## Press Release 115



## Cherwell District Council must WAKE UP!!!

Headlines in the papers today scream "...build more houses on a third more land". Today just 9% of UK is built on, add 3% and we solve the housing crisis and boost employment. That sound eminently reasonable.

House building in Banbury is very poor and slow. Even though the Bankside I site for 1092 houses has been approved by Cherwell District Council for nearly 4 years, nothing has been built.

## **Build for people**

Planning Minister Nick Bowles says, "...we don't want big ugly development, everyone wants a proper home with a bit of ground to bring the family up in". Which means not forcing 3 bedroom houses into 80m2, providing only one parking place and little or no open space, typical of all developer proposals we have seen recently.

## **Build more houses**

HFDAG fully supports building the right homes, in the right place. The Bankside I approved site and the Canalside development could provide Banbury with over 2000 new homes, and excellent design could make this the envy of Oxfordshire.

CDC must wake up and get these projects moving, if not then developers will go direct to the Planning Inspectorate for approval for their "little boxes", and local communities will have little say in the matter.

Wouldn't you love to live here? This is Milano Due development just outside Milan Italy.



High efficiency apartments, open spaces, cars away from pedestrians, schools, shops and cafes. A place for living and growing.

Cherwell District Council must set a new simple target to have at least 1000 beautiful homes built in the next 5 years.

CDC must immediately start working hard to make the government promised financing available to both local builders and people to ensure that well designed building goes ahead. They must stop their focus on writing useless 300 page Local Plans which just name more and more green field sites around Banbury for development - a policy which only encourages developer financial speculation but does not get houses built.