

## LATEST SITE PLANS UNVEILED FOR RESIDENTIAL SCHEME AT QMUC

Local residents are to be given an opportunity to comment on the latest plans for the residential scheme planned for the Queen Margaret University College site at an open meeting to be held at the University campus on 26 June. Persimmon Homes say they are confident that their proposals reflect the views of the community raised so far during the consultation process. The latest plans are due to be submitted to the City of Edinburgh Council at the end of July.

The University has outgrown the parkland site and plans to move to a new campus at Musselburgh in 2007. Vice Principal Rosalyn Marshall, who is in charge of the project, said;

“The last community meeting was well attended and allowed residents to air their views on everything from boundaries, access, and affordable housing to site security. Environmental issues concerning green spaces, site traffic management and containment of dust during the demolition phase were also discussed at length. We are pleased with the architect’s response to these issues, which have been addressed in the latest plans where possible.”

Research conducted among those attending the meeting revealed that **44%** of respondents are in favour of the development plans for the site and only **6%** are against the proposed scheme. **30%** of those who attended wanted more information before they made up their minds. There was some concern that more houses would be added to the site at a later date.

Commenting on resident’s concerns Jim Preston, Persimmon Project Director, said; “As you might expect the research showed up conflicting views in the community. We know we can’t please everybody, but we have carefully considered the issues raised and have developed our plans to the point where I’m sure the majority will approve. We will continue to incorporate the views of the community as the layout progresses, and throughout the planning process. Our aim is to develop a quality, sustainable scheme which will blend in with the surrounding area and I can confirm that no more than 297 homes will be built on the site. “

Anyone unable to attend the meeting on 26 June may submit queries in writing to Rosalyn Marshall, Vice Principal, Queen Margaret University College, Clerwood Terrace, Edinburgh, EH12 8TS

## YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

### BOUNDARY FENCES

There were mixed views on whether the boundary fence should be retained, removed or replaced. As the architect’s plan shows it is intended that, for the majority, the boundary fence shall remain and will be replaced and reinforced with new planting where necessary.

### TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND SITE ACCESS

Naturally there are concerns about the traffic the new development may bring, both during construction phase and when the new residents move in. Many of the queries raised at the meeting - such as suggested improvements to the roundabout on Clerwood Terrace - are not within the control of the developers.

However, it has now been confirmed that there will only be one access for vehicles to the new development from Clerwood Terrace and existing cul-de-sacs will be retained. The parking problems created by the University College in and around Clerwood Terrace will be resolved with the relocation.

### AMENITIES

**32%** of those polled at the last meeting would like the College’s sporting facilities retained or replaced, **8%** would like a community hall included in the plans and **6%** would like a shop. This is proposed to be an entirely residential development and there are no sporting, shopping or community facilities included within the plans. Whilst this will cause disappointment all these facilities are already available nearby.

### AFFORDABLE HOUSING

There was some discussion about the implications of affordable housing on the development although only **12%** of those polled stated they were against it. Current planning policy states that **15%** of housing on new schemes should be designated as affordable housing. Meetings with Edinburgh Council and the developers are ongoing.

## COMMUNITY MEETING

Queen Margaret University College and Persimmon Homes invite all local residents to attend a meeting to be held at 7pm on Thursday 26 June in Lecture Theatre A, Corstorphine Campus, to discuss the latest development plans for the future of the Corstorphine site. All welcome

A more detailed layout plan will be available for viewing in the main concourse from 5 pm on 24 June until the meeting on 26 June. Representatives will be available during the evenings of 24 and 25 June to discuss the plan.



