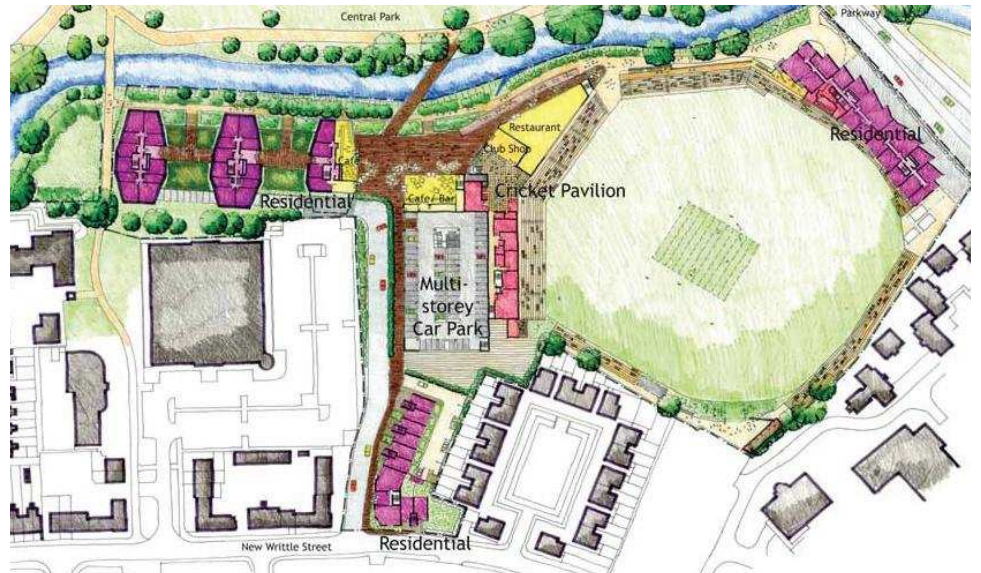


**Keith Brown, Treasurer**

# GROUND DEVELOPMENT STILL ON

Despite the credit crunch and a decline in property prices the redevelopment of The Ford County Ground at Chelmsford is still a reality. On September 30 we received conditional planning permission. This means we have satisfied the Planning Committee on most aspects of the project – massing, design, transportation, social housing and other statutory requirements. The main outstanding issue is a technical objection by the Environment Agency. This is currently being addressed but it is a process that is delaying the project.

Chelmsford Borough Council have been extremely supportive of the project and are working with our advisors to resolve the Environment Agency issue. Our development partner MCD and the development team also remain very supportive and bank finance is still in place as long as progress is being made.



The consequence of all this is that a full season will now be played at Chelmsford in 2009 as part of a rescheduling of the project. The implications for the 2010 season have yet to be assessed depending upon when final planning permission is granted. This has been a long process and we are within touching distance of

concluding this vital first stage of the project, so we are making every effort to get across the line. We will then be able to embark on an exciting development that will enhance our status in the County and our reputation in English County Cricket by providing an appropriate home that will compliment our successful cricket team.

