

# HOW PLANNING SHAPED CAMBOURNE

The history behind one of England's most recent new settlements

2 1998

Cambourne, with a population of more than 8000, is located nine miles west of Cambridge. Its history started with the 1989 adoption of Cambridgeshire County Council's structure plan, which provided for a 3000-home new settlement west or east of Cambridge.

Eight applications to build such settlements were called in for determination by the secretary of state at a public inquiry that started in 1990. All were rejected in 1992. But the SoS indicated that a revised version of a scheme which broadly covered what is known today as Upper Cambourne and the neighbouring Bourn airfield, would be acceptable, given certain revisions.

In 1994, an application for 3000-3300 homes plus employment, retail, community and sporting facilities, to be built across what is now Lower, Greater and Upper Cambourne was approved by South Cambridgeshire District Council in 1996, the masterplan for

Cambourne by architects Terry Farrell and Partners, envisaging three interlinked villages planned around village greens, was approved.

2003



2008



2013



2017



## KEY

1998

- 1 Properties that predate the new settlement that still remain today
- 2 The A45 (now the A428) prior to dualling

2003

- 3 New roads built to access the site
- 4 Dual carriageway and grade separated junction, funded by the developer (a consortium of Bovis, Bryan and McAlpine Homes)
- 5 Lower Cambourne was the first of the villages to be completed
- 6 Morrisons supermarket
- 7 First primary school, opens 2000
- 8 Lake providing surface water drainage
- 9 Cambourne Business Park
- 10 Greater Cambourne partly completed
- 11 An archaeological dig, undertaken before full development of Upper Cambourne began

2008

- 12 Another access road, allowing the village of Caxton to be bypassed

2013

- 13 At this stage, only the north-western part of the Upper Cambourne allocated area had been built out. This was because government policy changes had allowed the rest of the settlement to be built at greater densities than originally envisaged, meaning that the permitted 3,300 homes had been constructed without using the full footprint of the permission
- 14 Further dualling of the road is completed
- 15 Construction of Upper Cambourne begins
- 16 By now, Greater Cambourne is almost completely built out

2017

- 17 Most of the remainder of Upper Cambourne has now been built out, following a 2011 permission for an additional 950 homes within the boundaries of the original outline permission
- 18 Cambourne Secondary School opens in 2013
- 19 Most of the remainder of Upper Cambourne has now been built out, following a 2011 permission for an additional 950 homes within the boundaries of the original outline permission
- 20 Cambourne Community Primary School opens next to the secondary school in 2015

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