Supporting local community sports facilities

In August, we presented the Bishopton Community Development Trust with a cheque for £100,000 to support the improvement and development of sport, recreation and play facilities across Bishopton.

Scott Wilson, Chair of the Community Trust, and members of the Bishopton Rugby Club and Bishopton Football Club were on hand at Holmpark to receive the cheque from our Bishopton Programme Manager, Jon Gettinby.

This initial payment is part of a £300,000 pledge we have made to support community development projects. The Trust is already engaging local residents to understand how they would like the money to be spent for the benefit of the community. The intention is to focus on health and wellbeing through new and improved sports facilities for use by the entire community.

In the coming months, we will be undertaking localised works to improve the drainage at Holmpark. Upon completion, we will transfer ownership of the nine acres (around 3.7 hectares) to the Trust.

Other news

Fun running around Bishopton

In June, we were delighted to sponsor the annual Bishopton Fun Run and Gala Day. Around 200 people including children, parents and local running club members from across the Bishopton area gathered to take part in the Fun Run.

We supported the event by sponsoring the runners' medals and providing funding for radios for the organisers and volunteers to help communicate and safely run the days' events. As a business, it is important we support the communities we operate in and it was great to be able to support such an event this year.

Welcoming Stewart Milne

Stewart Milne is the latest developer to take up residence on Dargavel Village. They started work on their 14 acre plot in August and will be building around 140 homes including a number of three, four, five and six bedroom homes.

They join Taylor Wimpey, CALA Homes and Persimmon Homes (including Charles Church) who already have developments on Dargavel Village. We have seen huge progress being made on the site, with around 510 homes now occupied.

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**

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Bishopton regeneration Update

Edition 4: September 2016

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. This summer, we have achieved a number of milestones on the Dargavel Village development. We have made significant progress on the infrastructure improvement works we started in May, and the landscaping around the Village Square and wider development is taking shape.

In June, we were proud to sponsor the annual Bishopton Fun Run and last month, we were delighted to present the Bishopton Community Development Trust with a cheque for £100,000. This is the first payment of our £300,000 pledge to improving and developing new sports and leisure facilities for the community. We look forward to further supporting the Trust which is already consulting residents on how this money will be used for the benefit of the entire Bishopton community.

One major milestone was the opening of Craigton Drive, the new link road, at the end of August. Its construction was a key focus for us and our contractors over the last 12 months, and its opening marks an important step in the ongoing development of Dargavel Village. It connects residents in the north and south of the development and provides them with a direct route through Dargavel Village, which will help to alleviate traffic from the Bishopton village.

Looking ahead to the autumn, we are continuing to focus on the improvement works taking place on Station Road, Birch Road and at the park-and-ride, along with the landscaping. The improvement works are due to be completed in October and we expect to start opening some of the community areas, along with the new play areas, over the coming months.

Jon Gettinby

Development news

New landscape brings new look

The landscape of Dargavel Village is taking shape. We have now completed the majority of the works to the Village Square to the east side of Craigton Drive, near Bishopton train station, and we are well underway with the next section which runs from Craigton Drive to the Village ponds. When complete, this area will provide a picturesque community space with granite paved walkways, seating, and areas of green open space suitable for hosting local events.

Works will soon begin around Barrangary Road and the southern gateway to the development. We will also begin construction of the play areas at Newton Road and Birch Road. We expect to open the play areas to the community towards the end of the year.

Delivering infrastructure improvements

This summer our contractors have made significant progress on the ongoing improvement works and upgrading of Bishopton's park-and-ride. We have already completed the initial works to Birch Road and the temporary car park is now operational.

The works are due to be completed at the end of October when the new park-and-ride car park will open and the final resurfacing and street lighting improvements along Birch Road and Station Road is completed. When it opens, the new car park will give residents access to 150 parking spaces, 60 more than the current car park, and will create a more accessible, user-friendly environment for pedestrians and cyclists.

New £6 million link road officially open

At the end of August, we welcomed Derek Mackay, MSP for Renfrewshire North and West and Councillor Mike Holmes, Depute Leader of Renfrewshire Council to Dargavel Village to cut the ribbon and officially open Craigton Drive – Bishopton's new £6 million link road – to the public.

They were joined by members of the Bishopton community and our Programme Manager Jon Gettinby to mark this major milestone in Dargavel Village's development. After almost 12 months of construction, the new 1.45km road is now open, providing residents with a route through Dargavel Village and connecting the north and south of the development.

Commenting on the opening of the new road, Derek Mackay MSP, said: "Having been here for the start of the works, almost a year ago, it is great to come back and see the new road open. It will significantly improve Bishopton's transport links, and the benefits of the overall development to the local community and economy are important for the area's continuing regeneration."

Councillor Mike Holmes added: "Dargavel Village is an important development for Bishopton, bringing much needed new housing alongside new and improved infrastructure and community facilities. Today's opening of the new road not only gives residents a new route through the development, it also improves connection to the wider Bishopton community."

Key facts about Craigton Drive:

- 20,000m^3 of recycled crushed concrete and brick used in its construction
- 7,700 tonnes of tarmac and 175 litres of paint used to put the finishing touches to the road
- Over 320 workers involved in the road's construction, with almost a third of them living in Renfrewshire

(l to r) Councillor Mike Holmes, Derek MacKay, MSP and BAE Systems Programme Manager Jon Gettinby

Ecology news

Shelducklings spotted for first time

At the end of May, our team of ecologists rescued a couple of abandoned Shelducklings that were found on a shingle bank of the Cordite Burn.

The small young Shelducks were taken by our ecologists to the Hessilhead Wildlife Rescue Centre at Gateside in Beith, North Ayrshire. This was the first time Shelduck's have been recorded on the site and the young ducklings will be reintroduced into the wild in the near future.