

Autumn 2006

Rochester Riverside Newsletter



This newsletter provides an update on the progress of the engineering works at Rochester Riverside. We also include information about other activities relating to this exciting scheme.

Search for developer partner starts

The first phase of land to be developed at Rochester Riverside will be the area stretching from Doust Way to Blue Boar Creek. Marketing of the land started in September and there is a great deal of interest in this exciting regeneration project.

The selection process will ensure the chosen developer has sufficient financial strength to undertake the project, as well as the ability to design and build the high quality buildings we wish to see at Rochester Riverside. A commitment to the local community and to local economic regeneration is equally important.

As this is a complex process it is likely to be late 2007 before a preferred developer partner is announced. Further information will be available next year.



Development

The first development phase of Doust Way to Blue Boar Creek comprises approximately 550 new homes, a park, river walk and possibly a small hotel, community building and offices, depending on the exact area of land released.

The whole redevelopment of Rochester Riverside now has outline planning permission and is planned to include:

- Up to 2,000 houses and flats
- Shops and cafes
- Offices
- Two hotels
- Community facilities, a new primary school and a health facility
- A 2.5km river walk with cycle path
- Two sculptural creek bridges
- Parks and play equipment
- New car park and town square on Corporation Street
- Improved connections with Rochester town centre



Master plan of phase one development area



Visitor viewing platform

A visitors' viewing platform is now at the junction of Gas House Road and Cory's Road, providing impressive views of the engineering activity at Rochester Riverside and of the surrounding area. A small exhibition is also included.

It is proving to be very popular and more than 100 visitors have so far climbed the 10 metres up to the platform. The platform can accommodate between 15 and 20 people at a time.

For health and safety reasons visitors must be accompanied and access is available only by appointment during office hours via Medway Renaissance. To arrange a group appointment please telephone 01634 337144 or email beatrice.sarpong@medway.gov.uk

Two drop-in sessions for the public have been arranged for **Tuesday, 14 November and Wednesday, 15 November 2006.**

Viewings on both days will start at **10am** and **2pm**. The meeting point will be Eastgate House annex, High Street, Rochester, Kent ME1 1EW. For further details please contact Beatrice, details above.

Engineering contract

River wall

The construction of the new 2.5km river wall as part of the Rochester Riverside's flood defences has made immense progress. Over 1.5km of sheet piling has now been installed and the concrete capping beam that forms the river's edge is starting to be built.

Site cleansing

The landscape of the site changed over recent months with the demolition of the three gasholders.

The treatment for decontaminating the former gasland soil at the northern end of the site works by introducing nutrients to heaps of soil. These soil heaps are known as 'biopiles'. The nutrients encourage the growth of organisms within the soil that quickly break down the contaminants that have been left behind from the site's industrial past. The process has been approved by the Environment Agency and has the benefit of avoiding hundreds of lorry movements through Medway.

Programme

The works will be completed by 2008 and are being carried out in stages, starting at the southern end (Doust Way).

Details of the contractor's current key activities are included here.



Current activities

Dismantling of lagoons

Sheet piling from Blue Boar Wharf to Common Creek

Sheet piling from Rochester Bridge to Limehouse Wharf

Completing land raising of Doust Way to Common Creek

Construction of southern boundary wall adjacent to Hyde Housing

Construction of reinforced concrete capping beam to the sheet piled river wall

Installation of anchor beams, tie rods and ground anchors to sheet piled river wall

Ground and water remediation works adjacent to the old gas works

Hours of work

The normal hours of work are:

Monday to Friday 7.30am - 6.30pm
+/-30 minutes for site start up
and shut down

Saturday 7.30am - 1.30pm
+/-30 minutes for site start up
and shut down

Sunday 10am - 4pm
maintenance works for site plant

In very exceptional circumstances, such as equipment failure, the contractor has to extend these hours but this is kept to a minimum. Edmund Nuttall/Van Oord use the best practical means to minimise noise, dust and vibration produced by their operations and comply with the recommendations set out in current British Standards. Noise monitoring is undertaken in accordance with a site-specific noise monitoring procedure.

The hours of work will be reduced for particularly noisy work.

A formal complaints procedure is in place to monitor any problems during the works. While we seek to keep any disruption to a minimum we also seek your cooperation while the engineering works are taking place.

Revit international conference

Revit is a European Union funded project focused on developing best practice in the regeneration of brownfield sites. The third annual REVIT Conference was held in Medway on 27 and 28 September 2006 and proved to be a major success. It was attended by European partners, council members and other public sector organisations. Cllr Jane Chitty opened the conference and warmly welcomed the visitors and the high profile speakers, including representatives from the Government and from CABE, the organisation promoting good design quality in the built environment.

The conference focussed on activity in Medway and especially on Rochester Riverside. Visitors viewed the site from the new viewing platform, which enabled them to see regeneration in action.



National Construction Week 2006

National Construction Week (NCW) is the UK wide not-for-profit campaign, which gives young people the opportunity to explore the variety of career choices available in the modern construction industry.

This year's event, held in Medway at Mid-Kent College, was organised by CITB Construction Skills, Medway Education Business Partnership (MEBP) and the North Kent Construction Skills Project (NOKCS).

Officers from the Medway Renaissance team participated in the Gifted and Able Student Roadshow - one of Medway's National Construction Week events. Officers provided students with

information on regeneration projects across Medway.

They also offered general guidance for students interested in pursuing career paths similar to those represented at Medway Renaissance.



Source: Medway Education Business Partnership (MEBP)

Going green

In order to ensure that Rochester Riverside exceeds the latest Government regulations on sustainability, a green charter setting standards for the new development has been published. Developers will have to meet minimum requirements covering water usage, carbon emissions, sustainable building materials, timber sources, recycling and waste management.

For example, the average daily water consumption in Britain is 155 litres per person. Under the green charter the future community at Rochester Riverside will cut water consumption by up to a third per person. It is our aim that carbon emissions for buildings on the Rochester Riverside should beat Government targets for the reduction of carbon emissions, a key 'greenhouse gas', by an average of 12 per cent.

Community facilities

Local residents, business owners, church representatives and other members of the Rochester community met over the summer to talk about what facilities they would like to see at Rochester Riverside. It was a chance for people to meet other members of the local community and discuss the opportunities planned for the development, such as the primary school, health facility and community facilities for all ages. If you would like to find out more about the opportunities for community facilities at Rochester Riverside, please contact Emily Dickson on 01634 337142 or email emily.dickson@medway.gov.uk

Contact information

If you have any queries about Rochester Riverside, please use the following contacts during normal office hours:

Organisation	Name	Title	Number	Email
Edmund Nuttall/ Van Oord	Neil Cleaveland	Construction Manager	01634 812416	Neil.Cleaveland@edmund-nuttall.co.uk
Edmund Nuttall/ Van Oord	Steve Horton	Project Manager	01634 812416	Steve.Horton@edmund-nuttall.co.uk
SEEDA	Julian Perry	Senior Project Manager	01634 899913	julianperry@seeda.co.uk
Medway Renaissance	Beatrice Sarpong	Project Officer	01634 337144	beatrice.sarpong@medway.gov.uk
Medway Renaissance	Sarah Beck	Project Manager	01634 338171	sarah.beck@medway.gov.uk
Medway Council	Anne Mawbey	Environmental Health Technician	01634 333333	noise@medway.gov.uk

Emergency out of hours numbers:

Edmund Nuttall/Van Oord:	07876 332004
Medway Council:	01634 304400

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Foord Annex, Eastgate House
High Street
Rochester ME1 1EW
Tel: 01634 337154

Edmund Nuttall/Van Oord
Gas House Road,
Rochester, Kent ME1 1PZ
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**Please note that Castle View Business Centre and Acorn Shipyard
continue to trade as usual**

**More information is available at www.medway.gov.uk/medwayrenaissance
or at www.medwayrenaissance.com**

