PUBLIC ART PROJECTS IN HIGH WYCOMBE

Following Cabinet’s approval of WDC’s Public Art Strategy in 2009, two public art projects are being created on new major housing developments in High Wycombe.

**Kingshill Grange**
Development on the old Wellesbourne campus site.

The public art will be sited on open space close to the new junction at the entrance to the development on Kingshill Road. The installation of the sculpture is planned by developers Taylor Wimpey in spring 2011.

Internationally renowned artist Peter Randall-Page, who has work in the permanent collections of Tate Gallery and British Museum, was selected by the public art panel from four shortlisted national public artists with excellent reputations. The art panel comprises: Headteacher Highworth County Combined Primary School, Royal Grammar School Head of Art and two students, Councillor Tony Green, Taylor Wimpey West London, ACD Landscape Architects, public art consultant, and WDC Arts Development.

Description of artwork: The Art proposal was presented by the artist to the panel in Oct 2010. It is a stone sculpture carved from a granite boulder set within a formal circle of pleached trees (ie trained together as a raised hedge) creating a canopy. The proposed scale is the middle top diagram attached.

An illustrated talk public event to unveil the artwork is at the Royal Grammar School on Fri 21 January 2011 from 7 – 9pm, which includes a showcase exhibition of work by students from both schools, following a visit to the artist’s studio in Devon. An invitation to the event is attached. If you wish to attend please state the number of places you require to either Katie.tyssen@wycombe.gov.uk tel 01494 421887, or art@webbpr.net
Wycombe Marsh, Bassetsbury Lane
Development on the former sewage treatment works.

The proposal is for a local community poet/text artist and a graphic artist to work with young people at Wycombe Marsh Infant & Nursery School in early 2011 to create ideas based on selected words for two projects for the scheme. The outcomes of the workshops with the school, which will draw on key heritage themes, will inform the ideas and designs for:

1. Art & Architecture project: an existing façade to a housing block to be re-rendered with a design to create an art wall

2. Wayfinding project: sign posting within the development to consist of possible roundels, brass rubbings, sand blasted words

A record of the project is planned by collating the creative material into a collaborative online publication using the online tool ‘Blurb’.

St James Developments plan installation of the art on the façade in spring 2011, with the Wayfinding project incorporated at a later date – timescale to be agreed

A Contact Name is shown above and Members are asked to contact that person if they have any queries etc.

The Press is reminded that the Council’s procedure is for ALL Press enquiries to be routed via the Communications Office on High Wycombe 421230/421207.