reasons.

There is potential to shorten the programme by approximately five weeks by doing both ends of the street at the same time.



Wider context and future plans

This scheme has been developed in the context of a number of other wider developments:

- The A14 upgrade, which will provide a new strategic upgrade from Alconbury through to Cambridge.
- The existing A14 becoming a local road to Huntingdon (A1307).
- The Southern Gateway entrance to Alconbury Weald – directly linking to the A141 – is expected to start during Winter 2018/9.
- Future plans for the transport hub at Alconbury Weald - to include a Rail Station and prioritised bus connection as part of Guided Busway Route B.
- A second phase of Ermine Street enhancements to build on these works, which will provide additional pedestrian and cycle improvements along the route.

Phasing of these works will enable us to monitor the effectiveness of the initial work, review it with the upgraded A14 and new A1307 in place, and ensure a joined-up approach with further cycle and pedestrian routes being delivered on site and across the local area.

For further information visit alconbury-weald.co.uk.

Education

Ermine Street Church Academy official opening



Ermine Street Church Academy, Alconbury Weald's first primary school, celebrated its official opening in September 2017 with a day of activities that culminated in a ceremony focused on the importance of strong foundations and collaborative partnerships officiated by the Bishop of Ely, Rt Rev Stephen Conway, and Reverend Julian Pursehouse, Chair of the East Anglian District of the Methodist Church.

The event was an important milestone for the developing community, with the school lying at the heart of the new homes. It was designed to be an inspiring place for education as well as providing key facilities for new residents and a meeting place for families and friends, both inside the building and in the landscaped plaza.

The day was a celebration of the history and future of the school. In the morning, the children had a tour of the site, showing them the old runway of the former airfield, as well as the new development of the 5,000 homes coming forward around them. They then enjoyed a picnic lunch before being joined by over 100 parents, partners and members of local communities to celebrate this important milestone.

At the start of the ceremony, Head Teacher Adrian Shepherd spoke passionately about the school's first year of operation: "Last September we cut the ribbon on the first primary school at Alconbury Weald and the first children entered the building. Back then there were only 10 children and, a year later, we have over 70 pupils. Our commitment to the children in our care is to give them the roots to nurture them and, through learning, to give them the wings to achieve their aspirations."

The children also shared their reflections through a heart-warming video sharing their thoughts on the school, highlighting its caring approach, fun learning and family ethos, with can be viewed at erminestreetca.org.uk.



Jemima House Day Nursery anniversary celebration

Since Jemima House opened in November 2016 it has gone from strength to strength and we asked **Jo Whitmore**, manager of the Nursery, to share some of her highlights from the past year:

“I cannot believe where that time has gone. When I think back, we started with one child and now we have 40 children registered with us from a few months to five years old. We have watched and helped them grow and develop and our first seven children successfully transitioned into Ermine Street Church Academy. It is also fantastic that we can still see the children, and the strong links we have with the primary school are lovely for all the children and staff involved.

“Our children are very happy to come to Nursery and join in with lots of new experiences. They have particularly enjoyed our new additions of a ‘mud kitchen’ and a ‘musical wall’ as well as being involved in lots of creative experiences. The children are prepared to get messy and love to use their imaginations to investigate and explore the world around them.

“We are fortunate to have wonderful relationships with our families, who go above and beyond to help us out with the themes and developments of the Nursery: whether that’s the Summer ‘Picnic in the Park’ or our first anniversary event in November when we had a very ‘Royal Day’, which was great fun! All the children and staff came in dressed up as something or someone Royal and we also decorated our ‘Adventure Play’ as a beautiful palace – which included a red carpet of course! We then invited parents to attend our ‘Royal Banquet’ followed by a ‘Royal Ball’. It was an amazing celebration of our first year at Jemima House and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all that were involved in making this day so special.”

If you would like more information about Jemima House Day Nursery, please contact Jo on 01480 276513 or email manager@jemima-house.co.uk.



Other core activities in the autumn term included:

- Harvest Festival – the school children gathered at St Martin’s, Little Stukeley with their parents and local residents to share thoughts and learning around Harvest and joined in with traditional and new hymns.
- First sports competition – the children donned their official sports kit for the first time and took part in the Huntingdon Small Schools Tag Rugby Festival at Hinchingsbrooke School. 14 teams took part and although the team had been together for just a few weeks, they certainly did the school proud – showing huge amounts of determination and stamina to win two games.
- Evacuee day – in November, Key Stage 2 children were evacuated for the day. This formed part of their history topic on World War II. They gathered at Huntingdon Station, all decked out in 1940s costumes and travelled to Sandy where they were taken to the church hall to be ‘billeted’. The day involved learning about children who were evacuated and the lives they led. The diary writing the children produced upon their return is some of the best they’ve produced this year!
- Christmas celebrations – as well as a Christmas party, Christmas dinner, Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas performances, the first school disco and a Christingle Service, pupils joined parents, staff from the Enterprise Campus and the local community in a carol service around the Christmas tree before moving into the warmth of the school hall to enjoy a shadow workshop and performance provided by Infusion Physical Theatre.

Ermine Street Church Academy has also set up a parent/teacher association. This collaboration is another fundamental step in the school’s growth and development and will provide great benefits in terms of funding as well as activities and entertainment.



New homes



Civic Living

Work is underway by Urban&Civic to deliver homes and commercial space on the land directly next to the Boulevard.



The homes represent an important aspect for the gateway to Alconbury Weald and, sitting opposite the distinctive architecture of the Campus, the homes, apartments and bungalows within the parcel will have a contemporary design and feel.

Features of the homes include free-flowing layout in the main living areas, with open plan kitchen, dining and living space; and a range of design elements including roof terraces, balcony features and large feature windows.

Already the first apartments, bungalows and range of two-bed properties are drawing significant interest.

Urban&Civic's Head of Design, Paul Cutler said: "The idea of Civic Living is to provide something different on the site, which ensures our developments provide a wide range of quality house types, sizes and styles to fit people's lifestyles and needs.

"With these homes coming forward there will be over 80 house types at Alconbury Weald for people to choose from, and with Help to Buy, Shared Ownership and Part Exchange schemes available, we hope we can help everyone find what they need here."

Urban&Civic is working with R G Carter to deliver the homes. Martin Randall, Client Manager, at R G Carter said: "We are delighted to be working in partnership with Urban&Civic on this exciting housing scheme. Our focus is on delivering a successful project and providing quality housing that will serve the local community."

Brochures of the new homes will be available later in the Spring. For more information or to register your interest please call Rebecca Britton on 01480 413141.



Hopkins Homes named 'best medium housebuilder'

Hopkins Homes finished off a busy year by being named *Best Medium Housebuilder* at the 2017 WhatHouse? national awards ceremony. The award recognised the company's commitment to keeping high quality design central to its ethos and the ability to incorporate vernacular detail into its homes and developments.

This ability is on show at Alconbury Weald, where Hopkins Homes provides a stunning entrance to the burgeoning new community. With plenty of residents having moved in, the new community is really taking shape.

Lee Barnard, Sales and Marketing Director at Hopkins Homes said: "It's very exciting to see the removal vans arriving and people starting to make their homes in this exceptional new location. We are continuing to see very high levels of interest as homebuyers see the Hopkins Homes community grow and the wider development take shape."



New townhouses released

Hopkins Homes' latest releases are in the delightful horseshoe of townhouses arranged around Mallory Place. Two different styles are available, each offering spacious and flexible accommodation.

The Spalding is a three-bedroom townhouse with a lovely layout that sees the kitchen and living room located on the first floor whilst the ground floor offers a study and additional reception room. There is also a utility and shower room on the ground floor, giving buyers ultimate flexibility with their accommodation as the study or reception room could be used as a bedroom creating an accessible living area for teenagers, guests or older relatives.

The Thorney townhouses are also available and offer a luxurious master suite which occupies the whole of the third floor. Two additional bedrooms on the floor below enjoy access to either an en-suite or an adjacent family bathroom.



To find out more or view the show home, visit [Ann](#) or [Sandie](#) at the Hopkins Homes' marketing suite or contact them on 01480 435108. The marketing suite and show home are open Thursday to Monday 10am-5pm.



Space for families to grow

Taking inspiration from local villages the Hopkins Homes development is arranged within easy walking distance of the new Ermine Street primary school. This has attracted lots of families and is helping to create a thriving community.

The Sans-Facon family has certainly found their feet in their new home. Katherine Sans-Facon, a self-employed beautician, said: "Alconbury Weald is proving to be a perfect family location. Our daughter is in the reception class at the new school. It's ideal for working parents as it only takes two-minutes to walk to. Having the school so close also means that the development attracts a lot of families, which is great for the children as they are close to their friends. We're quite outdoorsy people and enjoy the four nearby parks for family walks and bike rides. There's also a gym on the site which is well-used by residents."



New homes

New Morris show homes offer glimpse of the good life at Alconbury Weald



Housebuilder Morris has announced the opening of two new show homes at Alconbury Weald, giving potential home owners a chance to view Morris' range of modern, high-quality houses.



The four bedroom Winster, a spacious family home, captures the best of modern day living with a large lounge and combined kitchen/breakfast area that backs onto a spacious family room with access to the garden.

A dining room, WC and utility room complete the downstairs, while a master bedroom with a vaulted ceiling and en-suite facilities provide the upstairs wow-factor. The second bedroom has direct access to the shared bathroom, with two more generously sized bedrooms helping to compliment this warm and welcoming family home.

The three bedroom Dunham, offers a traditional homely exterior with a contemporary and welcoming interior. The ground floor has a spacious lounge and combined kitchen/dining

room with garden access through French doors. Upstairs there are three bedrooms, including a master bedroom with en-suite, and a shared bathroom.

Ideal for first-time buyers looking to get a foot on the property ladder, while also being perfect for families and downsizers, Morris' Alconbury Weald development offers three and four bedroom homes, with five bedroom properties due to be released in the near future.

Morris' unique designs have resulted in a collection of characterful homes that fit the area seamlessly. The red and buff coloured bricks complement the surrounding properties, while crafted detailing such as brick eaves and stone heads give the homes a sophisticated edge. The investment in landscape across the wider Alconbury

Weald development ensures greenery and trees provide a beautiful surrounding landscape while inside, some properties have been designed to feature beautiful vaulted ceilings.

Dawn Dolloway, Sales Director at Morris, said: "We're very pleased to be able to put our Morris mark on Alconbury Weald and contribute to what will turn out to be a fantastic new place for people to live and work. Our new show homes will allow everyone to take a closer look at the high-quality properties we have available here."

Find out more by visiting the website: morrishomes.co.uk, popping along to the show homes (open Thursday to Monday between 10.30am and 5.30pm) or calling 07484 040412 to make an appointment.



Redrow welcomes first residents

Work on the 200 new homes being built by Redrow is progressing well with the first few homeowners now moved in.

Redrow unveiled show homes for three of its four-bedroom detached designs in October and treated dozens of visitors to afternoon tea 'on the house'. Since then there's been a steady stream of potential purchasers eager to see inside the professionally styled and fully furnished Stratford, Cambridge and Balmoral show homes.

Tonia Tyler, Sales Director for Redrow Homes (South Midlands), said: "There's a real sense of curiosity amongst buyers who are keen to learn more about the homes we're building at Alconbury Weald. We imagine this will only increase as more people move in and the new community takes shape.

"We've had lots of positive feedback from those who've already visited and one of the recurring themes is that people can't believe just how spacious our homes are. The higher ceiling heights and well planned, family friendly layouts have really captured buyers' attention."

Many of the people who have visited the show homes have properties to sell and Redrow is working with them to explore how they could use its Mastermove service to help speed up the process. With Mastermove, Redrow handles the sale of the customer's home for them, arranging valuations and appointing an estate agent to market the property at an agreed price so that they can then proceed with the purchase of a new home at Alconbury Weald and become part of the new neighbourhood.



The Redrow show homes at Alconbury Weald are open daily from 10am to 5.30pm. For more information visit redrow.co.uk/alconbury or call 01480 802430.

Redrow library opens at primary school

Following a donation of £1,000 by Redrow, Ermine Street Church Academy has officially opened its library and thanked the homebuilder for its support by naming it the Redrow Library.

Head Teacher Adrian Shepherd said: "Thanks to Redrow's considerable generosity we were able to purchase just over 160 books for the library. We used the donation to buy non-fiction books as this was the area of the library less well resourced. We asked the children for their input and chose titles that link to topics we're learning about such as space and World War II.

"Purchasing them has enabled the children much greater access to topic books as a learning resource, using them for research, which wouldn't have been possible for more than a few children to do at a time without the new additions."

Tonia Tyler, Sales Director for Redrow Homes (South Midlands), said: "Redrow has a track record of supporting the communities in which it builds and we focus particularly on young people. We were happy to be able to help furnish Ermine Street Church Academy with additional resources to help enrich children's learning experience. The fact that Alconbury Weald is already home to a primary school, with plans for secondary and special schools too, is a big plus for buyers with children or who are looking to start a family."



Campus news



IKO factory nears completion



The new factory for IKO PLC, global leaders in roofing, waterproofing and insulation products, is nearing completion at the Alconbury Enterprise Campus. The exteriors of the warehouse and production hall are up, manufacturing equipment has been delivered and the office buildings are set to be completed in the first quarter of 2018.

The IKO building is located at the end of the former runway and, as well as displaying the IKO Insulations logo, the roof of the building displays a chevron pattern to pay tribute to the site's history.

IKO is committed to investment in new products, manufacturing facilities, customer services, and staff and customer training to 'set the standard' in every field and will be looking to employ people from the local area in its new facility at Alconbury Weald.

IKO has achieved the ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 standards (for quality and environmental management) and BES 6001 (for responsible sourcing of products) at all three of its UK factories and its fourth plant at Alconbury Campus will follow suit.

For more information visit ikogroup.co.uk.



One of the key factors for choosing the Alconbury site was the potential for recruitment within the local community, and of course its prime location on the A14 and A1.

Chris Collis IKO Site Manager

Top law firm expands into the Campus

Top law firm Roythornes has opened an office in The Incubator at Alconbury Enterprise Campus to expand its offering to established and new clients across East Anglia.

Founded in 1934, Roythornes has been providing legal expertise to businesses and individuals for over 80 years and its new office at the Incubator is part of an ambitious growth plan, adding to its other strategic locations across the East Midlands.

Vember Mortlock, Roythornes' Managing Director said: "The new office has great connections into areas like Greater Cambridgeshire where we believe the economy is set to keep growing. We want to be part of that growth, and with a number of our people and clients already living in the region it made sense to open an office in this area."

Roythornes provides practical and comprehensive solutions to the challenges and opportunities faced by its clients and the new office offers a full range of commercial services in specialist sectors including agriculture, planning and development, energy and waste and food and drink. With the firm's history of acting for landowners, developers and family businesses, their work often focuses on the most complex and unusual aspects of property, tax and succession planning.

Services for individuals are also available from the Firm's Incubator office, such as conveyancing, divorce, powers of attorney, professional trusteeships, wealth management, wills and probate.

Roythornes employs almost 200 people, has won numerous awards for its training and runs a continual recruitment and development programme. The Company is one of the largest law firms in the East Midlands and Anglia and was recently listed by the London Stock Exchange as one of the '1,000 companies to inspire Britain'.

Vember continued: "Our East Anglia office will not only grow our client base but also create employment opportunities. Working for a progressive firm like Roythornes in an easy to access location has to be an attractive proposition for anyone looking to develop their legal career."

For more information, visit roythornes.co.uk.

New office space

Work is progressing well on the new office building at Alconbury Enterprise Campus that will provide flexible floor space to meet strong demand from businesses looking to become part of the Government-backed Enterprise Zone.



Located on the tree-lined Boulevard alongside The Incubator and The Club, the new office building was designed by Allford Hall Monaghan Morris (AHMM) with a strong sustainability focus to ensure the efficient use of resources such as water and energy.

In addition, links to pedestrian and cycle routes, a covered cycle store, public transport and a Green Travel Plan will encourage new tenants to use sustainable modes of transport.

The offices are due to be available from late Spring 2018 and a number of businesses have already expressed an interest in taking office space in the new building.



Peter Brett Associates (PBA) is a core part of the consultant team working on Alconbury Weald. Its multidisciplinary team has helped develop and implement the infrastructure across the site, as well as its connections throughout the area.



PBA's key contributions to the development of Alconbury Weald include:

- Transport strategy and planning support from day one.
- Site-wide water and other utility infrastructure.
- Detailed design of the roads, cycle ways and bus services across Phase 1.
- Detailed design of water management and pond design across Phase 1.
- Working with Urban&Civic, the County Council Highways team and the Traffic Group to design and develop the Ermine Street enhancements work.

Its team of experts, headed by PBA Partner Ron Henry, come from a range of engineering disciplines and work hand-in-hand with both the masterplanning and landscaping team.

Ron Henry, said: "The approach Urban&Civic take is to gain an understanding of the infrastructure needs of a place from the very beginning and build that into the whole design. This means that we know when to develop each stage of the project – whether that's power, water or public transport. It also means that we can work the infrastructure hard, such as planning cabling and water systems into the road system and green space. Taking projects like these from strategy, into delivery and ongoing maintenance, while working alongside the Urban&Civic design teams, is rare in the development business. It ensures we are pushed to deliver the best infrastructure for the development and the local area."

Gary Ridgewell, Alconbury Weald's Project Manager added: "PBA's work on Alconbury Weald is integral and critical. Across the team, they can pull together the complex requirements that go with developing a site on this scale. As a local company, their knowledge of the wider infrastructure pressures and issues across the Cambridgeshire area is second to none, but they also bring experience of international best practice and precedents that help us drive forward our aspirations for Alconbury Weald."

PBA is also helping to address the national skills shortage facing the engineering, development and infrastructure professions, and aims to inspire and prepare young people for a career in the natural and built environments. It has 18 apprentices on this year's scheme including Eleanor Robinson, who secured her place after chatting to PBA engineers at the St Neots Jobs Fair in June last year.

Eleanor said: "I wasn't sure what job I wanted to do after getting my A-level results from Longsands Academy, so thought I'd take a year out to consider my options. I was accepted at Worcester University to study Business Studies but would have completed the course with massive debts, so thought I'd see what other options were available.

"I heard about the EDGE event being held at the Priory Centre in St Neots and went to have a chat with them and some of the businesses exhibiting. I got talking to one of the people on the PBA stand and was surprised to learn that he achieved his degree through the company's apprenticeship programme.

"Following that initial conversation, I was invited to an interview and am now an Apprentice CAD Technician at PBA. I'm working on technical design for a variety of projects, being mentored within the team and gaining practical experience whilst working towards my BTEC Level 3 Construction and Built Environment qualification at Bedford College. I'm really excited about my future with PBA and, subject to successfully completing my apprenticeship, could go on to study a part-time degree related to civil engineering whilst working at the company."

For more information, visit peterbrett.com.





HDC update

Alconbury business support events

Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) and Urban&Civic host a programme of business focused events at the Alconbury Enterprise Campus offering local businesses the opportunity to gain an insight on key topic areas of the day.

These free, informal business breakfast meetings provide the opportunity to hear from specialist support agencies on a variety of topics often followed up with the arrangement of one-to-one meetings thereafter. Numerous companies have benefitted significantly from these subsequent meetings via funding and/or technical support.

The November event covered the General Data Protection Regulation during which over 30 businesses heard about the key principles and implications of the Regulation along with a detailed Action Plan for consideration. Previous topics have included Capital Funding streams, Exporting and Cyber Security.

Future meetings are scheduled for 23 February, covering the topics of *R&D Tax Credits* and *Digitising your Tax* whilst the March event (date to be confirmed) will offer an insight on the soon to be opened iMET training facility. Email economic.development@huntingdonshire.gov.uk for more information.



Invest in Huntingdonshire website

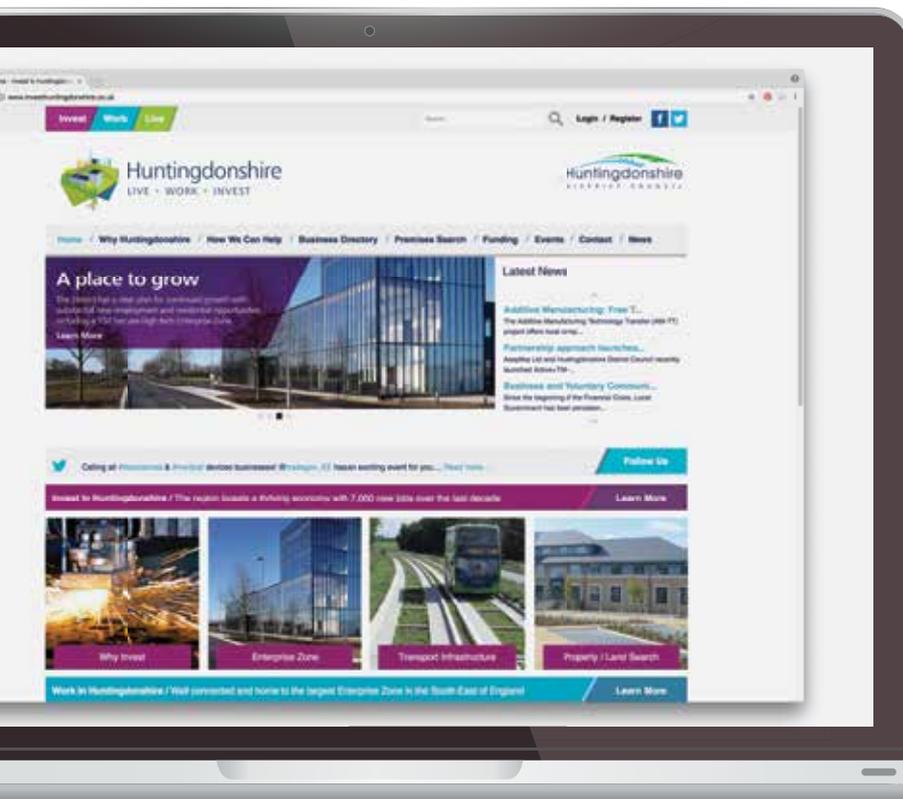
investhuntingdonshire.co.uk

This business facing website offers a variety of key functions for local businesses, including:

- Funding search facility with tailored email alert system for identifying future streams
- Business directory enabling businesses to upload their own details
- Events page
- Comprehensive property search facility.

All completely free to use and with an easy registration process.

There is also a regular e-newsletter keeping local businesses in touch with the latest funding sources, business support initiatives and news. To subscribe visit investhuntingdonshire.co.uk/contact.



iMET



iMET (Innovation, Manufacturing, Engineering and Technology), the £10.5m Skills Centre being developed at Alconbury Weald to deliver technical, advanced and higher vocational training to key growth sectors is due to open in June 2018.

iMET marked a key milestone in November when leaders from business, local government and funding organisations joined Huntingdon MP Jonathan Djanogly to celebrate the official topping out of the iMET centre.

Jonathan Djanogly MP, a champion of the project since its inception four years ago, said: "Productivity is becoming the catchword in Westminster. A key part of that productivity is skills, and in this part of the country making the most out of the wonderful resources we have here is key. Training is a vital part of that, together with an increase in apprenticeships. This facility will enable local businesses to take that to a much higher level. We can train people locally and throughout Cambridgeshire in a way we have not been able to in the past."

Growth at Alconbury Weald is a strategic policy priority for central government and for regional

stakeholders and Mr Djanogly said there had been great support for iMET with a lot of people working closely together to help make it happen. Land for the innovative training centre was donated by the owners and developers of Alconbury Weald, Urban&Civic, and the £10.5 million funding for the project came from the Government via the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership.

iMET is being led by Cambridge Regional College and Peterborough Regional College in a joint partnership and at the topping out, Mark Robertson, Principal and CEO of Cambridge Regional College, said: "This is a very exciting development for skills in the region and we are already working with employers to ensure that iMET provides the high-level training they need for business success. iMET is key to encouraging employers to invest in Alconbury Weald."



New MD appointed

Joanne Sainsbury, who has extensive experience of the engineering industry and a passion for emerging technologies, has been appointed as head of iMET.

A former Associate Director at global professional services firm Arup, Joanne has spent 16 years as a structural engineer in the building industry and has worked on a number of international projects.

Joanne took up her new role as iMET Managing Director in December 2017 and is looking forward to building a strong relationship with local employers: "Together we can directly influence the future of the manufacturing, engineering and technology industries, whilst also providing a successful career path for young people in the region.

"Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have great potential for growth in these areas and are key to the region's development. I will be working with employers to understand what they need from iMET, how they see the future of their industries and, in collaboration, develop a strong offer for training in the region.

"The rate at which the manufacturing and engineering industries are changing is huge due to advances in technology, so keeping up with training and skills to meet the demands from employers will be a key objective for the iMET team."

Shape iMET

In order to help inform the type of training delivered and equipment needed in the new iMET facility, the team are meeting local and regional businesses, and setting up workshops and tours of the new building. If you want to find out more, please contact Jo Sainsbury at jsainsbury@imet.co.uk.

Cambridgeshire is the fastest growing economic region outside London, but skills shortages are reported as a major barrier to sustaining that growth. iMET will play a key role in ensuring the provision of those world-class skills, and we are very proud to be part of the essential partnership that is making that happen.

Mark Robertson



Skills and learning



EDGE is a jobs and skills partnership that works with Alconbury Enterprise Campus and businesses across the region to help them find the people they need, and give local people the skills to fill those vacancies.

EDGE celebrates 100th success



Since opening, EDGE has promoted around 500 jobs with 150 different local businesses, worked with over 420 customers and, in summer 2017, celebrated its 100th success – Steve Kester.

Steve had been out of work for a while and was feeling dejected and had low self-esteem. He was referred to EDGE by the Job Centre and going there was a really positive experience and a turning point for him.

On arriving at the EDGE shop in Huntingdon, he was greeted by Christine Dade, one of the EDGE advisors who is available to offer a range of support and guidance to anyone wishing to progress into employment or develop their career.

Steve said: “From the moment I walked into the EDGE shop I was made to feel welcome. Christine spent time talking to me and discussing my past experience and skills. She helped bring my CV up to date and when I left, I was feeling much more confident. She said I wouldn’t be out of work for another month and she was right.



“I have a background in sales and have run utilities yards, so when someone mentioned a job with T&C Electricals in St Neots, my CV was ready and I was proactive in putting myself forward. If I hadn’t been to the EDGE shop and spoken to Christine, I’d have just assumed I wouldn’t have got the job and not bothered applying as I was feeling so demoralised.

“EDGE is a fantastic service and the team is genuinely interested in how you are doing. I really appreciate the support and I’d encourage anyone who is looking for work and needs help with CV, interview practice or new skills to go along and have a chat. There’s no judgement – just support from an experienced team looking to help local people find work. Christine even called me up a few weeks into my new job to check in to see how I was. It was great to be treated as a person rather than a number to be processed.”

New skills lead appointed



Victoria Denny-Morley joined the Urban&Civic team in November 2017 to drive forward our skills strategy for Alconbury Weald and lead the EDGE partnership.

Prior to joining our team, Victoria was Head of Cultural Training at the Defence Centre for Language and Culture for the British Military. Here she developed bespoke training solutions, including the design and delivery of a new Defence Attaché cultural training programme.

Victoria said: “This is a fantastic role and I’m really looking forward to working with the Communities and Partnerships team at Alconbury Weald and the EDGE team in Huntingdon to nurture an ethos of jobs and skills.”

Victoria is the main point of contact for jobs and skills related issues at Alconbury Weald and can be contacted on 01480 278821 or by email: victoria.denny-morley@urbanandcivic.com.



To find out more about EDGE and the services it offers:

- Call 01480 435654
- Email info@sharpperskills.co.uk
- Drop into the office on Wednesdays in St Benedict’s Court, Huntingdon
- Visit sharpperskills.co.uk

As part of its remit to help local people find work and businesses recruit and develop staff, EDGE holds a variety of events to bring together potential candidates and Huntingdonshire businesses. Events are also attended by further education providers and training associations to provide training and careers advice.



Connecting businesses with future employees

Huntingdon Careers Fair

Over 700 students attended the third EDGE Careers Fair in Huntingdon in December 2017. The event saw students from six Huntingdonshire secondary schools visit 88 stands and activities to find out about the future career opportunities on their doorstep.

Representatives from a range of sectors – including civil engineering and construction, mechanical and electrical engineering, finance and banking, animal welfare, the Armed Forces and health and social care – provided hands-on opportunities to try tasks and get a feel for some of the job roles being recruited locally. There was also information, support and advice on the training and skills needed.

Most popular among the activities was Cambridge Regional College's 'Pit Stop', giving students an insight into the different trades and skills within Formula 1 motor racing. These sat next to local firm Titan Motorsport, advertising the apprenticeship opportunities available.

Also popular were the simulation diggers and the bridge-building exercise bought by a range of contractors working on the A14 upgrade and the Alconbury Weald development, and a full fleet of vehicles from Huntingdonshire District Council's Operations Team.

Rebecca Britton, from Urban&Civic, said: "The Careers Fair gets stronger

and stronger each year, with more businesses seeing the benefit of engaging with young people, and getting them excited and informed about the opportunities on their doorstep. We've had work experiences sorted out and apprenticeship interest secured today and thousands of questions answered. This is just one part of our ongoing engagement between schools and businesses to help equip the next generation with the skills they need, and all our businesses with the future pipeline of talent to help our companies and our economy grow."

Inspire project

The Huntingdonshire Children and Young People's Area Partnership and EDGE held a two day event at Alconbury Weald in October to help raise aspirations of young people and young carers in Huntingdonshire. The Inspire event encouraged young people to think more creatively about future jobs and training opportunities.

On the first day, the young people (aged 14-19) took part in activities that explored their personalities and interests, identifying skills and qualities that make them employable, rather than solely focusing on qualifications.

They then met with and interviewed employers and professionals from Alconbury Enterprise Campus and the

local area to gather information to inspire their next steps in training and careers. Professionals were from a variety of sectors including media, gaming, marketing, construction and project management.

Working with MMUK, the group also discovered jobs within the local market, that they had never heard of before and picked up some top tips on interview techniques.

The second day was held at Ermine Street Church Academy and the group were given a unique opportunity to work with C1 Media, a film and photography company based at The Incubator. The group were given a brief to create a short film to share what they had learnt the previous day with their peers. Having produced a storyboard, they then explored camera and lighting equipment and created a film set. With the camera rolling, the group practiced their interview skills, asked questions and created short video clips.

The group left feeling more confident about applying for jobs in the future and approaching employers for work experience. They also broadened their knowledge of the local job market and can now see how they could fit into it.

Participants included: MMUK, NHS, Media Matters, Breheny, C1 Media, Heaven Media, bio-bean, EDGE, Young Carers and Urban&Civic.

Community news



Brownies at Alconbury Weald

The 2nd Alconbury Brownies based at Alconbury Weald continue to thrive and are having lots of fun making friends, learning new skills and enjoying the facilities in their home at Ermine Street Academy on Wednesday evenings.

The autumn term started with 17 Brownies, who have been working hard towards their Designer, Rider and Crime Prevention badges. For the Rider badge the Brownies visited Waldburgh Shires for some hands-on experience and to learn more about what is involved in caring for these magnificent horses. For the Crime Prevention badge, the unit had a visit from the local police force and one of the highlights for many of the Brownies was sitting in the police car with the sirens and lights going.



The Brownies have also been out and about in the wider community – making entries for the Alconbury & District Show, building a scarecrow for the Scarecrow Festival and attending the Remembrance Parade at St Peter's and St Paul's CofE Church in Alconbury.

The term ended with Christmas crafts and a joint party at the home of 1st Alconbury Brownies, where eight Brownies made their Promise in front of their parents and one of the older Brownies moved on to the Girl Guides.

Dallas Pupins, Tawny Owl, said: "The Brownies at Alconbury Weald have had a fantastic year and it has been great to see how well the unit has settled in at Ermine Street Church Academy and welcomed new members as the local community continues to grow. We always have lots of fun and there are many exciting activities and events planned for 2018.

"We're also delighted that Emma, one of our Young Leaders who volunteers with us as part of her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, has been selected as a leader for an international guiding project to support a summer school in Romania in August and is currently raising funds for her trip. Emma is an inspiring role model for the Brownies."

If you would like to find out more about joining Alconbury Brownies, volunteering or sponsoring Emma's Romania trip, please contact Jacqui Fairbrass on 07771 615457 or email ggalconburydistrict@gmail.com.

Table Tennis Club

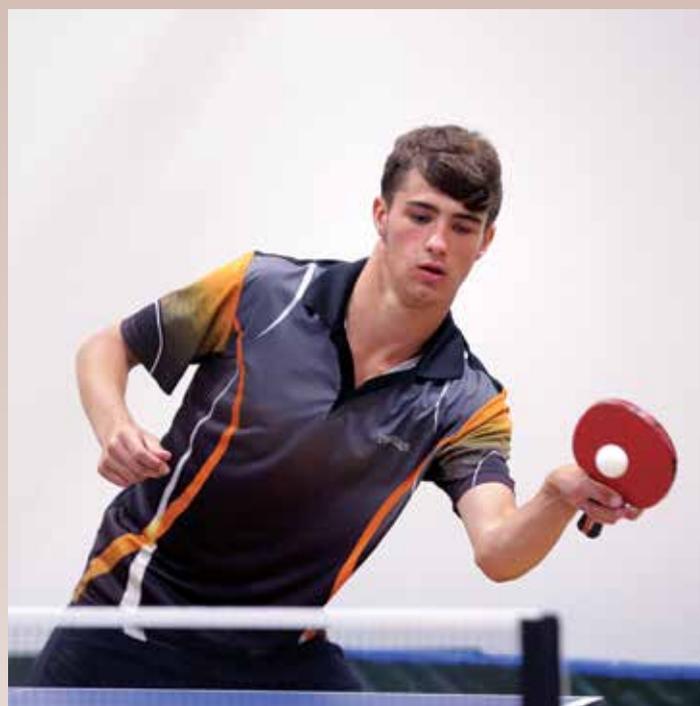
Huntingdon Table Tennis Club was established in 2012 and relocated to Ermine Street Church Academy in Autumn 2016 as the new school hall has capacity for up to seven tables.

As well as holding its weekly practices in the school hall, Ermine Street Church Academy hosted the annual Hunts 2* tournament in September, which was sponsored by Urban&Civic and Jarvis Sports. The event was a great success, with some nail-biting matches in all categories.

Table tennis is a great sport and a fun way to stay fit and make new friends and the school hall provides a great space to practice table tennis and host tournaments.

The Club has around 35 juniors (aged 6-18 years old) and 20 seniors (over 18 years old). Table tennis practice takes place from 6- 10pm on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The next tournament will be in September 2018.

The Club operates on a pay as you play basis, with bats and balls provided. To find out more, contact Sarah Toyn on 07961 358067 or email sarah.toyn@yahoo.co.uk



Forward roll Sausage roll Kitchen roll

Alconbury
Weald
Make|Grow

Whichever way you roll – you can **workout, eat and shop** at Alconbury Weald



The Café

Open Monday—Friday
08:30—16:00
The Club building

Swynford Stores

Open Monday—Friday
07:30—14:00
Saturday 08:00—12:30
Community Park

The Gym

Open Monday—Friday
06.30—21.00
Weekend 08.00—16.00 |
The Club building

Charity fundraising

In September, the Urban&Civic team joined staff at the Enterprise Campus in a coffee morning at The Incubator to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support and the SMA Trust.

As well as a cake sale, Ryan at The Café cooked sausage rolls that had been donated and one of the LEP team brought in a large lasagna he had made to sell in portions.

A total of £595 was raised during the day, which DHL generously match funded, so both charities received nearly £600 each.



Christmas donations to local charities

Urban&Civic, its contractors, tenants and supply chain at Alconbury Campus raised over £11,250 to buy much needed equipment for MacMillan Woodlands Centre and make Christmas a little bit brighter for local children and families in need by donating gifts and supplies to local charities.

Over £5,000 was spent on three chemotherapy pumps that were donated to MacMillan Woodlands Centre at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital.

Urban&Civic's Victoria Parchment said: "The work that the team at the Woodlands Centre does is outstanding and we were keen to support them with practical items that can make all the difference. When we spoke to them about what they need, chemo pumps seemed a natural choice. Having been diagnosed with breast cancer in November 2016, I underwent six cycles of chemo at the Woodlands Centre where I was very well looked after.

"One cycle, I had to have the treatment administered manually as there were not enough pumps on the ward. This was a wholly unpleasant experience, not just for me, but for the nurse

administering it. It also took her time away from doing other things for the hours it took her to do this manually."

The fundraising was also used to support a range of Christmas and longer-term local projects that support people and families having a hard time. These included:

- **Christmas Together** for goodie bags for lonely and homeless people living in the Huntingdon area. As well as chocolate, dried fruit and nuts, the bags included more practical items like gloves, toothbrushes and toothpaste. A voucher for a drink and a sandwich at Alex's in Huntingdon High Street was also included, which was subsidised by the café.
- **LoveOxmoor Foodbank**, which relies on food donations to support people as they move on from their point of crisis.
- **The '100 Hampers appeal'** to provide food and gifts for vulnerable families in and around Huntingdon.
- **Grub Hub**, a local project that has weekly get-togethers and drop-ins, providing people with food, advice and access to a range of services.

Urban&Civic's Steph Burton added: "Grub Hub is a great initiative, driven by the local community to support each other. It provides space and time for people to meet, share food and catch up as well as talk informally to a range of local charities and support services who can provide help and advice. The funding will help put them on a surer footing to continue their work this year, and build the partnership support we are developing between Grub Hub and EDGE, to support people into local employment."



Urban&Civic news

Urban&Civic continues to invest in strategic development sites that will deliver much needed new homes, employment space, community facilities and associated infrastructure across the region.



Wintringham, St Neots

Urban&Civic is working with Nuffield Trusts to bring forward the development of Wintringham, as part of the eastern expansion of St Neots.

The plans include:

- Up to 2,800 homes.
- Up to 63,500 sqm of commercial space, including R&D, creative space, offices and industrial units.
- Two primary schools.
- Community and retail facilities focused on a local and district centre, including a health care.
- Access improvements including capacity improvements, new access and landscape setting along Cambridge Road, and access points on to the A428 and Potton Road.
- Associated infrastructure and services.

The Planning Application was submitted in November 2017 and a decision is expected in the Spring.

More information is available on the project website: wintringham.org.

Prior Hall, Northants

Urban&Civic acquired Priors Hall Park development in Corby in October 2017. The scheme has consent for 5,095 new homes. The two companies involved in overseeing the development of Prior Hall went into administration in October 2016 and there are currently seven housebuilders on the site and more than 1,000 residents.

Urban&Civic is working through some of the inherited issues to get the first phase back on track and will then be progressing the next two phases, which will be set around lakes and within open parkland and forests amongst the rolling countryside of Northamptonshire.

Nigel Hugill, Chief Executive of Urban&Civic, said: "Urban&Civic has a proven track record in developing large sites with challenges that other developers often find too daunting. Priors Hall plays to our strengths with its complicated history, long and supportive funding structure and demonstrable potential for better project organisation. We believe our skills and experience as incoming Master Developer will help the site achieve its full potential."

Visit priorshallpark.com for more information.



Make|News

Newsletter feedback

If you have any questions or you have a news story or event you want to publicise in this newsletter or on our website, please contact:

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Alconbury Weald, Huntingdon
Cambridgeshire PE28 4XA

Alconbury Enterprise Campus

For more information about business space on the Campus please contact:

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alconbury-weald.co.uk

Follow us  @AlconburyCampus

Alconbury Weald and Urban&Civic

For more information about the development, Urban&Civic or the local projects we are involved in please contact:

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