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1 December 2006

David Rush Esq.
South Cambridgeshire District Council
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Dear David

**Cambridge Sports Lakes – Response to 21 November letter and subsequent emails
with supplementary information**

I am writing in response to the supplemental information request contained in the 21 November letter from Gareth Jones and to our subsequent email exchanges since that date. Information was requested as follows:

1. Draft minutes of meetings held on 18th and 24th October. (Please refer to Attachments A and B)
2. Corrected Contour site plan (Attachment C) with extended cross sections (Attachment D).. The existing topography surrounding the site is provided relative to the contour map previously submitted. In response to the question raised by Cllr Smith, it should be noted that the northern portion of site's 5m aod line is above the OS marking for the immediate surrounding land. At the point of intersection with the existing ground level, our land will be about only about one foot above it at the 5m aod line. Please note that near the Fen Road, the CSL site's western 5m aod line will intersect with the transverse 5m aod line of the existing topography at a point just west of the Training Lake. Since the contour levels are based on aod, actual visible heights over existing ground levels are less than the heights shown on the contour aod levels.
3. Storage Lake Water level. Subject to confirmation of the hydraulics for the scheme, it should be possible to reduce the water level of the Storage Lake so that it is .83 m above the 3.88m aod level of the Competition Lake at level of 4.71m aod. Engineers believe that this differential will be sufficient for the needs of the project. The final level within the depth of the Storage Lake will need to be determined by the technical work that is still required.

4. Training Lake lane reduction. The Trust has always intended to retain those trees if possible. The Training Lakes requires a bank on the western side and will need 4 lanes for the economic viability of the scheme. A minor reduction of lane may be possible for a short length near the Fen Road crossing. Any lane reduction should be kept to a minimum and cannot apply to the whole length of the Training Lake. A plan will be developed as part of the detail design work.

Finally, in light of the discussion at the 24th October meeting and your 24th November email we believe that a way forward, in lieu of undertaking a Stage 2 FRA at this time, should be through a condition requiring subsequent approval of the design to be brought back to Committee. We note that the wording for such a condition is as stipulated in condition 24 (c) that you reported to the Planning Committee along with the Officers' Report for the 6th September meeting.

It is our understanding that this letter with supplemental information and our earlier letter of 7th November respond to all the issues raised in your letter of 13th September thus clearing the way for the consultation period to commence.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Garroway
Director of Resource Development

Encl.

Attachment A Summary of 18 October 2006 meeting
Attachment B Summary of 24 October 2006 meeting
Attachments C and D Revised Contour Site Plan with cross sections

Summary of Discussion
Cambridge Sport Lakes Meeting with Planning Officers
18 October 2006 at South Cambridgeshire Hall

Present: David Rush (SCC), Melissa Reynolds, David Adamson (CSL), and Michael Garroway (CSL)

David Adamson suggested that the purpose of the meeting was to update the officers on the progress that had been made to address issues raised in the 13 September letter from the Planning Department and to agree on actions to be taken.

He pointed out that he felt that the Officers' Report was hard but sensible including the Environment Agency aspects. He expressed disappointment that the EA Officer was not present at the Planning Committee meeting to explain their report and answer questions from members.

Adamson enumerated the items that were either being prepared or else anticipated. Of the completed items, the group looked briefly at the drafts for:

1. Ecological Response Table to 13 November items
2. Landscape Design Response Table to 13 November items

Michael then listed the items being prepared:

1. An ecological balance sheet of Gains and losses (Mott MacDonald)
2. A letter of agreement from the Park and Ride for off site parking plans (Camb County Council)
3. The large event sheets including the make up of a transportation committee for events (CSL)
4. A contour map showing the surrounding topography and an extension of the cross sections from the Site eastward to the Cam (WSP and LSI Architects).

Flood Risk and Drainage. The group agreed to defer discussion of these issues until the meeting of 24 October to which the Local District Councillors have been invited. Consultants from WSP would be present to provide a detailed briefing and answer questions.

Transportation. Michael provided copies of the special event tables and indicated that he had a meeting with Craig Drury and Campbell Ross-Bain of the Park and Ride to review the details on the large event parking. He indicated that he was waiting for a letter of agreement in principle to the scheme from the Park And Ride people. Drury has also commented that the Safety Audit of the Babbie report would be forthcoming.

Landscape. David Rush mentioned that a new officer was on board, David Hamilton. Michael agreed to contact him to go over the landscape comments and responses from Geoff Collins of Lovejoy London.

Next Steps. . The Officers pointed out that once the outstanding items were submitted, a 21 day consultation period would be required followed by time for the officers to compile a revised report. It was recommended that the Trust provide in its response a summary of what has been done in relation to the 13 September letter from SCDC including:

1. What information and reports exist that answer questions raised by the letter,
2. What work remains to be done prior to going back to committee, and
3. What are the areas which the CSL does not consider necessary at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 10.45 am