

Sugar site plan unveiled

Public display of 'residential-led' development at ex-factory site

By Craig Robinson

THE masterplan for the proposed development of a former factory on the outskirts of Suffolk's county town is set to go under the public microscope.

Developers JG Land & Estates will show plans for the site of the former British Sugar factory in Sproughton, near Ipswich today and tomorrow.

The public exhibition will allow the company to share its vision for the development, which will be called Broadmeadow, with the local community and any other interested parties.

JG Land & Estates bought the land earlier this year and is proposing to turn the 100-acre site into a residential-led

development with a mixture of homes and community facilities.

It is believed that work on the site could start as early as summer 2006.

However, the developers insist no firm decisions will be made on the plans until the public and interested groups have been consulted.

John Jowitt, planning director of JG Land & Estates, said: "We believe this public exhibition is an important step in communicating our vision for the future of Broadmeadow to the local community.

"It is also an opportunity for the local people to meet us face to face and discuss any concerns they may have."

The Broadmeadow site is expected to take up to six

years to complete and will include the demolition of the silos and factory, with the concrete debris used for the new development.

Other environmental benefits are likely to include upgrading the River Gipping pedestrian and cycle route to link the site with the town centre, and maintaining and improving an island on the Gipping which is to become a nature reserve.

Developers have already met with Suffolk county councillors and Ipswich borough councillors to discuss the proposals and survey work has taken place.

The public exhibition will be open from noon to 7pm today and 10am to 4pm tomorrow and will be held on the Broadmeadow site, in

Sproughton Road. For those unable to attend the exhibition, leaflets will be placed in local shops and amenities as well as

being available online at www.broadmeadow.co.uk

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VIEWPOINT: A public exhibition today and tomorrow will give people the chance to have their say on the proposed "Broadmeadow" development for the former British Sugar factory site on the edge of Ipswich