March Road, Coates

Whittlesey Town Council Meeting 6th December 2023



Introduction

- Barratt David Wilson (BDW) are pleased to present our emerging proposals for development at March Road, Coates.
- We are the nation's leading housebuilder, and our vision is to lead the future of housebuilding by putting local communities and sustainability at the heart of everything we do.
- This presentation sets out our initial design proposals as well as the technical and environmental considerations, and outlines our approach and timescales for delivering the site.
- We are fully committed to working with the Town Council, District Council and community to make this happen.

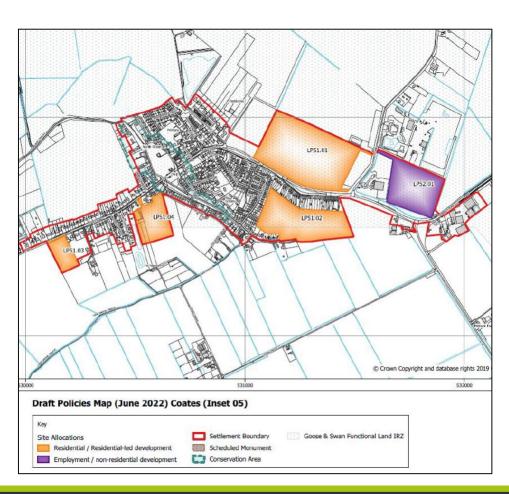






Planning Context

- Fenland District Council's emerging Local Plan seeks to deliver 10,500 new homes between 2021 and 2040.
- In the emerging plan, Coates is newly categorised as a "medium village" and the site is proposed as a draft allocation for residential development of some 232 dwellings.
- The draft policy also seeks to support new primary education infrastructure to support the village on the site.





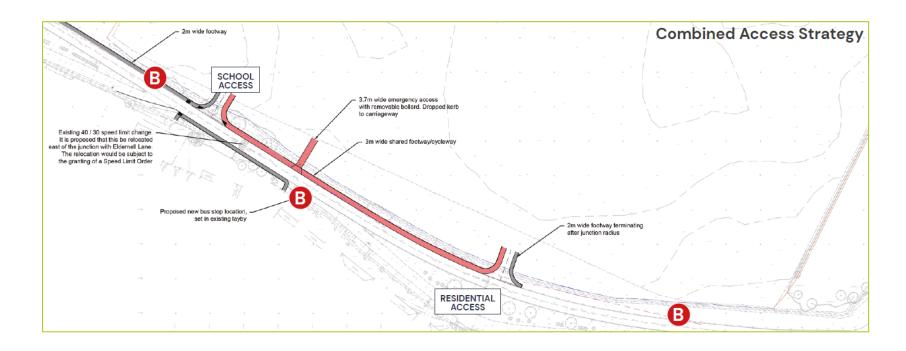








Access Strategy





Site Proposals



Delivering much needed market and affordable housing at a site identified as suitable, available and achievable by the Council:



A mix of house types and sizes, catering for varied needs and creating sustainable community, including 20% affordable housing;



2ha of land safeguarded for future primary education use. This land is of a size capable of providing a new larger village school:



Delivering safe accessible and high quality landscaped open spaces, including equipped children's play area(s), natural green space and other recreation opportunities for both new and existing residents;



Creating biodiversity enhancement through landscaping, new tree planting, Sustainable Drainage Systems and the introduction of substantial areas of public open spaces;



Enhancements to existing bus services through new/replacement shelters with real-time passenger information boards; and



Delivering strong foot and cycle connections, including a new footway along the site frontage and a clear foot/cycle route between the village and the employment land off Eldernell Lane.





Community Engagement

- We are fully committed to engaging with the local community, and recently held an exhibition event at Coates village hall (22nd November).
- 53 local residents attended, with key themes raised below:
 - School increasing school capacity is required, and new provision would be beneficial for the village
 - Traffic speed and volumes along the A605 and a need for a Whittlesey relief road
 - Local demand for bungalows and smaller housing for downsizers and young families
 - Limited capacity at GPs and dentists locally
 - Limited public transport offering across Fenland
 - Some concerns around proposed new Co-Op in Coates
- Our consultation website is still live, with all information presented on the following website: www.coatesconsultation.co.uk
- Additional engagement also ongoing with FDC, CCC's education and highways departments and the drainage board



Biodiversity Strategy

- Barratt David Wilson is the only national housebuilder already committed to providing 10% Biodiversity Net Gain on-site (a year ahead of the mandatory requirement).
- Use of a suite of ecological solutions, already being rolled out nationally, including swift bricks, bat boxes and hedgehog highways.
- Strategic partnership with the RSPB, and last year alone we delivered 372 hectares of new landscape open space (equivalent to 532 football pitches).

















Sustainability Strategy

- Location of site inherently sustainable, with convenient access to existing services/facilities, and proposed facilities on-site.
- Site layout makes efficient use of land whilst incorporating active travel measures and encouraging healthy, active lifestyles.
- Ecological enhancements and SUDS facilities designed in, managing surface-water run-off and promoting biodiversity.
- All new dwellings to be provided with sustainable infrastructure such as air source heat pumps and EV charging points to reduce carbon footprint.
- Barratt's approach to sustainability at forefront of construction industry.





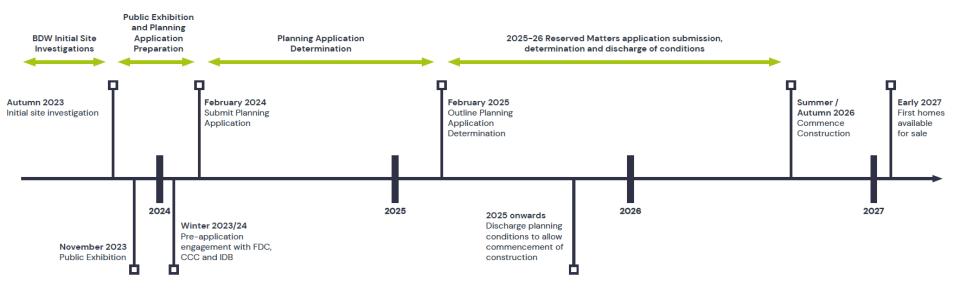








Timescales





Summary

- BDW are promoting this fantastic opportunity to support the sustainable growth of Coates.
- The scheme will bring forward much needed new housing and safeguarded primary education land to deliver the aspirations set out in the emerging Fenland Local Plan.
- We are fully committed to working with the Town Council, District Council and the community to make this happen.
- We are currently in the early stages of preparing an Outline Planning Application for the land under our control for up to 200 dwellings, including;
 - 20% affordable housing;
 - Approx 2ha land safeguarded for future primary education;
 - New footway along north side of March Road; and
 - Significant new planting and landscaping.
- We welcome your feedback now, or via our public consultation website page: <u>www.coatesconsultation.co.uk</u>









