

Rebecca Mosley

From: Dr W Rees [wrees@members.shines.net]
Sent: 06 August 2006 22:03
To: Rebecca Mosley
Subject: Comments re the Sherford Area Action Plan/Dongtan eco-city China
Importance: High
Attachments: Arup and Dongtan July .06.htm; One Planet Towns.doc

Rebecca Mosley,

Firstly, congratulations on the efforts to go some way towards making the new town green/sustainable.

I think we were asked to 'help' on that aspect. I'd like to make a major suggestion for your consideration. You may know that the consultant engineers Ove Arup is involved in a hugely exciting project in China, Shanghai, called the Dongtan eco-city China. The Director of Arup who is overseeing the project is Peter Hall. The Mayor of London Ken Livingstone has been to see the project, and Peter Hall has agreed to liaise with him re a rather smaller version in the Thames Estuary area. See attached Press Release.

My proposal is that **South Hams contacts the London Development Agency and Peter Hall and requests that it becomes a Sister partner with the London initiative. There would then be two prototype towns in England, and the South Hams would be catapulted into the very forefront of this type of development.** Obviously all sorts of spin-offs can be realised, for example the manufacture of hot water solar panels (should aim for 100% not 20%) and their installation within the S Hams, thus creating many jobs of the higher technical levels which are desperately needed, and of Rain water harvesting equipment etc etc.

Concerning the second attachment, during 2004 I TWICE sent it to the Planning Department to help them inform work on planning Sherford, however unfortunately no one bothered to acknowledge it.

I've had evacuated tubes installed, linked with a wood-burnign stove, and also a Rainwater Harvesting system. It was very very difficult to find anyone to provide the equipment and install it. At the time the nearest place I could find was in Bristol. So there is great scope through the building of Sherford to train a whole generation in the manufacture and installation. There also appears to be very little understanding in the local building trade here of what 'good' insulation consists of. I am an ecologist (did the first MSc in the country in ecology) not an engineer, but if thought helpful I'd be happy to participate on some consultancy panel or suchlike as a person who has had some 'client' experience in these matters. (I have also been involved with alternative forms of energy at village level in the Developing world).

Finally, I think that it would be highly preferable to have the community open space in the north west of the site, not the south east. My reasoning is that the community space (which will be quite high density usage) would then grade/zone into the National Trust land, which seeks to be truly rural, that is to some extent farmed, and not over-run it. With this format, there would be some chance of the Trust land remaining rural and thus there being a wide range of different types of open space. (I should state that I am on the Regional Committee of the National Trust, but am NOT writing this letter with any particular linkage to that committee. I have some general understanding of these matters having worked for the Countryside Commission, as it then was, for some years). The south east side would then abut on to farmland.

As you might imagine, this has taken a few hours to put together, so it would be pleasant to have an acknowledgement.

Good wishes with your exciting project.

Wendy Rees (Dr)

15/08/2006

Press release

London looks to the East for inspiration to cut emissions

Release date: 13/04/2006

The Mayor of London today announced from Shanghai plans for a new zero carbon development in London. The development, which is likely to be situated in the Thames Gateway, will demonstrate that major developments can be designed to exemplary sustainable standards - achieving very low carbon emissions -- at standard development costs and easily replicable.

The project which stems from a proposal from Greenpeace, will be taken forward by the London Development Agency (LDA), the Mayor's regeneration and skills body. The LDA are delighted to be working with Peter Head, Director of Arup, to help design the project. Greenpeace will also be working with the London Development Agency to deliver the project, which will be up to 1000 units in size.

Peter Head is responsible for the Dongtan eco-city in China, on which the Mayor of London received a presentation today while in Shanghai.

Dongtan aims to be the world's first sustainable city - with all the buildings powered by renewable energy, self-sufficient in water and food sourced from the surrounding farmland. The 630ha first phase of the city will house up to 80,000 people by 2020 and inhabitants will be encouraged to make use of the zero-carbon public transport, which will be powered entirely by renewable-energy.

The Mayor of London Ken Livingstone said: 'Global warming was created in the west, but it is increasingly to the east to which we look for a solution. Shanghai's Dongtan sustainable-city project is breathtaking in scale and ambition and if it works it will be a beacon to the world on how to achieve a low-carbon future.'

'London's zero-emission development will demonstrate that we can also realise this kind of vision in Europe and that it is affordable and achievable to make all major new developments low-carbon. I am delighted that Arup's Peter Head has agreed to help kick-start this initiative. His experience from Dongtan will be a major boost to London's plans. I am once again pleased to be able to work with Greenpeace on this issue of major importance to London's future.'

News

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Peter Head, Director of Arup said: "Our client in China, Shanghai Industrial Investment Corp, is showing that a new paradigm of urban development that addresses environmental pollution and resource depletion can be commercially attractive and help improve quality of life. I am delighted to help demonstrate that a much more ambitious approach to sustainable development is attractive in London too."

Stephen Tindale, Executive Director of Greenpeace said: 'Once again London is leading the way in the UK and Ken Livingstone is showing what can be done when a politician has the drive to turn aspiration into action. It's high time central government took note of what is happening across the Thames.'

Notes to editors

1. The Mayor has set a target in his Energy Strategy to reduce carbon emissions in London by 20 per cent by 2010 (relative to 1990 levels) and by 60 per cent in 2050. For more information go to <http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor/environment/energy/index.jsp>

2. Dongtan is situated on the third largest island in China. British firm, Arup, have been hired by the Shanghai Industrial Investment Corporation (owned by Shanghai city government) to develop the project

3. Dongtan will be energy self-sufficient, with all its residential and commercial buildings powered by renewable energy sources. Energy will be generated on a decentralised model, using combined heat and power.

4. The first phase of development will consist of homes and offices for 20,000 people, rising to 500,000 on completion of all phases.

5. The Mayor of London and the LDA will be announcing further details of the planned London eco-city shortly. The development will be up to 1000 units in size.

6. Arup is a global firm of planners, designers, engineers and business consultants providing a diverse range of professional services to clients around the world. The firm is the creative force behind many of the world's most innovative and sustainable buildings, transport and civil engineering projects. Established 60 years ago, Arup now has 72 offices in over 30 countries and has operated in China for nearly 30 years with almost a quarter of our 7000 employees based in Hong Kong and China. We have worked on more than 300 projects in mainland China, including sports venues, hotels, offices, airports, libraries, power stations, bridges, highways and railways. We are currently designing some of the highest profile projects for the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, including the Olympic Stadium, the National Swimming Centre and the new Terminal 3 at Beijing Capital International Airport,

and the design and masterplanning of the world's first sustainable city, Dongtan near Shanghai. For more information on Arup, please visit our website at www.arup.com or contact: Sally Quigg - Group External Relations Manager Tel: +44 (0) 20 7755 2902 or email: sally.quigg@arup.com

For media enquiries please call a member of the International Team at freud communications on 020 7580 2626 or Nicola Dillon in the Mayor's Press Office on 020 7983 4755.

For out of hours media enquiries please call 020 7983 4000.

For non-media enquiries please call the Public Liaison Unit on 020 7983 4100.

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This has been sent X2 to the South Hams Planners, but no one has had the courtesy to acknowledge it.

Proposal for consideration by South Hams:

For the proposed South Hams 'new town' in the west of the district, consider getting selected for, and implementing, a 'One Planet' Living Community

Five 'One Planet' living communities* are planned by the partnership of Worldwide Fund for Nature and BioRegional.

The challenge that faces us all is how can people everywhere enjoy a high quality of life, within the carrying capacity of one planet?

This is the challenge that the WWF/BioRegional partnership's new One Planet Living seeks to meet.

The vision of One Planet Living (OPL) is:

A world in which people everywhere can lead happy, healthy lives within their fair share of the earth's resources.

Aims of the new One Planet Living programme are to:

- a.. Build a world-wide network of One Planet Living Communities to demonstrate One Planet Living in action
- b.. Establish One Planet Living Centres in each OPL community as a focus for education
- c.. Promote the imperative for One Planet Living and its guiding principles to catalyse change with governments, business and individuals.
- d.. Create a high profile, credible One Planet Living brand.

These communities will be on such a scale (for example 5,000 people) that they encompass not just homes and workspace, but also the shared infrastructure such as schools, factories, health and leisure facilities, transport and food links to show that people everywhere can live within their fair share of the earth's resources. The results will demonstrate that sustainable living is both feasible and attractive in both the developed and developing parts of the world.

The One Planet Living Communities will adopt the following guiding principles:

- 1.. Zero carbon
- 2.. Zero waste
- 3.. Sustainable transport
- 4.. Sustainable and local materials
- 5.. Local food
- 6.. Efficient water use
- 7.. Conservation of flora and fauna
- 8.. Respect for Cultural heritage
- 9.. Happy and healthy lifestyles

*The aim is to establish five One Planet Living Communities around the world on every continent in both developed and developing countries by 2009. These include:

- a.. Europe ? **UK** and Portugal
- b.. Asia ? China and India
- c.. Africa ? South Africa
- d.. Americas ? USA
- e.. Australia

<http://www.panda.org/policy/one-planet-living>
&
<http://www.bioregional.com/>

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