

ChapeltonNews

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Introduction

by The Earl of Southesk



Welcome to the first issue of ChapeltonNews of 2014. The year ahead promises to be an exciting one for us as the development of Chapelton, Scotland's largest planned town, continues apace.



Much has been happening on-site since our last update and we can now see the outline of the first roads and squares beginning to emerge before us.

Locally-based, family-run civil engineering contractors W M Donald are well underway with infrastructure works to support the first 256 homes. This phase of work includes the construction of a roundabout to enable vehicle and pedestrian access to the development off the slip road at Newtonhill. The roundabout will link in to the existing roads; namely the route to Newtonhill eastwards across the A90 and the existing Cookney road towards the west.

As we move towards construction, we also bring you an introduction to the three housebuilders appointed to design and build Chapelton's homes: ZeroC Holdings, AJC Homes and A & J Stephen Ltd. They will start to deliver the first homes from spring this year and we will keep you up to date with progress in our next newsletter.

We also introduce Gavin Murray who is the chief architect involved with Chapelton and has worked closely with our masterplanners Duany Plater-Zyberk & Company (DPZ) and Turnberry Consultants for over four years.

We are excited about our new video which explains what we hope to achieve and about how the new community will emerge. To see this vision brought to life you can now view our animation online at: www.chapeltonofelsick.com/gallery

We very much hope you will enjoy reading ChapeltonNews.

Meet the Chapelton housebuilders



Elsick Development Company is working with three renowned house building firms who are responsible for delivering a range of house types for the first phase of the town. AJC Homes, A & J Stephen Ltd and ZeroC Holdings will build the first 256 homes at Chapelton, with work due to start on-site this spring.



AJC Homes

An Aberdeenshire based housebuilder and building contractor, AJC's company ethos has always been to focus on quality and make every house they build a homely and functional abode. They combine the best of traditional values with modern methods, with particular focus on space, high specification interiors and sympathetic external architecture.

"We are proud to be involved in building Chapelton and helping to turn the exciting new town vision into reality.

"Other projects we are currently involved in include Castlepark in Aboyne, where a wide range of granite-fronted house types with open plan family orientated interiors are being built. A visit to our show home there offers the opportunity to learn more about the quality of homes we will be offering at Chapelton.

"We have just completed a flatted development on the site of the old police station at 124 North Deeside Road. Comprising

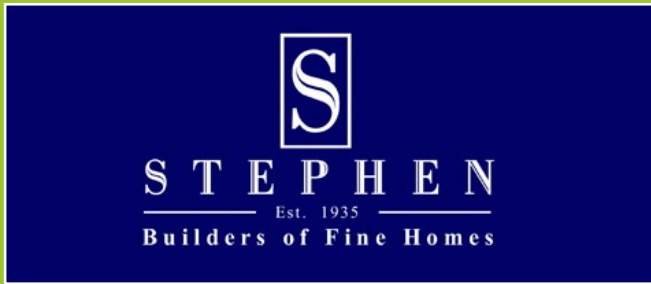


predominately of extensive two-bedroom properties, the buildings feature a striking exterior and large windows providing plenty of light to the interiors.

"We are also starting the second phase of family homes at Gauchhill in Kintore, having completed the first phase of 24 homes in 2012. This next phase includes 18 houses which will be built over the next two years."

Alistair Aboyne, Managing Director

www.ajcscotland.com



A & J Stephen Ltd

Perth-based Stephen enjoys an outstanding and deserved reputation for design excellence, quality craftsmanship and outstanding service.

With over 75 years' experience, the family firm's philosophy has remained unchanged since its inception in 1935: insistence on the highest standards.

"Our hallmark is obvious in every home we build, particularly within our flagship development at Clathymore, near Gleneagles, where an award-winning collection of the highest quality, traditionally styled country homes are being created in Perthshire, one of Scotland's most beautiful settings.

"Meanwhile, a selection of stunning homes, inspired by a similar Scottish vernacular style which will be replicated at Chapelton

of Elsick, is nearing completion at our popular development at Lagreach, Pitlochry.

"A short drive from Chapelton, our Bearehill development in Brechin is yet another superb example of great craftsmanship, to be demonstrated by a brand new show home to be unveiled in February.

"We also enjoy a well-earned reputation for both on-site and behind-the-scenes client care, with an impressive collection of awards. Indeed, the firm won, for the third year in a row, the Scottish NHBC Pride in the Job award which is recognised throughout industry as the benchmark award for quality."

John Stephen, Managing Director

www.stephen.co.uk



ZeroC

ZeroC is energy and carbon conscious, and has been building design-led low carbon homes and commercial buildings for more than ten years. Their portfolio of developments reflects the company's ability to deliver an impressive range of styles, designs and specifications, from traditional

architecture to cutting-edge contemporary design.

"Our homes demonstrate enviable space standards that respect the buyer. For example, our three-bedroom houses are generally the size of a volume house builder's four-bedroom house.

"We are resourced to deliver in excess of 200 homes a year and have consents, or are subject to planning options, for over 1,500 homes and commercial buildings. Recent projects have included the athlete's village in Weymouth for the 2012 Olympics, a 252 home development in Chichester, and many



buildings on the much acclaimed Prince Charles development of Poundbury in Dorchester.

"The industry recognises ZeroC as respected pioneers in sustainable development. We lead the way in delivering outstanding design-led homes that are environmentally and economically effective. We are delighted this has been both recognised and celebrated through a number of significant awards and accolades."

Kim Slowe, Managing Director

www.zeroholdings.co.uk

Having your say

You can find the latest news and share your views on Chapelton via our Facebook page and website:

www.chapeltonofelsick.com



www.facebook.com/chapeltonofelsick

In the meantime if you have questions you would like us to answer, please get in touch at info@chapeltonofelsick.com. We will respond directly and print some of the answers in upcoming issues. People and their views are at the heart of the community.

Meet the team

Gavin Murray – Brooks / Murray Architects



What inspired your designs for Chapelton?

It is important Chapelton sits comfortably in the Aberdeenshire landscape, so we have drawn heavily from the best precedents set by a number of neighbouring historic towns and villages, including Stonehaven and Banchory. The casual observer, hopefully, will recognise the width of the streets and public spaces, as well as the proportion and detailing of the buildings and landscaping.

What do you believe makes a good community?

The future residents of Chapelton will be the primary reason it becomes a successful community. As architects we can only help by providing a built environment that is compact, walkable, mixed use and safe. With shops, parks and schools there will be ample opportunity for people to meet and interact whether it be on business or socially.

Which design are you most proud of?

Although I am happy with all the proposed buildings at Cairnhill, I am most proud of the effort and care taken to ensure each property has some unique quality. It may be a panoramic view across to the Grampians, or, for the smaller properties, access onto a central square or larger south facing garden. Each property has something that makes it special.

What's your favourite building?

In Chapelton it will be the first building completed. In the world, probably the Rockefeller Centre in New York for the views and cocktails - and Harry's Bar in Venice probably for the same reasons. Buildings can imbue various emotions, but it is the people you are with at the time that help make them memorable.

Brooks Murray Architects were appointed to assist with the design of Chapelton from its inception and first Charrette in 2010. As a general practice they have worked extensively on historic buildings and residential projects throughout the UK and further afield over the last 20 years.

As principal, Gavin Murray was appointed to develop and co-ordinate the first neighbourhood of Cairnhill, which was approved on October 2013. He has subsequently been appointed as town architect to oversee the construction of the first phase, which is now beginning on-site.

What's your favourite Scottish place?

Having lived in Aberdeen and Auchattie, I have split loyalties. It was wonderful living in a smaller rural community where there is a sense of peace and tranquillity. However Aberdeen was a great city to grow up in.

What is your favourite feature within your own home?

My family and I appreciate the thick walls and doors so I can see, but don't have to always hear them. I do love its location with views across the valley providing a constant reminder of the changing seasons.

How do you hope to leave your mark on the design world?

As an architect it is important to listen really carefully to clients' individual requirements and aspirations. We try to interpret them to provide a successfully completed project they are happy and proud to live and work in. It must also stand the test of time to be enjoyed by future generations. At Chapelton we are aiming to achieve this for all 1,700 families moving to Cairnhill.

How would you describe the homes you design?

Desirable, comfortable and affordable.

How do you relax?

I don't seem to have a lot of time to relax, but when I do it usually involves reading and red wine.

Next issue:

BT Fibre to Home

Visitor Centre Opens

House Type Launch Event

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