

Arbury Camp Newsletter

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Artist's impression of the new Historical Resource and Cultural Centre for Cambridgeshire at Arbury Camp by Carey Jones Architects

Making History at Arbury Camp

The prospect of a new state-of-the-art Historical Resource and Cultural Centre (HRCC) for Cambridgeshire sited at Arbury Camp recently came a step closer. In mid-January Gallagher Estates, the master developers at Arbury Camp, submitted an application for outline planning permission for the HRCC on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC).

The County Council's Heritage Services have for many years been concerned about the inaccessibility of the historical collection to public, but, until now, have not had the money to do anything about it. However, in August last year, the Council secured £10.7 million of Private Finance Initiative (PFI) funding from the Government to build

a new HRCC in Cambridge.

The HRCC will bring together experts in archaeology, arts, archives and museums and showcase the county's unique historical collections in a high quality building. It will also contain conservation laboratories, a search room and library, an interactive ICT suite, teaching conference, exhibition and workshop space, and refreshment facilities.

The County Council is now in negotiation to purchase land which was the site of an Iron Age fort. It is hoped that building work will start in Summer 2004 and that the HRCC will open in the Autumn of 2005.

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Arbury Camp outline planning application amended

In mid-January Gallagher Estates submitted amendments to the outline planning application for Arbury Camp. Many of the changes were in response to issues which emerged from the public exhibition and during the Arbury Camp Community Planning Day. The amendments included a new Development Framework Plan (DFP) and revised supplementary documentation.

Alan Joyner, Projects Director for Gallaghers said, "We are delighted that we have been able to respond positively to many of the ideas that came directly from the public consultations. We will continue to keep the community informed through regular newsletters and continued on back page