



Dick Longdin

BSc (Hons.) MA FLI

PARTNER



Landscape Architecture
Landscape Assessment
Masterplanning
Expert Witness
Urban Design

Details

QUALIFICATIONS

Fellow of the Landscape Institute (2012)

Chartered Member of the Landscape Institute (1992)

MA Landscape Architecture (1988) University of Sheffield

BSc (Hons) Landscape Design and Plant Science (1986)

KEY SKILLS

Large scale masterplanning

Urban design

Landscape planning

Landscape Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)

Green infrastructure

Presentations and public consultation

Expert witness work

YEARS WITH RANDALL THORP

From 1989

Partner since 1996

Responsibilities

Dick is a Fellow of the Landscape Institute and has been a partner at Randall Thorp since 1996. His specialties within the Practice include: urban design, masterplanning, green infrastructure, landscape planning and expert witness work.

Dick has been responsible for the preparation of a range of successful schemes including masterplanning residential-led projects from 10 to 10,000 homes and landscape planning for new communities. His work has won design awards and been cited as best practice by Natural England, The County Wildlife Trusts, The Landscape Institute and national planning guidance.

Experience

Since 1989 Dick has been closely involved with Randall Thorp's award winning work at Cambourne new settlement. He contributed to the original 3,300 home masterplan, prepared by Sir Terry Farrell and wrote all landscape sections of the original Design Guide. In 2000 he became masterplan consultant for the scheme, working closely with the developers and Local Authority. Between 2012 and 2019 he successfully led the design team on the masterplan, outline planning application and Design Code for Cambourne West, the 2,300 home extension to the original masterplan.

Dick's ongoing work at Cambourne and the opportunity it has given him to see how design principles and ideas translate into schemes on the ground has given him a unique expertise that he is now able to share with others. These skills mean he has contributed to a wide variety of successful residential schemes around the UK, at all scales and for a variety of private and public clients.

Dick was made a Fellow of the Landscape Institute in 2012 in recognition of his pioneering work at Cambourne and contribution to the profession with regard to residential masterplanning. Dick maintains strong links with education, being a visiting lecturer and external examiner at Sheffield University and Birmingham City University, a visiting lecturer at Manchester, Birmingham and Leeds Beckett Universities. He is a professional practice examiner for the Landscape Institute, a speaker at national and transnational conferences and contributor to a variety of Landscape Institute publications. Dick is an experienced landscape witness at planning appeals, having successfully prepared and presented evidence for both developers and Local Planning Authorities.

Professional Activities

Dick is an active member of the Landscape Institute, including being part of the Equality, Diversity & Inclusion working group (2018 -); National Housing sub-group (2013); an oral examiner for professional exams (2002 - 2003); Pathway to Chartership Supervisor (2006 - 2011) and LI Awards judge (2010, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023).

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Key Projects:

Stakehill Garden Village, Rochdale (2022 - 2024)

Redrow Homes

Partner leading the landscape design and preparation of Design Code for this 1,380 home garden village for a swathe of land south of Junction 20 of the M62 at Stakehill, Rochdale.

Hale Gate Road, Widnes (2021 - 2024)

Harworth Developments

Partner leading the design and LVIA of a 500 home development including up to 100 senior living residences, a primary school, and local centre on the edge of the Green Belt. Approval by planning committee January 2024. Randall Thorp prepared the Illustrative Masterplan, Design and Access Statement and undertook the LVIA for the application.

Thornhills Garden Suburb, Calderdale (2019 - 2021)

Bellway Homes

Partner leading the design and LVIA of this garden suburb at Brighouse, comprising: 1,998 new homes; a 2 form primary school; local centre including shops, health centre and community centre; public open space and engineering infrastructure. Working closely with developer and local planning authority to create vision and masterplan document to support local plan EIP.

Woodhouse Garden Suburb, Calderdale (2019 - 2021)

Redrow Homes

Partner leading the design and LVIA of this garden suburb at Brighouse, comprising: 1,257 new homes; a 2 form primary school; local centre including shops, health centre and community centre; public open space and engineering infrastructure. Working closely with developer and local planning authority to create vision and masterplan document to support local plan EIP.

Cambourne West Design Code (2017 - 2019)

The Cambourne Consortium

Lead consultant producing detailed 100 page Design Code for 2,350 home mixed-use urban extension. The Code covers all aspects of place making, including character; community; connectivity; and climate. Leading multidisciplinary team on behalf of the developer, working with the LPA urban design team, County Highways and local community.

Cambourne West Masterplan (2012 - 2018)

The Cambourne Consortium

Lead designer for this 2,350 home mixed-use urban extension. Leading multidisciplinary team on behalf of the developer, working with the LPA urban design team, County Highways and local community. Preparation of masterplan, design & access statement, and parameter plans. Masterplan gained planning approval in January 2018.

Upper Cambourne Masterplan & Design Guide (2007 - 2012)

The Cambourne Consortium

Lead designer for this 450 home addition to Cambourne. Leading multidisciplinary team on behalf of the developer, working with the LPA urban design team, County Highways and local community. Preparation of masterplan, design & access statement, and parameter plans. Author of Design Guide for the development.

Cambourne Masterplan (1995 - 2011)

The Cambourne Consortium

Landscape architect from 1995, Masterplan Consultant / Lead Designer from 1997 for this 3,350 home mixed-use new settlement (original masterplan by Sir Terry Farrell 1996). Leading multidisciplinary team on behalf of the developer, working with the LPA urban design team, County Highways and local community. Preparation of masterplan development and evolution, detailed design of all areas of green infrastructure and public realm. Landscape Institute award winner for 'Local landscape Planning' and 'Design over 5 ha' (2010).

Lighthall Farm, Solihull (2018 - present)

Taylor Wimpey

Project partner for this 2,000 home urban extension. Leading multidisciplinary team on behalf of the developer, working with the LPA urban design team, County Highways and local community. Preparation of masterplan, input to LPA local plan and SPD.

Land south of Hindley, Wigan (2014 - 2017)

Wigan BC and Peel Developments

Specialist designer, inputting residential and mixed-use masterplanning as part of multi-disciplinary team for this 2,000 home urban extension. Working on behalf of private developer and LPA partnership.

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Key Projects:

Waterbeach Barracks Masterplan (2013 - 2014)

Taylor Wimpey and Dorchester

Lead designer / masterplan consultant for this 10,000 home mixed-use new settlement in Cambridgeshire. Leading multidisciplinary team on behalf of the developer, for a competitive dialogue competition for the MoD. Innovation and sustainability were at the heart of the scheme resulting in it coming a very close second.

Pinewood Studios (2012 - 2014)

Pinewood / Peel

Design partner responsible for landscape elements of £200M expansion/improvement scheme for this nationally important project.

Ashton Road, Lancaster Housing Appeal (2024)

Lancaster City Council

Expert witness presenting evidence on landscape value, landscape character and visual amenity on behalf of the LPA for appeal hearing. Planning Inspector found in favour of LPA/client.

CIVIL CLAIM: Developer vs Landscape Architect (2024)

Confidential

Preparation of written input to assist legal team with the preparation of the LA defence, following the Civil Justice Council Guidance for civil claims in connection with the role and obligations of an independent expert witness.

Halstead Housing Appeal (2022)

Gladman Developments

Preparation of evidence on landscape, local character and views for this 200 home residential development of the edge of Halstead, Essex. Planning Inspector found in favour of developer/client.

The High Court of Justice (2022)

Confidential

Preparation of expert evidence providing impartial written opinion on allegations made against a defendant and his opinion on the degree of professional skill and care exercised by the defendant.

Sale Sports Club Planning Appeal (2021 - 2022)

Sale Sports Club

Preparation of evidence on impact upon open space function, character and appearance for a proposed all weather hockey pitch within an existing sports ground, surrounded on three sides by rear gardens.

Mollington Housing Planning Appeal (2021)

Harworth Land

Preparation of evidence on landscape, townscape character and visual spatial impact upon Green Belt for this small development of 8 new homes on a derelict golf course, within the Green Belt on the edge of the village of Mollington, Cheshire. Planning Inspector found in favour of developer/client.

Wingates Employment Park Planning Appeal (2020)

Harworth Land

Expert witness presenting evidence on landscape and townscape character, visual amenity and landscape mitigation to the effects of climate change for strategic employment site within the Green Belt (masterplan prepared by others). Planning Inspector found in favour of developer/client.

Wrea Green four conjoined Planning Appeals (2018)

Fylde Borough Council

Expert witness presenting evidence on landscape and townscape character and urban design on behalf of the LPA at 4 planning appeals for residential development at Wrea Green, Lancashire. Planning Inspector found in favour of LPA/client for all 4 appeals.

Farsley Outline Planning Application and Planning Appeals x 2 (2015 - 2018)

Thornhill Estates

Lead designer for this 400 home residential development on the edge of Leeds. Preparation of masterplan, design & access statement, and parameter plans. Expert witness presenting evidence on landscape and townscape character and urban design on behalf of the developer at 2 planning appeals. Planning Inspector found in favour of developer/client.

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Key Projects:

Collingham Planning Appeal (2017)

Miller Homes

Expert witness presenting evidence on landscape and townscape character and urban design on behalf of the developer at planning appeal for 200 home residential development (masterplan prepared by others). Planning Inspector found in favour of developer/client.

British Gas Site, Ellesmere Port (2013)

Peel Land and Property

Landscape, sport, recreation and open space witness for 250 home housing scheme designed by Randall Thorp. Inspector found in favour of developer/client.