

Opening up the Village Centre

In our last issue, we talked about the changing landscape and our plans to transform the centre of Dargavel Village.

This will be a focus for us over the coming months and by the end of this year, there will be a number of new areas opening up within Dargavel Village. These include:

- the new link road
- the first phase of the Park and Ride area
- the Village Square
- the Newton Road play area
- three new public squares
- the refurbishment of Wester Rossland Woodland
- a new children's play area next to the Woodland

In addition, we will soon be starting improvement works on Station Road and Birch Road including the installation of lighting of the core link path between Taylor Wimpey's housing and the Park and Ride. During this time there will be some disruption to the area whilst the necessary work is undertaken. We aim to keep any disruption to a minimum and will share more details on the planned road works via the village notice boards and directly to residents in due course.

Playing around

Plans for the play area due to be built on the edge of the Wester Rossland Woodland are well underway.

The equipment for the new play area has been chosen and, in keeping with the surroundings, we will be installing a range of timber-framed play equipment. Not only are they chosen to fit in well with the local landscape, they will also provide a safe and stimulating area for children to play in.



Examples of the timber-framed play equipment being installed

Other news

Going live!

We have recently launched a new website for the Bishopton development.

The site is packed with information about the site, its development and even the local wildlife. The site will be regularly updated with the latest news and you'll soon be able to download newsletters and bulletins from the site. You'll find the new site at:

www.baesystems.com/bishopton

Keeping the roads safe

Safety is paramount and we are committed to keeping the development safe for the people who live in and around Bishopton, and for the people working and visiting there.

We have installed a number of permanent traffic calming measures on Slateford Road and Crosshill Road, and the new traffic lights have been installed on Barrangary Road.

In January, following feedback from residents on the gritting of roads within Dargavel Village, we reviewed our suppliers and appointed Balfour Beatty to carry out gritting on Slateford Road, Barrangary Road and Crosshill Road over the winter months.

Welcoming your views

On 15 December 2015, we hosted a pre-application public exhibition at the Bishopton Community Centre. We welcomed over 100 residents during the event and received lots of comments on the next phase of the development.

As a result of the feedback, there are a number of design, technical and environmental issues being considered. Some of the highlights we received include:

- Even support from residents for detached, semi-detached and apartment housing
- Overwhelming support for new footpath links to the wider countryside and the creation of improved habitats for wildlife
- A need to expand bus and rail services along with sport and play facilities, and accessible open spaces
- A request for attention to be given to other parts of Dargavel Village to provide facilities such as housing for the elderly, shops, restaurants, bars and space for local businesses.

Have your say

Contact us anytime

We are keen to hear your views on the Dargavel Village development. Send your thoughts to us at:

Georgetown Reception Centre,
Houston Road,
Houston,
PA6 7BG
T: 0800 130 3302

Visit us at: www.baesystems.com/bishopton

Bishopton regeneration Update

Edition 2: March 2016



Welcome to the March issue of our quarterly newsletter. We received some positive comments from local residents on the first issue we published in December and, as a result, we have included more stories on the thriving on-site wildlife.

Since our last newsletter in December 2015, there's been a lot happening on the development.

In my last welcome note, I re-affirmed our commitment to keeping you informed of what's happening in and around the site. In addition to this newsletter, we have started to publish a monthly bulletin. This can be found on notice boards around the village, outlining some of that month's key activities.

We continue to attend regular meetings with the Community Liaison Group (CLG) and Dargavel Residents Association (DRA) and appreciate you taking the time to share your views with us directly or via your CLG or DRA representative.

Over the past few months, we have been busy working on a number of the roads in the development and, you'll soon see the finishing touches being applied to the new link road, which is due to open in May. We have also started working on the landscaping around the centre of the Village and this will be a focus for us in the coming months.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who took time out of your day to come along to the public exhibition we held in December. We hope you found the event interesting and informative and we have included some of the feedback in this issue.

Jon Gettinby

Ecological seal of approval

We are delighted that the ecological design of Bishopton and our work on site was recently praised by Scottish Natural Heritage.

Since we started working on the development, our ecological specialists, who regularly monitor on-site activities, have worked closely with Scottish Natural Heritage to ensure local wildlife is carefully managed and protected.

Commenting on the development, Scottish Natural Heritage recently said:

“Scottish Natural Heritage is happy to confirm that we have worked positively with the ecology team working on the remediation and redevelopment of the former Royal Ordnance Factory site at Bishopton since the beginning of the project more than nine years ago.”

“No one should under-estimate the almost unique legal and licensing challenges that the complex diversity of nationally and internationally protected species present at this site prior to remediation represented.”



Not just homes for people!

Starling Learning is one of the ecological consultants advising us about all things environmental.

Liz Parsons from Starling spent a cold Saturday in January at the RSPB nature reserve with the young members of the Lochwinnoch Wildlife Explorers Club, making nest boxes for stock doves. The boxes are being donated to us to use on site so we can encourage the local bird life to flourish. We are very grateful to Liz and the children for their donation and are looking forward to installing the boxes around the site very soon.



On the wild side

We are committed to protecting the local wildlife, and ensuring that the homes and habitats of the wildlife on the site are maintained or repositioned in the right way. Within the development we have a wide range of wildlife from badgers and otters through to barn owls, bats and birds.

We have created three artificial setts on site for the **badgers** and there are more planned as works progress. Our special trail cameras show that two of these setts are being used on a regular basis. We have also seen a number of badgers regularly using the crossing points (tunnels) located under Barrangary Road.

The site is also home to several **barn owls** and a new barn owl nesting structure has been generously provided by AFP Construction (Bishopton) Ltd. Designed by Solum Environmental's Richard Castell, one of the leading authorities on Europe's nesting birds, the unique structure uses reclaimed construction material to give a robust, long-lasting structure.

Bats are one of our main inhabitants on the site and we continue to monitor and accommodate the site's bat population. The most common type of bat is Soprano Pipistrelle. Other bat species include Common Pipistrelle, Brown Long Eared Bat and Daubentons.

Following the demolition of the buildings and the remediation of the land, we have seen the arrival of some new **bird** species which have been attracted by the open ground to nest on. We monitor and modify our bird management strategy every year to accommodate the changing dynamic of the population and to ensure disruption to the works is minimised and harm to species is avoided.

Our phased approach to the remediation work allows us to provide new habitats that have had time to mature and go into use ahead of planned demolition and remediation.



Improving the road network

On Slateford Road we have been working on the re-profiling of the roadside ditches to reduce their depth and on improving the traffic calming measures. Works are in their final stages and will be completed by the end of March.

We have also resurfaced the north footway on Crosshill Road. Work on the reconstruction of the western section of the road and the installation of traffic calming measures is well underway and is due to be completed in March.

And finally, work on the **new link road**, which will connect the north and south areas of Dargavel Village, is progressing. We have seen some disruption to the works due to the recent, exceptionally adverse weather, but the bridge will be complete by the end of March and we expect the new road to open in early May.

Considerate constructor

We are delighted to have been awarded a 'Certificate of Performance Beyond Compliance' from the Considerate Constructors Scheme.

The Scheme monitors the team working on the site and scores us against criteria including care of site appearance, respect for the community, protection of the environment, health and safety and security and valuing the workforce. We hope that you feel we are living up to this award – please get in contact if there's anything you think we could be doing better.

Before

After



Council confirms remediation standards

Remediation of the phase two land was completed towards the end of last year and we have received 'Remediation Verification' confirmation from Renfrewshire Council stating that the necessary standards have been reached and the land is now ready for the construction of housing.

Site investigation reports for the next phase of remediation works are taking place now.