



Date of issue: 22 October 2008

Middle Quinton ECO-town MEDIA INFORMATION

DEVELOPERS CONFIRM COMMITMENT TO MIDDLE QUINTON ECO-TOWN DESPITE CREDIT CRUNCH

Plans for the development of the Middle Quinton ECO-town remain intact and unaffected by the credit crunch, according to the developers behind the scheme, St.Modwen and the Bird Group of Companies.

Despite the severe national downturn in house building and general construction, which has already affected a number of private sector schemes locally, plans for the Middle Quinton bid remain deliverable within the projected timescale for the project.

Confirming St.Modwen's ongoing commitment, regional director John Dodds said: "Middle Quinton would be a long-term, 15-year project if it is given permission to proceed. So while this is obviously a very difficult period for the development and construction industry, we are looking ahead to a time when we believe the sector will have recovered sufficiently to make this a very achievable and realistic development.

"As the country's leading regeneration specialist, with 30 years of experience behind us, we remain confident that the financial basis of our bid is robust and deliverable, despite recent events," added Mr Dodds.

Another crucial factor reinforcing the validity of the scheme is the continued need for more housing in the local area, despite the current stagnation of the residential market.

The recently published Nathaniel Lichfield report, which recommends an additional 4,500 homes for Stratford in addition to the 5,600 already designated, will, if adopted, place increased demand for housing in and around local villages and increase pressure for development on the Green Belt.

Middle Quinton could provide a valuable contribution towards meeting the new targets for Stratford and Evesham through one sustainable brownfield site, including at least 2,000 much-needed affordable houses. It should be considered as part of the solution to the problem now facing local authorities and would be a far more sustainable alternative to building thousands of new homes on hundreds of Green Belt acres around Stratford-upon-Avon and in Wychavon.

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