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Conference or Workshop Item

**Title:** Building sustainable communities from new: where are we going?

**Creators:** Field, M.


**Version:** Presented version

[http://nectar.northampton.ac.uk/5244/](http://nectar.northampton.ac.uk/5244/)
“Building sustainable communities from new : where are we going?”

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For consideration....

- Planning new communities
- Continental inspirations
- UK examples
- Research findings, ESRC
- Obstacles in the UK
- New frameworks
- Concluding remarks
Continental inspirations

- Design
- Deliverability
- Sustainability standards
- Innovative partnerships
- Governance
- Community
- Creative difference

*Hammarby Sjostad Masterplan, 2003*
UK examples?: Poundbury
UK examples ? : Accordia
UK examples ? : Upton
‘Tensions & Prospects’
: ESRC research

- What now for sustainable housing growth?
- MKSM policy & practice in case study area
- 50%+ of new housing in ‘sustainable extensions’
- Sustainability checklists
- Reduced delivery
- Reduced standards
- Leadership vacuum
Obstacles to UK community-building ..... 

- UK development mainstream more short-term focused
- ‘Gladiatorial’ approach to development
- Inconsistent support from central government
- A limit to philanthropic/enlightened land-owners
- Fixation on house values, not neighbourhood values
Other challenges

- UK housebuilding monopolies
- Inconsistent design and partnership expertise
- Limited readiness to share long-term stakes
- Limited roles for community stakeholders
- Variations inside the UK
- Reluctance to front load infrastructure costs
- Restrictions on financial resources
Does the future mirror the past?

- Garden Cities
- .....New Towns
- ..........SUEs
- ............Ecotowns
- ..............Garden Cities
- SUNN or different?
Suggestions

- Using CPOs (or other orders) to secure land
- New obligations for the financial sector
- Adopt stronger ‘community rights’
- Scaling up ‘mutual’ and non-speculative approaches
- ‘Good neighbourhood’ codes and benchmarks
Modular futures

- Maximise ‘modular’ site development and mix
- Integrating: design / water strategies / waste management / energy
- 50 units / 250 units
- Community leadership and governance

Integrated Sustainable Design Solutions for Modular Neighbourhoods

Developer Guidelines

November 2010
Concluding remarks......

- Honesty required about UK limitations
- Need for long-term focus to new partnerships
- Providing quality can address local scepticism
- Building communities: one neighbourhood at a time
References

Tensions and Future Prospects for Sustainable Housing Growth
http://www.open.ac.uk/researchprojects/tensionsandprospects

Sustainable Urban Neighbourhood Network (SUNN)

Mutual Housing Sector Group
http://mutualhousinggroup.coop/contacts.html

Integrated Sustainable Design Solutions for Modular Neighbourhoods – Developer Guidelines
Google / search (www.northampton.ac.uk/....)