

13 November 09



Augusta Park (East Anton)

Planning Applications

Planning permission for the next phase of the development comprising 188 dwellings was approved at Northern Area Planning Committee in September and works have commenced on site.

Occupations

15 affordable homes are now occupied with another 15 occupations expected shortly. Approximately 57 private homes have been reserved so far but none are yet occupied. 34 houses for MOD personnel have been handed over to Anningtons (the housing association managing the properties) with a further 18 next month so some may be occupied by Christmas.

Affordable Housing

The next set of 17 affordable homes will be handed over to Sentinel Housing Association Ltd next month. By Christmas it is likely that a total of 47 affordable homes will be occupied.



Community

The Community Worker post is currently being advertised (closing date 20th November). The appointed person will be in post by 100th occupation and will be based on site in the East Anton farmhouse, which will be used as a temporary community centre.

A New Neighbourhoods Members event was held on 6th November which gave an opportunity to find out more about the development. The event was hosted by the Housing, Health & Communities team and included progress updates on affordable housing, community development and infrastructure together with a tour around Augusta Park.



Transport

All off-site road works along Smannell Road have now been completed. The notification period for the conversion of cycleways between the development site and the town centre has expired and only support for the scheme has been received. The next phase of footpath/cycleway routes (River Way to Churchill Avenue adjacent to the Tesco superstore entrance) are likely to start this month.

Improvements are proposed to the existing railway arch at Cricketers Way/ River Way to enable buses to use the route in addition to pedestrians and cyclists. The consultation period for the works has expired and no comments were received. The developer is required to carry out the scheme by the 100th occupation which could be by the end of the year or early 2010. Works are likely to commence this month.

Education

Hampshire County Council has consulted the Planning & Building Service on plans to provide a temporary school for three years on the Northern Primary School site. The school will initially consist of four classrooms and a hall. As pupil numbers grow the school will be extended to provide three additional classrooms. The permanent school buildings are expected to be completed by September 2011.

Public Open Space

Landscaping works have commenced in the form of planting within the central open space area to the northern side of Smannell Road. Levelling works to allow for the future provision of sports pitches at the northeast side of the development have also been undertaken.

Local Economy

A number of apprentices are currently working at the site and more are expected to be employed next year.

Picket Twenty

Outline planning permission has been granted for 1,200 new homes at the site and so far details have been approved for 203 dwellings. An application for a further 56 units is currently progressing.

13 November 09

For more information please contact Sarah Tose in Planning Policy on extension 7812 or Lucy Buis in Housing, Health & Communities on extension 8620.