

# Wychwood Park & The Old Racecourse, Norwich

Draft Vision and Objectives – Promoting Healthier Lifestyles

New accessible parkland and amenities - green infrastructure and outdoor play

Social and Community Infrastructure

Wychwood Park and the Old Racecourse are well situated close to Cringleford and Hethersett.

The attractive and historic landscape at Wychwood Park and the Old Racecourse will be preserved and enhanced. They will be opened to the public to enjoy this landscape and for recreation and leisure. It will cater for all ages. This will be a quiet and relaxing place for all to enjoy. A number of landscape features are proposed to enhance the setting including additional water features, footpaths, cycleways, café and car parking for visitors.

Green infrastructure plays a vital role in creating sustainable places. It contributes to flood protection, urban cooling and the creation of wildlife habitats. Access to open spaces encourages social inclusion and community cohesion.

## Objectives

- To open Wychwood Park and the Old Racecourse to the public.
- To create new landscape features, a network of new footpaths and cycleways connecting residents of Hethersett and Cringleford to Norwich and the wider area via green links.
- To create a new adventure park and outdoor play areas with activities for all ages.
- To enhance wildlife habitats.
- To meet the energy demands of the development through on-site renewable energy generation.
- To provide a low carbon, energy efficient residential care village which focuses on encouraging active lifestyles for older and infirmed people.
- To provide community gardens and allotments where local produce is grown for use at a community café and restaurant.
- To provide flexible workspace for craft, creative and artisan enterprises.

Some built development is essential to the delivery of the whole proposal which will be proportionate to the landscape, heritage and the strategic gap between Hethersett and Cringleford.

## Background

This area continues to evolve with the potential new Orsted power line in the western part and the Highways England Thickthorn junction improvements with a new link road and a possible extension to the park and ride at the eastern end. There is significant housing growth planned at Cringleford and Hethersett. The stewardship of the park and the racecourse has consequently been reviewed resulting in these proposals.

This vision will provide a low carbon environment promoting healthier living for the area.

## Custodianship, Management, Delivery & Implementation Strategy

The sustainable enhancements, low carbon ethos, promotion of healthy lifestyles and improvements in wellbeing for all will be secured by a long-term management structure.