



DARTFORD Weekly Newspaper of the Year MESSENGER

EDF ENERGY REGIONAL MEDIA AWARDS 2009

A KM GROUP NEWSPAPER

www.dartfordmessenger.co.uk

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2010 60p

INSIDE



Win tickets to see X-Factor's Diva Fever



Win return Monarch flights to Majorca

PLUS

Win tickets to Masterchef Live

FREE

Spring bulbs for every reader

All in your What's On TV and leisure magazine

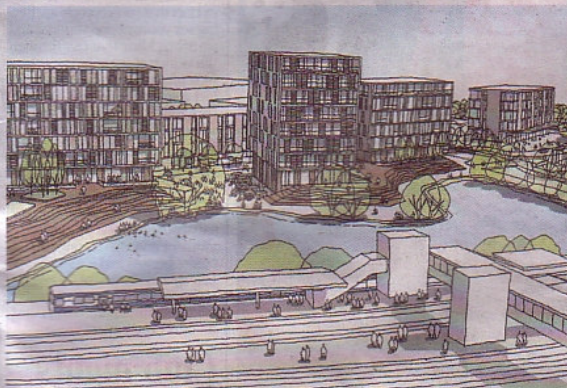


WIN £500 OF ScS FURNITURE



TURN TO PAGE 52 FOR FULL DETAILS

First view of how old pharmaceutical factory site could look



Artist's impression of plans for The Mill Pond at the old GlaxoSmithKline site, Dartford, and, right, how it looks now

Picture: Nick Johnson PD1772809

Chemical reaction

by Simon Tulett
stulett@thekmgroupp.co.uk

THIS is how land once owned by pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline could look under plans to turn it into a vibrant water-side community.

Developers have released this image to showcase their proposals to replace the derelict factory buildings off Mill Pond Road with new shops, offices, restaurants and up to 1,050 homes.

Plans for the land also include new parks and open spaces, as well as improved road, cycling and walking links to the railway station and town centre.

Essential Land manages the 17.5-acre

site, which was bought by clients of investors Delancey for £13 million in April.

Approval has already been granted for decontamination specialists to clear the land of potentially harmful chemicals – a legacy from the site's industrial past.

And now the company is asking the borough's residents and businesses to have their say on what the area could look like in the future.

Flyers have been sent to homes inviting people to attend a series of three public

exhibitions displaying the proposals. The consultation is also taking place on the internet, using social networking sites Facebook and Twitter to start discussions, surveys and polls.

Martin Bellinger, partner at Essential Land, hopes the web will encourage youngsters and busy professionals to take part.

He said: "We are pleased to announce our consultation for these important

Continued on page 3



August

Plans to transform derelict site

■ From front page

sites and are looking forward to hearing from local people."

The first consultation is being held today (Thursday) in the Orchards Shopping Centre between 10am and 6pm.

Feedback is again being sought tomorrow (Friday) at Temple Hill Community Centre, in Temple Hill Square, from 3pm to 8pm, with another exhibition being held at the same venue on Saturday between 10am and 4pm.

To take part in the online consultation visit www.facebook.com or twitter.com and search for RegenDartford.

Plans for the Mill Pond site are part of a wider project to redevelop a larger swathe of land between Burnham Road and Bob Dunn Way, dubbed the Northern Gateway, which will be empty when GSK moves out of the town for good in 2013.

Dartford Paper Mill, owned by Arjo Wiggins, also sits within the redevelopment area, but has already closed.

■ Let us know what you think of the plans. Email dartfordmessenger@thekmgroup.co.uk or write to us at 7 High Street, Gravesend, DA11 0BQ.

Kent Business



The latest news

KentOnline.co.uk