

Press Release 12th January 2009

Sturgess Fields Planning Appeal Decision

It is with great pleasure that we are able to let you know the result of last October's Public Inquiry regarding the University of Derby's appeal against the City Council's refusal to allow them to build a road over Sturgess Field and that result is that there will be NO ROAD!!

When we heard the news your committee was beside themselves with joy!! It has been a long hard journey since the initial planning application was made but the tremendous support from our membership and other local groups and residents has made this result possible. A number of different interest groups have pulled together to achieve a positive move towards retaining this important green open space as part of the City's Green Wedge policy. Derby's green space is one of the aspects of the city that make it such a pleasant place in which to work and play.

We owe thanks to all of the ward councillors for responding so positively to the hundreds of letters they received from their electorate, but especially to Councillor Ray Baxter who represented the City Council so well at the Public Inquiry. Sustrans also put forward a strong case at the enquiry for enhancing the existing footpath and cycle path network, the Sturgess Fields group marshalled much of the public support and Derby Heart also made a valuable contribution.

There will be an evening of celebration as soon as we can get one organised, so watch this space for more details.

An e-mail copy of the Inspector's decision can be obtained by contacting mail@markeatonbrook.net