

The College of Arts, Humanities & Law and the College of Social Sciences at the University of Leicester, in collaboration with East Midlands Universities Association

“Transitions: Leicester and the New Urbanism – Two Case Studies” – A discussion with Nick Ebbs (Blueprint) and Julian Marsh (Marsh:Grochowski Architects)



Wednesday 14th October, 5.30pm, Attenborough Building (Film Theatre), University of Leicester, with a reception afterwards in the Senior Common Room, Level 5, Charles Wilson Building.

To what extent do current developments in Leicester constitute an aspect of the new urbanism, and what are the issues and dilemmas that face the city when growth is anticipated but sustainable growth is expected? What role can inner city re-developments play in squaring the circle? Nick Ebbs, CEO of Blueprint, and Julian Marsh of Marsh:Grochowski Architects will engage in some “horizon scanning” by debating the Waterside and St. George’s re-developments. Julian Marsh is the architect, and Nick Ebbs’ Blueprint is the developer, of the Digital Media Centre in the St. George’s area.

Marsh:Grochowski’s landmark projects include: Hart’s Hotel, Nottingham, The Lakeside Pavilion at Nottingham University, Nottingham Playhouse Square and the recently completed Phoenix Square in Leicester. The firm places great emphasis on sustainability through design and sensitivity to place. Among some thirty awards and commendations are the East Midlands RIBA awards for The Icon, and Alan Simpson MP’s Low Energy House, the RIBA Award for House on Rutland Water, and the Civic Trust Award for the D. H. Lawrence Building. Julian Marsh is Visiting Professor at Nottingham Trent University. Julian.marsh@arcontext.com

Blueprint is an award-winning property developer, focused on socially responsible investment, development and regeneration. Among its awards are Property Week’s Developer of the Year, and the East Midlands Property Award and Constructing Excellence’s Project of the Year, both for the Nottingham Science Park. Nick Ebbs was formerly a senior partner with Innes England, and is Special Professor at the University of Nottingham. Nick.ebbs@blueprint.gb.net

This is the first of a series of lectures at East Midlands Universities over the next two years that will address “city and country” in regional, national and international contexts. The University of Leicester’s contribution to the series continues on March 24th, with Franco Bianchini (LSE), author of *The Creative City*, who will offer European comparisons with Leicester and other UK cities; and, on 5th May, with Adrian Jones (emda), who will re-cast urban-rural relations in the context of the regional plan.