



Dear Resident

I write to inform you that the University of Oxford was recently granted planning permission by Oxford City Council for two of the most significant buildings on the Radcliffe Observatory Quarter (ROQ).

The new buildings – a Mathematical Institute Building and a Humanities Building including a Library – will provide research and teaching facilities that will greatly benefit our academics and students.



Humanities Building and Library

The new Humanities Building including Library will form the centrepiece of the ROQ development. The first phase of this particular project will bring together four faculties – English, History, Theology and Philosophy – and provide state-of-the-art library, teaching and research facilities.

The Mathematical Institute Building will be the main workplace for more than 500 academics and support staff, as well as the centre of academic life for approximately 1,000 undergraduates. The building will accommodate the growing population of the Mathematical Institute, who currently work in three separate locations around the city. The modern design will respect and enhance the setting of the adjoining historic buildings.



Mathematical Institute Building

The earliest that construction could begin on these two building projects is 2011.

The designs provide new avenues through the site between Walton Street and Woodstock Road which local residents will be able to use.

Other developments on the ROQ site have already been granted planning permission. This includes the refurbishment of the Grade II* 18th century Radcliffe Infirmary building and St Luke's Chapel; the remodelling and refurbishment of the Grade II former Outpatients' building; and a new east/west link for pedestrians and cyclists, connecting Walton Street with Woodstock Road and available for the public to use.

Planning approval was also received in September 2009 for new student accommodation at Somerville College, along the wall that the College shares with the ROQ site. Enabling work started in April, and construction will start in July.

The ROQ is one of the biggest development projects the University has undertaken for more than a century.

For more information please visit www.ox.ac.uk/roq

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at community@admin.ox.ac.uk

Yours faithfully



Professor Anthony P Monaco

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Planning and Resources)

