

# Edgehill Park Phase 3 Whitehaven

Planning & Design Statement

November 2020

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# 1) Executive Summary

- 1.1 This Planning and Design Statement supports the Reserved Matters Planning Application for 335 no. dwellings on the third phase at Edgehill Park, Whitehaven.
- 1.2 The Site is situated in the administrative boundary of Copeland Borough Council, to the North of Edgehill Park Phase 2 (also referred to as Planning Phases 3 and 4) which is currently being constructed. The Site is approximately 2.5km South from Whitehaven town centre.
- 1.3 The Edgehill Park development benefits from a 'Hybrid' planning approval (reference 4/13/2235/O01), granted on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014. This comprised of a Detailed planning approval for 139 no. dwellings (Phase 1 Edgehill Park and Wilson Howe) and an Outline planning approval for 431 no. dwellings.
- 1.4 The Reserved Matters application is for all matters reserved (scale, layout, external appearance of buildings, access and landscaping) for the balance of the site, pursuant to approval 4/13/2235/O01. The application is submitted within the context and parameters of the approved Masterplan drawing number 070-STOO-501-C, Environmental Statement, Design and Access Statement and Transport Assessment.

### 2) Introduction

- 2.1 This Planning and Design Statement supports a Reserved Matters planning application for 335 no. dwellings in Phase 3 of Edgehill Park, Whitehaven.
- 2.2 Edgehill Park is currently Story Homes' only outlet in Copeland, however it is a long term strategic development. The development has proven to be popular to a wide demographic of buyers. As a developer, Story Homes is committed to continuing the development and providing for an attractive and sustainable build out with due appreciation to the visions and parameters set out during the preparation of the Outline planning approval for this development.
- Outline planning approval 4/13/2235/O01 was granted on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014 for up to 431 no. dwellings, with all matters reserved and subject to planning conditions and a s106 Unilateral Undertaking legal agreement.
- 2.4 This Planning and Design Statement sets out the Site description, the planning position and how the application responds to approved parameters and policy requirements. The description of the proposed development is as follows:

'Application for approval of Reserved Matters (scale, layout, external appearance, access and landscaping) pursuant to Hybrid planning permission 4/13/2235/001 for Residential Development of up to 335 no. dwellings'.

The following detail is submitted in support of this application;

### **Layout Plans**

- Detailed site layout plan drawing number 54D-STO-100 rev B
- Detailed site layout plan (Coloured) drawing number 54D-STO-101
- Boundary Treatment Plan drawing number 54D-STO-103 rev C
- Proposed Hard Surfaces Plan drawing number 54D-STO-105 rev A
- Parking Provision Plan drawing number 54D-STO-104 rev A
- Elevation Treatment Plan drawing number 54D-STO-102 rev B
- Concept Masterplan drawing number 070 STOO-501 -C
- Materials Samples
- Site Location Plan drawing number 54D-STO-1001 rev A
- Proposed Street Scenes drawing number 54D-STO-107
- Proposed Street Scenes drawing number 54D-STO-108
- Proposed Hard Surfaces Plan drawing number 54D-STO-105 rev B
- Management Plan drawing number 54D-STO-106 rev B

### **House Types**

- Alexander (A) planning drawings contents: Planning drawing number AXR-P-CON,
   Planning layout 1 drawing number AXR-PLP1, Planning Elevation 1/1 drawing number AXR-PLE1/1, Planning Elevation drawing number AXR-PLE1/2
- Carter (A) contents: planning drawing number CTR-P-CON, Planning Layout 1 drawing number CTR-PLP1, Planning Elevation 1/1 drawing number CTR-PLE1/1, Planning Elevation ½ drawing number CTR-PLE1/2, Planning Elevation 1/2 drawing number EMN-PLE1/2, Planning Elevation 1/3 drawing number EMN-PLE1/3
- Emmerson (A) Contents: Planning drawing number planning layout drawing number EMN-PLP1, Planning Elevation 1/1 drawing number EMN-PLE1/1,
- Harper Contents: Planning drawing number HPR-P-CON rev B, Planning Layout 1 drawing number HPR-PLP1 rev A, Planning Elevation 1/1 drawing number HPR-PLE1/1 rev B, Planning Elevation ½ drawing number HPR-PLE1/2 rev B
- Hewson Contents: Planning drawing number HWN-P-CON rev C, Planning Layout 1 drawing number HWN-PLP1 rev A, Planning Elevation 1/1 drawing number HWN-PLE1/1 rev C, Planning Elevation ½ drawing number HWN-PLE1/2 rev C, Planning Elevation 1/3 drawing number HWN-PLE1/3 rev C
- Jameson (A) Contents: Planning drawing number JMN-P-CON, Planning Layout 1 drawing number JMN-PLP1, Planning Elevation 1/1 drawing number JMN-PLE1/1, Planning Elevation ½ drawing number JMN-PLE1/2
- Larson (A) Contents: Planning drawing number LRN-P-CON, Planning Layout 1 drawing number LRN-PLP1, Planning Elevation 1/1 drawing number LRN-PLE1/1, Planning Elevation ½ drawing number LRN-PLE1/2,
- Garage booklet Contents: Planning drawing number Single Garage 1 planning drawing 1/1 drawing number SG-PLP1/1, Single Garage 1 Planning Drawing ½ drawing number SG-PLP1/2
- Masterton (A) Contents: Planning drawing number MTN-P-CON rev C, Planning Layout 1 drawing number MTN-PLP1 rev A, Planning Elevation 1/1 drawing number MTN-PLE1/1 rev C, Planning Elevation ½ drawing number MTN-PLE1/2 rev
- Oxley (A) Contents: Planning drawing number OXY-P-CON rev A, Planning Layout 1 drawing number OXY-PLP1 rev A, Planning Elevation 1/1 drawing number OXY-PLE1/1 rev A, Planning Elevation ½ drawing number OXY-PLE1/2 rev A

- Sanderson (A) Contents: Planning drawing number SAN-P-CON rev B, Planning Layout 1 drawing number SAN-PLP1 rev A, Planning Elevation 1/1 drawing number SAN-PLE1/1 rev A, Planning Elevation ½ drawing number SAN-PLE1/2 rev A, Planning Elevation 1/3 drawing number SAN-PLE1/3 rev A
- Spencer (A) Contents: Planning drawing number SPR-P-CON rev D, Planning Layout 1 drawing number SPR-PLP1 rev B, Planning Layout 2 drawing number SPR-PLP2 rev B, Planning Elevation 1/1 drawing number SPR-PLE1/1 rev C, Planning Elevation ½ drawing number SPR-PLE1/2 rev C, Planning Elevation 2/2 drawing number SPR-PLE2/2 rev C
- Wilson (A) Contents: Planning drawing number WLN-P-CON rev D, Planning Layout 1 (Front) drawing number WLN-PLP1 rev B, Planning Elevation 1/1 (Front) drawing number WLN-PLE1/1 rev B, Planning Elevation ½ (Front) drawing number WLN-PLE1/2 rev B, Planning Elevation 1/3 (Front) drawing number WLN-PLE1/3 rev B, Planning Layout 2 (Corner) drawing number WLN-PLP2 rev B, Planning Elevation 2/1 (Corner) drawing number WLN-PLE2/1 Rev B, Planning Elevation 2/3 (Corner) drawing number WLN-PLE2/3 rev B, Planning Elevation 2/4 (Corner) drawing number WLN-PLE2/4 rev B
- Garage Booklet Contents: Planning drawing number GB-P-CON rev A, Single Garage 1 planning drawing 1/1 drawing number GB-PLP1/1 rev A, Single Garage 1 planning drawing ½ drawing number GB-PLP1/2 rev A, Double Garage 1 planning drawings 2/1 drawing number GB-PLP2/1 rev A, Double Garage 1 Planning Drawings 2/2 drawing number GB-PLP2/2 rev A, Twin Garage 1, planning drawings 3/1 drawing number GB-PLP3/1, Twin Garage 1 planning drawings 3/2 drawing number GB-PLP3/2
- Emmerson (A) Contemporary Planning Layout 1 drawing number EMN-PLP1 rev A, Planning Elevation C drawing number EMN-PLE1/2 Rev B
- Harper Contemporary (A), Planning Layout 1 drawing number HPR-PLP1 rev A, Planning Elevation C drawing number HPR-PLE C rev B
- Jameson (A) Contemporary Planning Layout 1 drawing number JMN-PLP1, Planning Elevation C drawing number JMN-PLE C
- Larson (A) Contemporary Planning Layout 1 drawing number LRN-PLP1, Planning Elevation C drawing number LRN-PLE C
- Oxley (A) Contemporary Planning Layout 1 drawing number OXY-PLP1 rev A,
   Planning Elevation C drawing number OXY-PLE C rev A
- Cooper (A) Planning Drawings Contents: Planning drawing number CPR-P-CON rev B, Planning Layout 1 (Semi) drawing number CPR-PLP1, Planning Elevation 1/1 (Semi) drawing number CPR-PLE1/1 rev A, Planning Elevation ½ (Semi) drawing number CPR-PLE1/2 rev B, Planning Layout 2 (Front) drawing number CPR-PLP2, Planning Elevation 2/1 (Front) drawing number CPR-PLE2/1 rev A, Planning Elevation 2/2 (Front) drawing number CPR-PLE2/2 rev B, Planning Layout 3 (Corner) drawing number CPR-PLP3, Planning Elevation 3/1 (Front) drawing number CPR-PLE3/1 rev A, Planning Elevation 3/4 (Corner) drawing number CPR-PLE3/4 rev B,

#### **Engineering**

- Flood Risk Assessment addendum report Edgehill Ph3 30.11.2020
- Engineering Layout Drainage sheet 1 of 2 drawing number 7503/PL01-1
- Engineering Layout Drainage sheet 2 of 2 drawing number 7503/PL01-2
- External Works Layout sheet 1 of 5 drawing number 7503/07-1

- External Works Layout sheet 2 of 5 drawing number 7503/07-2 rev A
- External Works Layout Sheet 3 of 5 drawing number 7503 / 07-3
- External Works Layout sheet 4 of 5 drawing number 7503 / 07- 4 rev A
- External works layout sheet 5 of 5 drawing number 7503/07-5
- Drawing issue sheet 1
- Drawing issue sheet 2
- GI Report
- Topographical Survey 1 of 2 drawing number SL028.90.9.SL.TP01
- Topographical Survey 2 of 2 drawing number SL028.90.9.SL.TP02

### **Ecology**

Ecology Assessment (update September 2020), Edgehill Park, North Area –
 Envirotech

### Landscape

- Landscape Management Plan 1 of 3 drawing number SHEHP-WW-11 rev A
- Landscape Management Plan 2 of 3 drawing number SHEHP-WW-12 rev A
- Landscape Management Plan 3 of 3 drawing number SHEHP-WW-13 rev A
- Landscape plan 1 of 3 drawing number SHEHP-WW-01
- Landscape Plan 2 of 3 drawing number SHEHP-WW-02 rev A
- Landscape Plan 3 of 3 drawing number SHEHP-WW-03 Rev A

### Tree

- Addendum 2 to Tree Survey – October 2020

### Travel

- I transport letter dated 11.11.2020
- Travel Plan October 2020

# 3) Site Description

3.1 Edgehill Park Phase 3 measures 13.8 hectares / 34.12 acres and is located on the Southern periphery of Whitehaven, to the South of the Woodhouse residential area and to the North of the current Edgehill Park Phase 2 development.



Figure 1 - Site Location Plan

- 3.2 The Site was previously arable land but is now semi-improved grassland except for a large area of hardstanding in the South West corner of the Site leftover from the previous commercial use.
- 3.3 The Northern boundary of the Site comprises existing residential development at Magellan Park and Windermere Road. The Eastern boundary is not defined by any physical features but is adjacent to semi-improved grass land in the ownership of Story Homes.
- 3.4 The Southern boundary is defined by Edgehill Park Phase 2 which is under construction and the Western boundary is defined by High Road.

# 4) Planning Proposals and Context

- 4.1 This Reserved Matters application seeks approval for 335 no. dwellings on Edgehill Park Phase 3, Whitehaven.
- 4.2 Outline planning approval 4/13/2235/O01 was granted 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014 with all matters reserved. The principle of residential development at this location has therefore been established.
- 4.3 The following Housing Mix is proposed:

HOUSE TYPE	SQFT	QUANTITY	TOTAL SQFT
Oxley (Semi)	691	26	17,966
Oxley (Terraced)	691	3	2,073

	TOTAL	335	386,790
Masterton	1,803	16	28,848
Hewson	1,561	28	43,708
Wilson	1,425	7	9,975
Sanderson	1,412	36	50,832
Emmerson (Terraced)	1,292	15	19,380
Emmerson (Semi)	1,292	26	33,592
Jameson	1,207	18	21,726
Larson	1,109	32	35,488
Alexander (Terraced)	1,114	3	3,342
(Townhouse)			
Alexander	1,114	16	17,824
Cooper	1,031	20	20,620
Carter	958	17	16,286
Spencer	960	34	32,640
Harper (Terraced)	855	24	20,520
Harper (Semi)	855	14	11,970

Figure 2 – Proposed Mix

4.4 The Design and Access Statement approved in March 2014 sets the layout and design concept principles including the masterplan drawing number 070-STOO-501 -C. It is pertinent to consider that the approved masterplan drawing number 070-STOO-501-C was the cumulation of extensive planning consultation and critique, being ultimately a very worthwhile exercise is setting a sustainable blueprint for the full development to follow. This Reserved Matters application has been subject to preapplication advice and layout iteration and is respectfully submitted with due appreciation to the design and masterplan principles.



Figure 3 - Concept Masterplan, Ref 070-ST00-501-C

- 4.5 The Environmental Statement submitted and approved in March 2014 under 4/13/2235/001 assesses ecological, landscape, ground, drainage, heritage and noise impacts and suitable mitigation.
- 4.6 A Screening Opinion for the proposed application for approval of Reserved Matters was submitted to the Council who responded on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020 confirming that a new or revised Environmental Statement was not required.
- 4.7 This Reserved Matters application has been prepared with due cognisance to the Environmental Statement and recommendations across areas of acknowledged environmental importance.

### **Section 106 Legal Agreement**

- 4.8 The Section 106 Agreement (dated 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014) was approved by means of Unilateral Undertaking in which Story Homes has committed to local infrastructure and affordable housing improvements.
- 4.9 To date, Story Homes has paid £198,656 towards offsite highways and public transport improvements and a £350,000 Education contribution. Story Homes has written to Cumbria County Council and sought confirmation on whether it intends to locate a new primary school on the land reserved for this purpose in Phase 3. Confirmation on this is awaited.

4.10 The Unilateral Undertaking agreement gives flexibility to onsite delivery of affordable housing or alternative commuted sum to go towards offsite delivery. It is Story Homes preference for commuted sum which is to be paid prior to the occupation of the 500<sup>th</sup> unit.

### **Planning Policy**

- 4.11 Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that proposals are to be determined in accordance with the approved development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. In this instance, the adopted Copeland Local Plan 2013-20 (the Plan) is the starting point for determining the proposal.
- 4.12 The Copeland Local Plan 2013-2028 was formally adopted by Copeland Borough Council in December 2013. The most relevant planning policies of the Copeland Local Plan are considered as follows;

COPELAND LOCAL PLAN POLICY				
DM10	Achieving Quality of Place			
DM11	Sustainable Development Standards			
DM12	Standards for New Residential Developments			
DM26	Landscaping			
SS3	Housing Needs, Mix and Affordability			
DM12	Standards to new residential Developments			
DM22	Accessible Development			
SS5	Provision and access to Open Space and Green Infrastructure			
ENV1	Flood Risk and Risk Management			
ENV3	Biodiversity and Geodiversity			

Figure 4 – Relevant Copeland Local Plan policies

- 4.13 The Cumbria Development Design Guide provides material guidance including the quantum of recommended car parking.
- 4.14 Further material planning guidance in the form of The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2019 reaffirms that applications are to be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The NPPF seeks for developments to have safe and suitable access that can be achieved for all users, are visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping and optimise the potential of the site to accommodate and sustain an appropriate amount and mix of development (including green and other public space) and support local facilities and transport networks.

### 5. Planning Assessment

5.1 The principle of residential development at this location has been established by way of the Outline approval under reference 4/13/2235/001 (granted 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014).

### **Quality of Place Standards for New Residential Developments**

- 5.2 Policy 'DM10' seeks for high standards of design that amongst other things positively respond to local character and setting. Policy 'DM11' sustainable development standards requires appropriate density and SUDS drainage while Policy 'DM12' sets more technical standards for new residential development including appropriate car parking, separation distances and open space requirements.
- 5.3 The built and open space development of the Reserved Matters is considered to conform with that of the masterplan. Arrival greens are strategically punctuated throughout the development to provide visual and land use relief. The development further proposes subtle changes in density to establish visual interest and character areas.
- 5.4 The main spine road affords a vernacular that provides for main street hierarchy definition through height dwelling increase (townhouses), reduced car parking dominance and enhanced elevation and landscape treatments. The edges of the development have been carefully designed to positively respond to the surrounding area and add visual interest looking in, as well as appreciation of attractive outward views from the development.
- The general scale and appearance of the dwellings are in keeping with the area, with particular reference to Story Homes' previous developments at Water's Edge, Magellen Park, Wilson Howe and Edgehill phases 1 and 2. The proposed house types show mixture of stone, brick and render elevation treatments and mixed boundary treatments clearly defining and affording surveillance to public and private spaces. The house type design is Story Homes' latest product mix which shall provide similar but attractive variation to previous phases. A contemporary designed row of units shall offer visual variation to the East of the reserved school land. To the rear of these units there is an existing knoll in the land, one of only a few existing landscape features. This is to be heavily tree planted which in time will help visually frame the rear of the contemporary units and provide unique visual interest.
- 5.6 The proposed development will incorporate thin edge, flat and profile roof tiles, to provide visual variation and interest in roofscape. Thin leading edge tiles are to be strategically located at prominent public realm locations.
- 5.7 In consideration of parking, Policy 'DM22' requires parking provision to meet adopted standards, but also to ensure that on street and off-street parking does not dominate the street scene. The Cumbria County Council 'Cumbria Development Design Guide' requires 824 no. parking spaces and 67 no. parking spaces. While the layout is shown to accommodate 68 no. visitor spaces, it offers a lower level of provision (740 no. parking spaces) than the standard, but pre-application discussions have established that a balanced approach is favourable. The shortfall is nevertheless to an extent made up by integral double garages (16 no.) and detached single garages (15 no.) and on street parking. In seeking to achieve an acceptable

balance, care has been taken in the design to mitigate car dominance in the street scene through a comprehensive landscaping strategy and use of side and rear parking in key places.

#### Landscaping

- 5.8 Policies 'DM26' Landscaping seeks to ensure that all development proposals relate well in terms of visual impact, scale, character, amenity value and local distinctiveness.
- 5.9 The proposed development has been designed with plentiful and mixed landscaping, in context to outline parameters and pre-application comments. The landscaping shall ensure that character areas are defined and differentiated in design terms/language, building upon the successful existing phases completed and in progress to date.

### Housing Needs, Mix and Affordability

- 5.10 Policy 'SS3' seeks for proposals to deliver a range and choice of good quality and affordable homes for everyone.
- 5.11 There are 335 no. open market house types, ranging from the 691 sqft 2 bed semi/terraced Oxley to the 1,803s sqft 5-bedroom detached Masterton. The Housing Mix can be broken down into 43 no. 2 bed semis, 114 no. 3-bedroom dwellings, 162 no. 4-bedroom dwellings and 16 no. 5-bedroom dwellings. Of note and in recognition of the limited future availability of Help to Buy, which has proved popular at Edgehill Park allowing new homeowners to gain access to the housing ladder, the application proposes a good quantum of 2bed homes. Furthermore, the proposed 3, 4 and 5 bed dwellings will help attract a wide variety of buyers.
- 5.12 The approved Section 106 Unilateral Undertaking shall result in a planned affordable housing contribution of £289,744 (subject to Land Registry HPI) which will be paid on completion of the 500<sup>th</sup> occupation.
- 5.13 The proposed Housing Mix is considered responsive of current market demand and resilient to any fluctuations. Dwellings are designed to the latest National Development Space Standards with good outside garden space.
- 5.14 The proposed Housing Mix is therefore considered to respond positively to the local housing need in accordance with the requirements of Policy SS3 of the Plan.

### Accessible Developments, Open Space and Green Infrastructure

- Policy 'DM22' requires layouts to respond positively and be accessible to all users. Policy 'SS5' seeks for adequate provision and access to open space, and the development of the Borough's green infrastructure. Policy 'DM12' sets minimum standards on children's play space.
- 5.16 The proposed layout follows the principles of the approved Concept Masterplan which provides for excellent permeability and legibility through the development. Of note, convenient and highly visible connections are made available to the linear walk and existing Public Right of Way no. 431031. An existing permissive footpath route through the north west of the site "Old Gameriggs Way" is made a feature and

- shall be an attractive walking route through a green corridor providing connectivity to the land reserved for a primary school.
- 5.17 The road network is clearly defined in terms of road hierarchy, with main spine road continuing from Edgehill Park Phase 2 through the Site and exiting at High Road at the Western boundary. Road surface treatments include raised tables and block paving to help traffic calm and provide for a safe living environment.
- 5.18 A new road connection serving 20 no. dwellings and assimilating into Phase 3 shall be made at the Northern boundary off Edderside Drive (Magellan Park).
- 5.19 An equipped and secure children's play area is proposed in the South West part of the development that will benefit new residents from the forthcoming Phase 3 development, but also existing residents at earlier phases of Edgehill Park.
- 5.20 The proposal is considered to put forward a highly accessible and inclusive development.

### **Environmental Interests of Acknowledged Importance**

- 5.21 Policy 'ENV 1' aims to ensure that new development is located outside areas at risk from flooding and that the development does not contribute to an increased risk of flooding elsewhere. Policy 'ENV 3' requires developments to protect and enhance biodiversity interest.
- 5.22 The Reserved Matters application is submitted against the context of approved Environmental Statement. Surface water shall drain to existing SUDS pond that serves the existing and future phase development.



Figure 5 – Photograph of SUDS serving Edgehill Park existing and future phases (27/05/20)

5.23 The SUDS is sized with allowance for climate change to accommodate surface water runoff and preclude flooding on or off site.

- The SUDS has important biodiversity benefits and already attracts local wildlife. In terms of ecology mitigation from the build, the submitted Ecology Assessment (update September 2020) assesses the ecology interest, the risk posed from the development and suitable mitigation and enhancements. In this instance, the development will not directly impact upon statutory protected interests. Ecological mitigation and enhancement proposals through the landscaping scheme are designed to link into the most valuable habitats.
- 5.25 The Reserved Matters application is considered to respond to the requirements of policies ENV 1 and ENV 3.

### 6) Conclusion

- 6.1 The proposed 335 no. dwelling development has been carefully designed with preapplication input from Copeland Borough Council, so as to positively respond to the design, layout and environmental parameters as set out and approved in the Outline application.
- 6.2 The proposed development will provide continuation of Story Homes' successful Edgehill Park development and it is highly anticipated to appeal to a wide demographic of home buyers.
- 6.3 The development will help meet the Borough's commitment to new housing and will have significant associated economic benefit.
- 6.4 Land is reserved for a primary school and the development provides for suitable integration should this materialise.
- 6.5 Story Homes is committed to the completion of this development which will help act as catalyst for wider proposed new development in South Whitehaven.
- 6.6 The proposal is considered to meet the aims of Copeland Local Plan and material planning policy. There are no material considerations considered present that would indicate a decision other than approval of the Reserved Matters.