

## **GREAT HOMER STREET - ST MODWEN KEEN TO KEEP COMMUNITY INVOLVED**

Residents in the Great Homer Street area have been invited to continue dialogue with developers as the plans for £150m development of the area move forward to the detailed delivery phase.

Developer St Modwen and the Council held a further Forum meeting recently to update the group on the latest stage of the project now that it has been given outline planning consent.

Chaired by Bishop Tom Williams, after whose niece, Jennifer, the project has been known to date, the Forum discussed the progress of the project and invited feedback from local people.

Chris Newsome of St Modwen, said: "The meeting was a chance to update local people now that planning permission has been given, and to advise them on the next stages of the project. We were keen for residents' views and there was active debate. We will continue to take on board residents' thoughts."

The Forum will continue so people can see how the scheme is evolving and share in its progress. The Forum was originally created to give local people a voice and this helped to get the project off the ground."

We are very aware that residents have strong views and want to maintain their involvement so that we can move the project on together, with the support of the community. "

There will now be considerable consultation with businesses and residents on both an individual and group basis by St Modwen and the Council as the project moves towards a potential Compulsory Purchase Order inquiry which should take place in the Spring of 2008.

The redevelopment of Great Homer Street will create 480 new homes; 740 new full time jobs through new shopping and business opportunities; better health facilities, with a new doctors' and dentists' surgery; a new library and internet centre and a better environment, with plans to improve Everton Park and create new high quality public realm.

The re-launched Forum is just one of the ways that St Modwen Properties is involving the people of Great Homer Street. This month a mini-newspaper was delivered to residents and businesses in the area, aimed at providing an overview of the consultation process so far.

Chris added: "We have always wanted to hear the opinions of the community and I'm looking forward to people's reactions when they see how they have contributed to this new development.

We brought in the plans and the professionals, but they brought the community spirit I hope that they feel a sense of achievement when they are left with a great new centre."

In another sign of community collaboration, St Modwen Properties has also invited people to suggest a name for the proposed development, which up until now has been known as Project Jennifer.

**ENDS**

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