

**HMP Highland**  
Site options – November 2012

- 1) The Ashton Farm site is the preferred site for the new HMP Highland. The advantages of the site are:

- ✓ Independent consultants rated it as the site in Inverness that best met the requirements of SPS
- ✓ Two miles from Inverness city centre (including sheriff court).
- ✓ On existing bus routes
- ✓ Site is un-contaminated
- ✓ Bounded by raised railway line and rear of commercial outlets
- ✓ The site will be a 'discrete' distance from the proposed college buildings
- ✓ Near major roads (A9 and A96) – good road access to Inverness and the court.
- ✓ No risk from sea or river flooding

Development of the earlier site by the railway line was not welcomed by Highlands and Island Enterprise because of its location to the site of the new Inverness College. The creation of the new campus to the south of the main railway line has started on site and looks like this:



The new Inverness College.



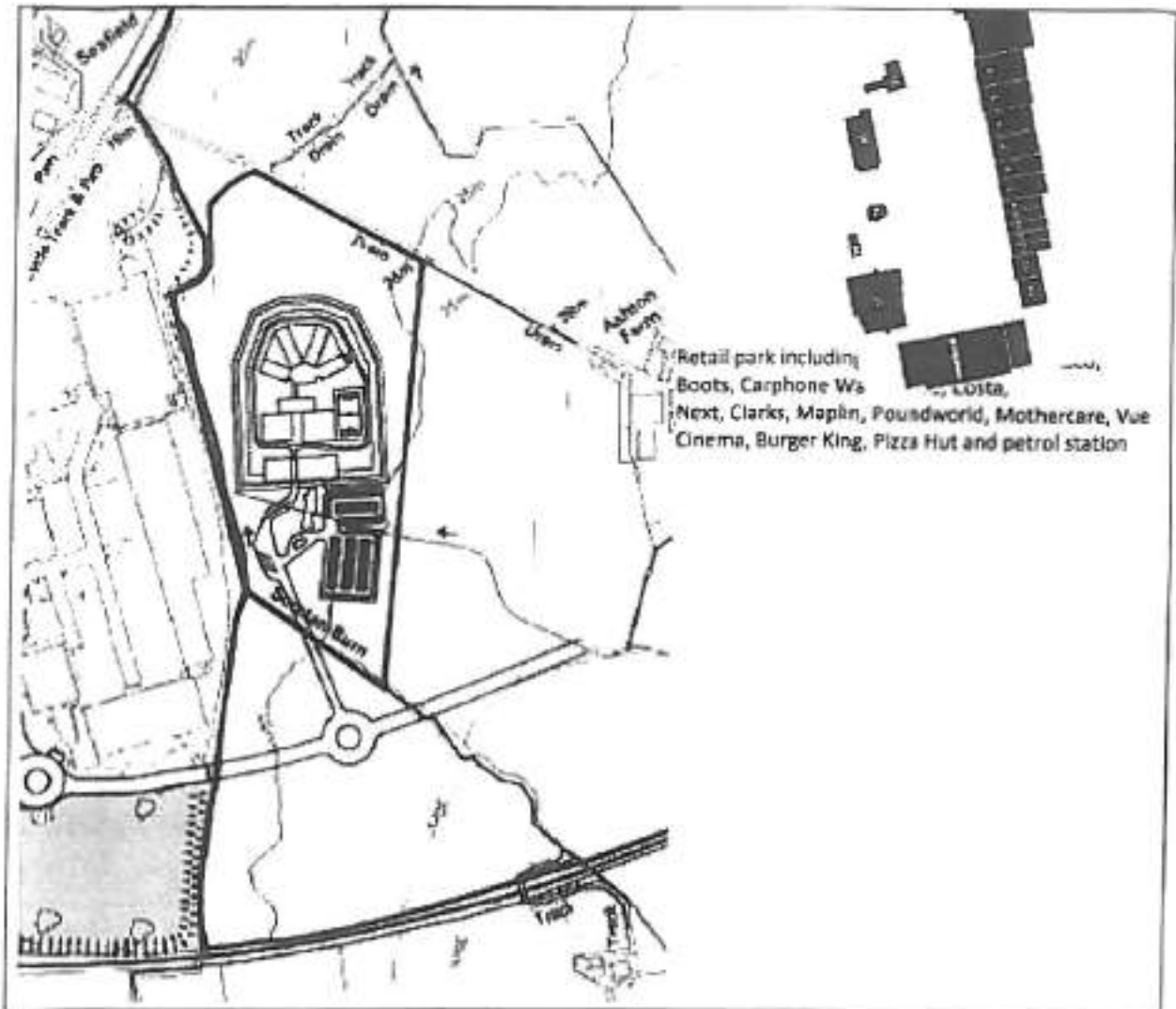
The new Inverness College



Work underway at the new Inverness Campus.

Following research by Colliers, an alternative site at Beechwood, to the north of the earlier site, has been examined. This site has the benefits noted above. The site is screened by the back of the shop units comprising the adjoining retail site to the west. In time, the site boundary to the east will be a new link road.

#### A - Access from the south



This depends on achieving access from the access road to the south of the retail park.

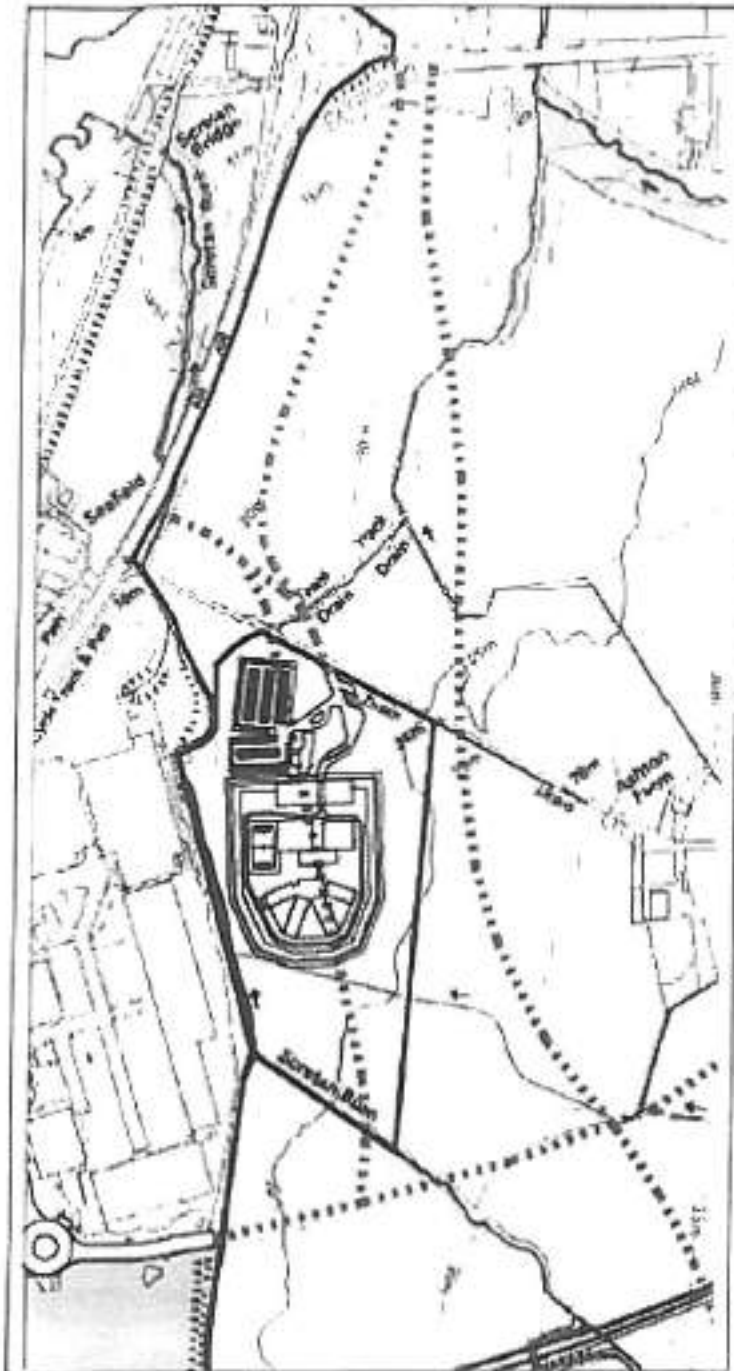
#### Advantages:

- Discrete location to one side of the retail park
- The retail park contains a wide variety of shops including Tesco and Homebase plus restaurants and cinema.

#### Problem areas:

- There is a problem of access over the 'ransom strip'.
- Negotiation of purchase of land from the owners of Ashton Farm.

**B - Access from the north**



Road engineers are unlikely to permit the formation of an additional roundabout between the current two on the A96. Access to the site could be from a) the roundabout on the A96 near Scretan bridge (green dotted line above) or directly (one lane access only) from the A96, going south.