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Location

Discussions are taking place to site the ice rink at Cambourne, our preferred location. Cambourne is a new village located approximately 13km to the west of Cambridge City Centre.



Cambourne is a purpose built new settlement in the countryside that aims to cater for some of the high demand for new homes within the Cambridge area as well as providing a location for many new businesses.

Discussions with the Cambourne Consortium and the planning authority (South Cambridgeshire District Council) have established that both the developers and the local council are highly supportive of an ice rink.

Early negotiations with the Cambourne Consortium have identified a mutual interest in providing the ice rink at the earliest opportunity.

The Cambourne location represents a good example of mutual interest acting to common advantage i.e. of developers, local authorities, the Ice Sports Group and local people. Cambourne is a high profile location midway between the two principle roads in the region (the A1 and M11 motorway). It is within a short drive of Cambridge, and there are rapidly improving transport links from Cambridge to Cambourne and other surrounding towns. Cambourne has a growing population that will be within walking and cycling distance of the ice rink which will be at the heart of local sports provision.

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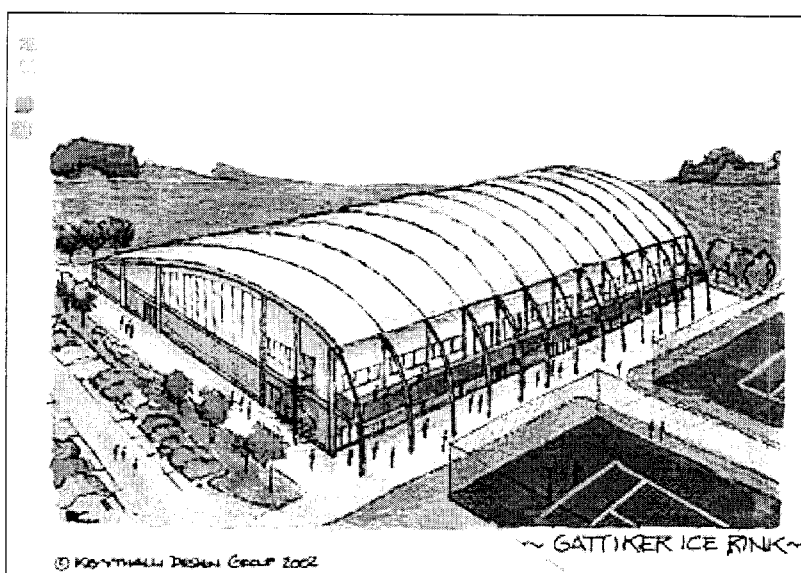
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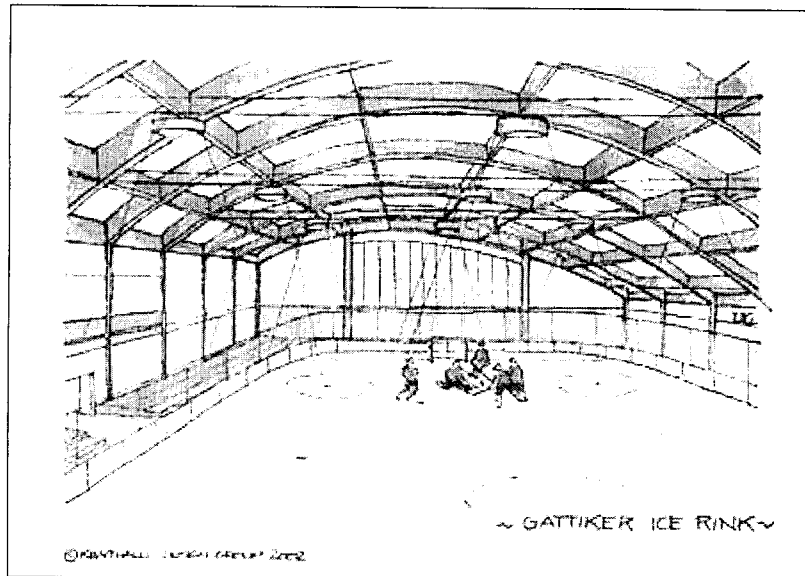
Cambridgeshire ice rink & curling facility

Welcome to the Cambridgeshire ice rink web page. In local leisure surveys, an ice rink for the Cambridge area has always featured as one of the top choices. Ice sports provide a great source of fun entertainment and the Cambridge City Council has specified a rink as a top priority in its current leisure plan and will support any viable plan to make this rink a reality.



The Cambridgeshire Ice Rink will host a variety of ice sports including ice hockey, figure skating, ice dancing, speed skating, public skating, disco skating. **The facility would also house specialised lanes for curling – the only dedicated sheets in England!** English curlers from around the country, who now sign up for trips to Scotland in order to practice their sport, are enthusiastically supporting this project.

Curling ice is kept at a different temperature to other ice, is made with de-ionised water with droplets splashed on the top to create the little bumps the stones move over. The same ice cannot be used for hockey or skating. The Cambridgeshire Ice Rink will house three dedicated curling sheets.



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Fundraising

In 1993 David Gattiker, a Cambridge University Ice Hockey alumnus and a war hero, left approximately one million pounds "to be used in building an ice hockey rink". Cambridge University invested this money and the Gattiker Ice Rink fund now stands, eight years later, at approximately £1.5M.



A further £1.5M is required to get the ice rink up and running and this money we plan to raise from sporting foundations, trusts, sponsorship by local companies and further support from alumni and friends of the CU Ice Hockey Team.

Please contact Imogen Holbrook on +44 1223 332368 or ih215@cam.ac.uk if you would like further information.



From left to right: Sir Alec Broers, VP Cambridge University, Professor Bill Harris, CU Ice Hockey Coach and ex Canadian High Commissioner The Honourable Roy MacLaren showcasing a model of the icerink.

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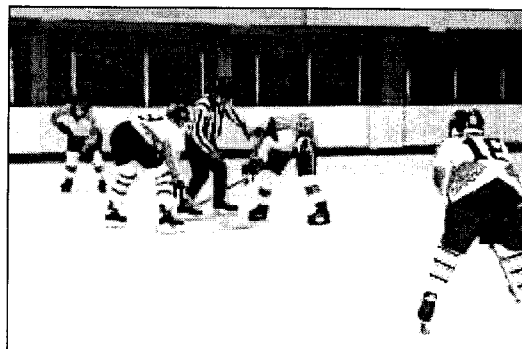
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Community involvement

The ice rink is to be a Cambridgeshire community facility, available for anyone to use. The Cambridge University Ice Hockey team will use the rink for training purposes, Curling teams across the country will travel to the rink to use the dedicated curling sheets.



Schools and colleges across the county will be able to include ice sports as part of their curriculum and of course members of the public will be able to turn up to pay-and-play.

We would be very pleased to hear from community sports groups who would like to use the ice for training purposes or for matches.

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