



John Barker Place redevelopment update

We're delighted to share our third quarterly newsletter on the regeneration of John Barker Place.

You'll notice that the concrete frame is beginning to shoot up on Phase 1. We're pleased to confirm that 49 homes have now been allocated to the residents who will be moving across from Westmill Lawns to the Phase 1 building next summer and Phase 2 in Autumn 2023.

We remain on track to start working on Phase 2 of the development next spring. We also have outline planning permission for additional homes through a third phase of the regeneration of John Barker Place and will be speaking to residents across the Westmill community to help us shape these plans.

What home means to me

Well done and thank you to the Key Stage 2 pupils at Oughton Primary & Nursery School for their amazing artwork on the theme of 'What home means to me'. You can now see their pictures displayed on the hoarding around Phase 1 of the John Barker Place redevelopment.

Keep updated on all development updates through our dedicated website page: www.settlegroup.org.uk/jbp

settle 

Upcoming work from June 2021 to September 2021

Throughout July, our development partner, Jarvis plan to undertake additional drainage works which will require the partial closure of the road along John Barker Place. At this stage, settle and Jarvis await external confirmation of when this will be. However, we will be in touch with local residents as soon as this is confirmed, and will outline the traffic management measures to allow continuous access along John Barker Place whilst the works are taking place.

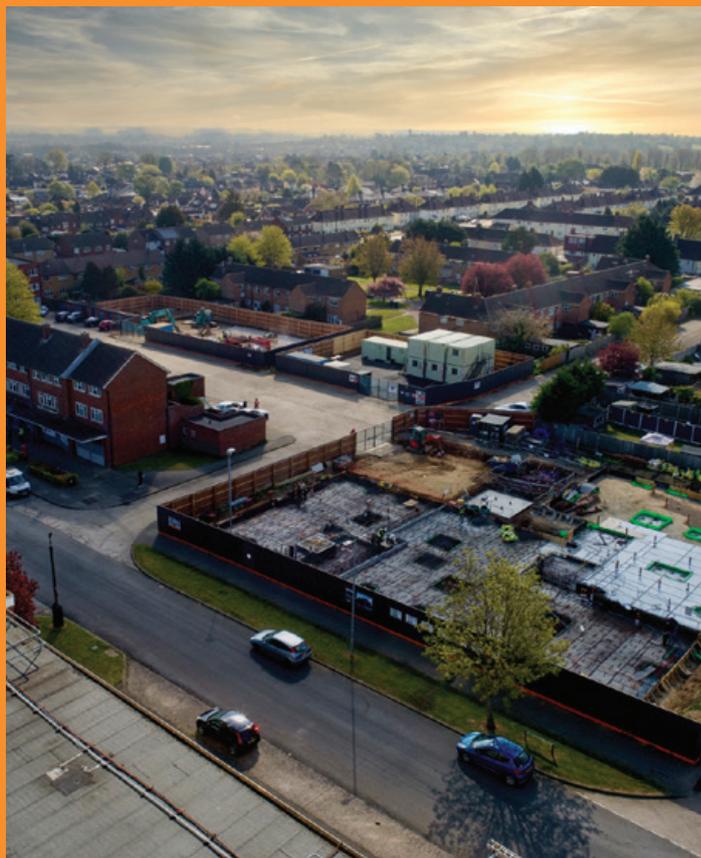
Other work due to take place includes:

- ▶ The concrete frame on Phase 1 will continue to progress throughout the next three months.
- ▶ The construction of the new electrical substation bases will continue until mid-July.
- ▶ The roads / car park structure have been built to formation level within the contractors' compound.

We will do our best to ensure dates of planned works are as accurate as possible, but sometimes dates can change with little notice. Please check on our web page for the most up to date information:

www.settlegroup.org.uk/jbp

Highest health and safety score for Jarvis site



The on-site team of our development partner Jarvis, led by Chris Creighton, received a health and safety inspection score of 97% in May, the highest ever score issued by Jarvis' Health & Safety team. The independent inspection, which occurs monthly, includes a review of site signage, cleanliness, waste management, risk assessments and ensuring all appropriate procedures and paperwork are in place.

Shop and Take Away units in Phase 1

We want to remind residents that there will be two commercial units located in the Phase 1 building. The convenience store, which is run by the Chahal family will be moving across, and a new proprietor will be opening a take away – both are due to open early next year. We say a very fond farewell and thank you to Mr So, who has provided a fantastic service to the Westmill community through the current take away since 2002. Mr So said: "Thank you to the Westmill community for their support over the years." We wish him all the best and a very happy retirement.

Your Neighbourhood

Spruce up your gardening skills at Ron's Plot

It's proven that gardening can have a very positive effect on people's wellbeing, so why not visit Ron's Plot, a community garden, based at Burford Way allotments in Hitchin and take part in their volunteer work sessions. It's also an opportunity to socialise and share knowledge about organically grown produce every Tuesday and Saturday between 11 and 1pm (and 1 and 3pm during the summer). Everyone is welcome, including children who are accompanied by an adult. The aim of the project is to bring residents, community groups and businesses together. It is run by "Getting Rooted", who help people to create productive and sustainable spaces in their own gardens. If you like the idea of growing food and plants, learning about sustainable gardening, contact Aletheia Mashiri to arrange a visit - **07717 215242** or email: **info@gettingrooted.co.uk**



Terry's Story

Terry has been a resident in Westmill Lawns for four years. He moved to Hitchin from Blackpool at the age of 84 to be closer to his family – which includes two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He feels assured that his new home in the John Barker Place development will have the same level of comfort and security as his current home.

“I'm quite proud and extremely lucky to have found the flat I live in at Westmill Lawns. I like its location; I have a lovely view and I'm very happy.

I'm on the ground floor and when I heard about the move to the new building on John Barker Place, I wanted to stay as I am now. However, what's been presented is the same, if not better, because it's a brand-new building. I may even have a broader view from the first floor and I'm looking forward to it.

I think it must have been hard for settle to present the new development to residents. There'll always be a difference of opinion and that needs to be catered for to find a way of making it ok for everyone and being prepared to answer all the difficult questions. I think that settle has done itself very proud managing residents' requirements.

People of my age don't always like change. I don't want any drastic changes but looking at the new development at John Barker Place, I'm hopeful that things remain the same with the same level of comfort and security.

I think people should sometimes take a step back and look at what they've got, I feel lucky to have what I have here and being closer to my family.”



Residents' Steering Group update

We recently held a walk and talk with residents who've joined the Residents' Steering Group (RSG). The RSG will work collaboratively with stakeholders and residents in the area to develop a place that is good to live in. It's not too late to join, for more information - email us:

johnbarkerplace@settlegroup.org.uk or phone **07514 647401**.

Wall art project

A community wall art project also on the theme - 'What home means to me,' has been launched. This will go up on the display on the hoarding around Phase 1 of the development on Mattocke Road later in the summer. The artwork is being designed by professional artists - Szyk Wane and Mr Meana and will involve the participation of local young adults (11-16 years) who attend the Youth Connexions meetings on Friday evenings in the Westmill Community Centre.

Looking after your local park

It will be the first anniversary of the opening of Swinburne playground on 30 July. The play area was provided by settle as the first stage of the John Barker Place redevelopment as a facility for local children and young people to enjoy. We all want to make sure the park and play equipment remain in great condition. When leaving the park, please take home your own rubbish and dispose of dog waste by using the facilities provided. Installed CCTV at the playground is managed by Hertfordshire CCTV Partnership based in Stevenage. Where there are instances of anti-social behaviour (ASB) it is important that you report these directly to the police.



Stay in touch

We will provide regular updates as the development work on John Barker Place continues and make sure there are ways for you to get involved and share your feedback.



If you don't live in these areas, but would still like to receive a print or digital version of the newsletter and monthly updates, please let us know by sending an email with your contact details to: johnbarkerplace@settlegroup.org.uk



You can keep up to date with the project by visiting our website: www.settlegroup.org.uk/jbp



Send us any questions or input you have about this regeneration to: johnbarkerplace@settlegroup.org.uk



You can also call us on **0330 343 0016** if you want to talk through anything ask for **Tim or Anne**.