

ORCHARD PARK



Orchard Park, Arbury lies on the northern fringe of Cambridge inside the line of the A14 close to the Cambridge Regional College and the Science Park.

In 2000, Lands Improvement acquired the 55 acre greenfield site from J Sainsburys in a 50:50 Joint Venture with JJ Gallagher and promoted the land as a sustainable urban extension.



In 2005, an outline Planning Permission was granted for a mixed use urban extension providing 900 new homes, including a high percentage of affordable housing as well as employment opportunities, a primary school and new community facilities.

In 2006, a £13 million infrastructure contract to construct roads and install utilities within the site was let. The Joint Venture constructed the new primary school, community centre, playing fields and changing rooms, together with detailed landscaping.

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Subsequently, all the residential land was sold to Persimmon and the Joint Venture currently retain approx. 8 acres covering the mixed use, commercial and local centre elements of the development.

In 2009, part of the retained land was recommended as a site allocation for residential development and consent for two hotel sites has been obtained for a Premier Inn and Travelodge. One hotel has now been built and the second is under construction.

The new Cambridge Guided Busway is due to open in 2011. The busway runs along the southern boundary of the site.

The Joint Venture built Orchard Park Primary School, which opened in September 2007 and aims to be the first school in Cambridgeshire to achieve eco-school status. The school's gates (pictured right) were designed by artist Adam Booth as part of the development's Public Art Programme.

The site is expected to be fully built out by 2013. Planning applications for residentially led development of the residual holding will be progressed in 2011.

