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The University of Manchester

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Campus Masterplan update

Ardwick residents came to find out more about the University's plans for the campus this month at a neighbourhood event organised by the University's Capital Projects Team.

Ardwick Neighbourhood Event

The successful event held at Medlock Primary School saw children take part in some hands-on fun activities with our scientists, while parents and other local residents were able to discover more about some of the new campus developments happening on their doorstep including Brunswick Park, the Manchester Engineering Campus Development, the Henry Royce Institute and Schuster.

Staff from The Works, the University's employment and skills partnership, were on hand with information about training and job opportunities on campus. The social responsibility and environmental sustainability teams also answered questions about their areas of work.

Paul Maccabee, Deputy Head of Capital Projects, said: "There are a number of major capital projects happening along the Upper Brook Street corridor and, working with our construction partners, we are keen to engage with the local community who are close to these sites, and keep them informed about what's happening.

"The event was aimed at raising awareness about some of our major capital projects among local residents and our commitment to social responsibility including employment and environmental sustainability. We were very pleased with the response to this first event and plan to build on this activity as our developments progress."

Dr Julian Skyrme, Director of Social Responsibility, said: "A significant part of our capital development is in the ward of Ardwick. This successful event is part of a wider programme of engagement with neighbouring residents there, including projects on sustainability, employment, student volunteering, research in Humanities, and links with local primary schools."

Schuster Annexe

An official ground breaking at the site of the Schuster annexe building took place in October. Attended by the President and Vice-Chancellor Nancy Rothwell and Estates staff involved in the project as well as staff and students from the School of Physics and Astronomy.

The Schuster Annexe was the result of a successful bid to HEFCE in 2015 for £5m to construct a building to support an expansion of STEM students at the University of Manchester. The building includes flexible teaching and collaboration space on the ground floor - called the Ideas Mill. This will support active learning, public engagement, careers events, and industry collaboration events.

The next two floors are first year undergraduate laboratories to support an increased Physics and Astronomy cohort and also Foundation Year students. The third floor is a space for up to 12 academic staff with their undergraduate project students, postgraduate students and postdoctoral staff. The building will be completed in October 2017, and ready for use by the 2017/18 students from January 2018.

SKA2 HQ

The new SKA Global Headquarters at Jodrell Bank – an extension of the current facilities to house more staff as the project ramps up – received planning approval in the summer.

Cheshire East Council approved the application for the erection of new single storey research and administration building and associated landscape, car parking and road works connecting to the existing building. The proposed design takes inspiration from the radio waves that are at the heart of the SKA's work, while embracing its natural environment.

Early works are due to start in early 2017, and construction is expected to last around 12 months. When completed, the building will be able to hold up to 135 staff, providing research and office space as well as catering facilities for the organisation that will supervise the international effort to build and operate the world's largest radio telescope.

Professor Stephen Watts, Head of the School of Physics and Astronomy, said: " We were delighted when the decision to host the SKA Headquarters at Jodrell Bank was made in 2015. Our astronomers and engineers are playing a significant role in this revolutionary new telescope, and obtaining planning permission for the new building is a key milestone - we very much look forward to seeing the development move forward over the next year."

The project is funded by the UK Government's Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy and the University, with contributions from Cheshire East Council.

Royal Visit

During a royal visit to the city in October, The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge visited two campus masterplan developments.

They toured the National Graphene Institute (NGI) and continued on to the site of the Manchester Engineering Campus Development (MECD). Due to open in 2020, MECD is one of the single largest construction projects ever undertaken by a higher education institution in the United Kingdom.

Speaking during the visit, Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell said: "MECD will create a world-leading teaching, learning and research campus to develop the engineers, scientists and innovators of tomorrow.

"It is an honour to be joined by Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge as we mark the commencement of the next milestone in the University's campus masterplan."

MECD, which is under construction by Balfour Beatty, will be home to four engineering schools and two research institutes, comprising 1,300 staff and 7,000 students.

Whilst on site The Duke and Duchess sealed a time capsule which will be displayed within the building once construction is completed. They also unveiled a commemorative plaque to mark the occasion.

Professor Martin Schröder said: "Over the past one hundred years the University has celebrated many achievements in science and engineering. Graphene is just one of the many landmark achievements in innovative research by this University, with many more yet to come thanks to developments like MECD."

Message from the Director of Estates and Facilities

We are at a key point in the delivery of the Campus Masterplan where there is a lot of construction work underway simultaneously across several sites. A focus of this is around Brunswick Street which is now closed until the completion of the Schuster Annexe. This will also facilitate work on the Chemistry building refurbishment and on Brunswick Park which is scheduled to start next year.

The site around the Alliance Manchester Business School is also a hive of activity with both the redevelopment of the existing school and a hotel and adjoining executive education centre now making its mark on the campus skyline as it reaches full height. This will be the next major capital development to be completed towards the end of 2017 followed by the Graphene Engineering Innovation Centre (GEIC).

We ask staff and students to bear with us during this period while the campus undergoes a major transformation and we will keep you posted about our progress through this newsletter, StaffNet and other channels.

Diana Hampson

Pitch perfect

Six new full-size, all-weather sports pitches will be ready for use after the Christmas break following major investment in facilities at the Armitage Sports Centre.

This will create some of the best sports facilities in UK higher education, accessible to students, staff and the wider community.

The plans for four artificial, all-weather pitches to replace some of the existing grass pitches include one rubber crumb rugby and one rubber crumb football pitch. There are also two sand dressed hockey pitches funded by Manchester City Council, Sport England and England Hockey, which will secure the re-provision of vitally important hockey pitches in the city. Three new artificial turf cricket wickets with nets will also be provided.

Head of Sport and Active Lifestyles at The University of Manchester, Vicky Foster-Lloyd, said:"The University is proud of its sporting heritage and provision and is committed to upgrading its facilities for the benefit of all groups. With six full-size, all weather pitches Manchester can boast the greatest provision of any University in the country. These new facilities will allow greater use by staff, students and the wider community enabling us to develop and create strong sporting partnerships across the city and beyond."

Civic Pride

Manchester Museum, The Whitworth and the planned Brunswick Park have been named as some of the best examples of the city's built environment.

Last this year, user-inspired civic movement Manchester Shield ran the first people's vote on the best and worst of Manchester built and proposed since the millennium.

The University featured in four categories:

Best Built Design
Winner: The Whitworth Extension

Best Proposed Public Realm
Winner: Brunswick Park

Best Proposal
Silver: Manchester Museum

Best Heritage Proposal
Bronze: The Whitworth

Manchester Shield seeks to empower citizens in Manchester by promoting their collaboration in a better built environment and city.

/Manchester Shield

@mcrshield

Royce Revealed

This is the first look at the £150m Manchester Building of the Henry Royce Institute – the UK's leading centre for advanced materials research and commercialisation.

Located at the heart of the University of Manchester's Engineering Campus, the 16,000 square metre building will house world-leading materials scientists, state-of-the-art equipment and collaborative space for industrial and academic engagement.

Set to open in 2019, it is believed that, at 46 metres high, the Royce building will be the tallest on The University of Manchester campus.

It will be located next to the Alan Turing Building on Upper Brook Street, in close proximity to the Schools of Physics and Chemistry, as well as the £61m National Graphene Institute (NGI) and the £350m Manchester Engineering Campus Development (MECD), which is currently under construction.

The £235m Royce Institute is a hub and spoke model, with the hub at The University of Manchester and spokes at the founding partners: the universities of Sheffield, Leeds, Liverpool, Cambridge, Oxford and Imperial College London, as well as the Culham Centre for Fusion Energy (CCFE) and the National Nuclear Laboratory (NNL).

The Royce will enable the UK to grow its world-leading research and innovation base in advanced materials technology that underpins all industrial sectors.

Research and industrial collaboration at The Royce is initially focussed on nine core areas, with this University championing four of these; Two-dimensional Materials, Materials for Demanding Environments, Nuclear Materials and Biomedical Systems and Devices. The nine-storey building, designed by architects NBBJ, will contain state of the art equipment supporting these four core areas.

The building design is intended to allow 'Science on Show' – areas of the building visible to engage people outside – while also providing closed, confidential spaces for commercially sensitive research.

Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell, President and Vice-Chancellor said: "The Henry Royce Institute building will be a stunning addition to The University of Manchester campus, and will become a focal point for the UK's research and commercialisation in advanced materials."

Diana Hampson, Director of Estates and Facilities at the University, said: "This is one of our major capital projects and forms an important part of our vision for the campus and will benefit from its location, close to the NGI and GEIC."

For more information visit **www.royce.ac.uk**

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