



# Ashford EXTRA

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## Building for the future

**FUTURISTIC plans have been revealed for another major development in the heart of Ashford.**

Outline plans to transform the derelict former Powergen site in Gasworks Lane have been unveiled for public consultation before a planning application is lodged shortly with the council.

As a major brownfield site next to Victoria Park, it is regarded as one of the key areas in the development of the new town.

ZED Homes has announced proposals for the area on the southern edge of the town centre that they say will be invigorated by an ambitious, attractive and envi-

*By Mike Bennett*

ronmentally-sensitive community development.

They are planning up to 1,000 homes and 10,000 square metres of commercial, retail, education and leisure space, all accessible to pedestrians and public transport.

The site will also include much-needed parking, with between 500 and 800 spaces, and allow for the proposed new Victoria Way relief road, scheduled to run through to the Matalan roundabout.

As a zero-emission development the scheme is designed to have minimal impact on the environment. It will feature a bio-fuelled combined heat and power plant on site, solar

panels and advanced water conservation processes, plus additional energy-efficient technology which will be integrated into the fabric of the buildings.

During construction, the scheme will provide 250 local jobs and once complete the development is expected to provide up to 500 new jobs.

Plans for the scheme will be on show at an on-site public exhibition at the Cherry Court end of Victoria Road.

They will be available for inspection this Thursday between 10am and 7pm, on Friday between 8.30am and 7pm and all weekend between 10am and 5pm.