

Non-traditional housing redevelopment newsletter

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Members of the redevelopment team outside the first redevelopment site in Coalpit Heath

Building work to begin as focus turns to future sites

Building work on the first new homes to be built in our redevelopment project have got underway in Coalpit Heath.

The compound went up at the start of the month and the diggers started work shortly afterwards.

Project Manager Sally Gilbert said: “The team has been really busy since we received planning permission from the council for our new homes and now we’re really excited that we’re underway. This time next year we’ll be welcoming people into their new homes.”

While building work is underway on the first site the team are turning their attention to future sites. Of the 44 other properties being redeveloped in Coalpit Heath and Iron Acton, just one resident is waiting to move into a new home. The process of hiring a developer to

build these homes has also begun.

The team is also preparing for the next phase of the project to redevelop homes in Little Stoke and Filton. Residents and their neighbours and the wider public will be invited to public consultations in the next couple of months to discuss the plans. In total we are proposing to demolish 36 properties in Little Stoke and Filton and replace them with 58 modern, energy efficient homes.

“We’ve already carried out consultations with some of the residents in Little Stoke two years ago,” Sally added. “But we’ll be speaking to them again to update them on our plans.

“We’re also working with all of these people to find them somewhere else to live. We’ve already moved 22 families into new homes, in preparation for the start of this phase of the project.”

Helping residents move home



We recently helped the 50th resident move into a new home .

Six months ago 76-year-old Michael Brimble moved from Iron Acton to Chipping Sodbury. He'd lived in one of four bungalows in Nibley Lane for nearly ten years and was settled in his home.

At first the four bungalows were not included in our plans for the village. But we decided to include them after an inspection into their condition revealed they would need lots of work.

Project Housing Officer Sarah Durbin, whose job it is to find new homes for everyone in the project, contacted the residents to tell them the news.

“I had a phone call from Sarah saying she wanted to come out and see me the following week,” Mr Brimble said. “I knew about the project and thought they maybe wanted to take some of my garden. I was very happy in my home, so when she said they wanted to redevelop my home it was a shock.

“However, Sarah called again first thing on Monday morning to check I was ok. And on Tuesday she came round and explained how it would be done and

how I wouldn't have to do anything. I was really relieved about this.

“Then she called me to say she'd found a bungalow in Chipping Sodbury and asked if I wanted to see it. When I walked in the door it was like a mirror image of my old bungalow, except 30 years younger. I really liked it.”

Sarah sprang into action to arrange the move to be as quick and simple for Mr Brimble. She arranged for the removal company to visit him to assess his home. We offered to help him with things like switching his utility bills and put up curtain rails and shelves in his home.

Six months after moving, Mr Brimble is happy in his new home. He said: “I went back to my old property the day after I moved and as soon as I walked in the front door I was hit by this strong, damp, musty smell. I had just accepted the damp, but after one day away I realised how bad it had been.

“It's been a really good move for me and I am very satisfied with my new home; it couldn't have been better for me.”