

Rowner Matters

Rowner
renewal

Issue 10 – February 2011

Rowner Renewal
Enquiry Line:
**0845 034
3317**



Apartment blocks and new houses along Howe Road

New Homes Available Now!

The landscape along Howe Road and the road itself is changing fast. Many different types of houses will be built and the two apartment blocks – one for shared ownership and one for private sale are taking shape before us. Inside this edition of Rowner Matters we have a pull out four page Alver Village Matters insert detailing the types of houses and apartments that are available to buy now. What's more Rowner is providing the first apartment block in the country to be built to zero carbon fabric standards. Read more about it in the centre pages.

We celebrate the employment of local labour on the project by detailing five Taylor Wimpey employees – three of whom are apprentices working on the construction site. We look forward to seeing Taylor Wimpey's new show home which will open next month and welcoming our first new residents in April. Exciting times ahead for Rowner and its new Alver Village.

Public Inquiry on Compulsory Purchase Order

8 March 2011 at 10am Gosport Town Hall



To acquire all the land for the Rowner Renewal development into one ownership, Gosport Borough Council promoted a compulsory purchase order (CPO).

Some people and organisations affected have objected and a Public Inquiry is being held to consider these objections and decide whether or not to confirm the CPO.

The Public Inquiry will be held at Gosport Town Hall on Tuesday 8 March 2011 at 10.00am. The Inquiry will be attended by an Inspector from the Department of Communities and Local Government who will listen to the case presented by the council and objectors. The Inspector will then submit a report to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

Any person may attend the Inquiry to listen to what is being said but only the Council, its partners and advisors plus the objectors have a right to speak. Other persons may

be able to speak but they will first have to obtain permission from the Inspector.

After submission of the report and following a few months, The Secretary of State will decide whether or not to confirm the CPO. If confirmed, Gosport Borough Council will be authorised to acquire/purchase all outstanding interests to secure vacant possession of the site. This will enable all the existing buildings to be demolished and the new development to be built.

If the CPO is confirmed, a full programme of implementation of the order will be announced and all persons affected will be personally informed. All persons whose interest is acquired under the CPO will be entitled to compensation for losses they incur as a result. More information on this is available on the website www.rownerrenewal.com: click the "publications" tab at the top of the page then scroll down to "other downloads" and click "home loss leaflet".

Local Jobs for Local People



The Rowner Renewal Partnership has always had as its core aim to not only regenerate the area with new buildings and new homes but to provide new jobs for local people.

We are pleased to say that with construction well under way the number of people living in the Gosport area who are employed on the construction site is 36 (40%). Here we talk to five Taylor Wimpey employees who tell us what it is like working on the project.

This issue contains Alver Village Matters pull-out



Three New Apprentices for Taylor Wimpey

Jacob Patten (20)

Bricklaying Apprentice



Jacob has lived in Alverstoake for most of his life but studied for a while in Leicester when his dad was in the navy. He went to Alverstoake Junior School and Bayhouse Secondary College. Whilst he was happy with his GCSEs, he didn't want to continue

with A levels and university as he thought he would enjoy a more practical route. Jake explains:

"I started at Fareham College and we were the first bricklaying group to do it. It was a two year course and nine of us in total completed it. When it finished I got a job with a rendering company and worked for two years just general labouring. But when the work started to dry up and the recession hit, I had to look for other work.

"I found the apprenticeship advertised on the internet. This apprenticeship is the best thing to happen to me because I need the qualifications to progress.

"I am studying at Southampton City College because Highbury doesn't do Level 3 in bricklaying. I drive there to study for one week in every month and then work the following three weeks on site. There is more than people think to bricklaying – many different types to learn, different walls, different cuts – there's quite a bit of maths in it.

"Taylor Wimpey and A & B Homes (Brickwork) have been really good. I work for eight and half hours a day, 39 hours a week with the weekends off. They have sorted me out with the tools to do the job which helps me a hell of a lot by saving me time and money. It is an 18 month apprenticeship to get my Level 3 and I am hoping for a job at the end of it. They have been really helpful and have looked after me well."

Michael Williamson (18)

Bricklaying Apprentice



Michael has also lived in the area all his life; for the last six years in Alverstoake. He went to New Town Junior School and Brune Park Community College. He says:

"I did alright in my GCSEs but was disappointed with a couple of them.

Talking with my mates, I had always fancied doing brickwork so I got on the course at Fareham College for Level 1 and Level 2 in bricklaying. I loved it; the tutors were friendly and helpful but when the course finished I had to try and get myself a job.

"At first I started ringing around building firms but with the recession it was difficult to find anything. My mum then told me to try Connexions so I went there and they told me about the apprenticeships on offer at Taylor Wimpey. To get my CSCS card to qualify for working on a building site I need to get my NVQ Level 3 in bricklaying.

"I rang up Chris Ott's secretary and sent in my CV via email. A couple of weeks later I got an interview with Chris Ott who is a really friendly guy. He offered me the apprenticeship as he thought I was hard working and he also organised the placement for me at Southampton City College where they do Level 3.

"I travel into the college with Jake, who is also an apprentice and work alongside him, for three weeks in four at A&M Homes (Brickwork). I can't really describe what it's like being in work – it's a lot different from just studying. I am proud to do a real job, it is a good feeling and I am really pleased. All work is tiring but I am enjoying the job. Taylor Wimpey and A&M Homes (Brickwork) have just been brilliant."

Other Taylor Wimpey Employees

Alex Quelch (19)

Carpentry and Joinery Apprentice



Alex has lived in the same house in Bridgemary all his life and attended Holbrook Junior School and Bridgemary Sports College. He has always wanted to be a carpenter as he enjoys making things at home and liked woodwork at school.

With good GCSEs, he went to Fareham College for Level 1 and Level 2 in Carpentry and Joinery. It was here that his tutor told him about the apprenticeships on offer from Taylor Wimpey. He explains:

"I couldn't believe how lucky I was. I had just finished my two year course and needed work experience. I got an interview and got the three year apprenticeship. It is just perfect for me – literally down the road from where I live. My dad is proud of me.

"I go to Highbury College one day a week usually on a Monday at their North Harbour site in Port Solent. Then I work on the Alver Village site. I am working with Taylor Wimpey's sub-contractor, M & R Carpentry. They have taught me a lot. At the moment I am working mainly on the roofs and the joists. I tend to learn more on site than at college now because I am in the thick of it. I get to learn little tips and can work much quicker now.

"In total it is a three year apprenticeship and I hope to complete my NVQ Level 3 at the end of the first year. I hope to get a job as a fully qualified carpenter at the end of the apprenticeship. I have been really lucky. Taylor Wimpey is a good company to work for."

Sian Sutton (24)

Assistant Sales Executive



Sian Sutton (24) has lived in Gosport all her life. She attended Elson Infant and Junior School and also Brune Park Community College. She was recently appointed Trainee Sales Executive for Taylor Wimpey working at the Alver Village Information Centre five

days a week (Saturday – Wednesday). Sian tells us her story:

"I was absolutely delighted to be given this opportunity by Taylor Wimpey to work alongside David and Elizabeth in the Alver Village office. As a local girl I think it is for the best what is happening to Rowner and I am proud to be a part of the change. My job involves me going through all the plans for the many different houses being built in Phase One and getting to grips with the various incentives that Taylor Wimpey can offer to first time buyers and also to people who need to sell their own house.

"I know exactly how hard it can be. My partner and I saved up for three and a half years to get the deposit together to buy a home of our own. We are still living with my Mum in Elson but in June finally bought a two bedroom Victorian mid terrace property, just off Stoke Road in Gosport. It needs a lot of renovation work doing to it and this is taking longer than expected. We hope to be in soon but I work five days a week and my partner works seven days, so it is hard to find the time.

"When I left school I did attempt to go to college but that didn't work out so I spent the next five years working in Dorothy Perkins in Fareham, eventually moving to a sales position at Zurich Insurance in Whiteley for four years. When I saw the Taylor Wimpey job advertised I jumped at the chance to work locally. I started the job on 13 September and I am loving the new challenge – everyone here is so friendly."

Mark Woods (44)

Assistant Site Manager



Mark has lived in Rowner for over 16 years and has worked for Taylor Wimpey for five years. As he just lives around the corner he was very pleased to secure employment as Assistant Site Manager for the Alver Village development.

He says: "I know the area and the people really well. Before I worked for Taylor Wimpey I was a painter and decorator for a company. As Assistant Site Manager, my job is to help run the site, control the materials in and out, look after the apprentices' timesheets and check their work, check for health and safety, control the subcontractor in and out of site and basically make sure that everything runs smoothly.

"I have a 42 hour week and start work usually at around 7am to open up the site so the lads can have a cuppa, etc before starting work (particularly in this cold weather) and usually finish around 5pm. I work Monday to Friday and occasionally on Saturday.

"I have found Taylor Wimpey to be one of the best in health and safety – top of the table, compared to other companies. They won't let anything slip. Sub-contractors are policed really carefully and they are

financed if they step out of line. Everyone knows what Taylor Wimpey's standard procedures are and it is my job to ensure that site inductions are carried out for everyone.

"I really enjoy my job – I like assisting people. It has not been easy working in the construction industry recently what with the recession and this really cold weather. Even Taylor Wimpey has had its ups and downs. They asked for some voluntary redundancies last year and a few senior colleagues took advantage of this which was good for the younger ones because it lets younger blood work their way up the ladder.

"I hope I see Rowner's redevelopment right through to the end but if Taylor Wimpey need me on another project, I am happy to go where they send me. It is such a shame there is a stigma to the name of Rowner. I have had a great time here and enjoy the community. I am always telling people about how good it is here. The Alver Village redevelopment is going to be great – people just need to see the finished houses and word will soon get round to come and have a look. My son plays for Gosport Football Club and I am giving out our sales brochures to the team and parents telling them of the opportunities here. We are building good quality houses of a good quality build at really reasonable prices. We have to encourage people to come and see for themselves. It will be a real boost to the area."

Recycling – let's get it sorted!

With your help, Gosport has increased its recycling rate over the last few years, and has now rolled out its recycling scheme to all properties in the Borough. However, we still need our residents to keep up the good work and remember to recycle all the following items in their recycling collection:

- All food tins, drinks cans and empty aerosols (please rinse tins and cans).
- All plastic bottles – including drinks, milk, shampoo, cleaning and washing up liquid bottles (please rinse and remove the lids).
- All cardboard – cereal and other food packs, greetings cards, boxes (please flatten or cut up big boxes first).
- All clean paper – newspapers, magazines, envelopes (even with windows), junk mail, scrap paper, directories, yellow pages, brochures and catalogues.

It's really important to put the right things in your recycling bin or sack. Sorting out the wrong items wastes time and money and can sometimes prevent the right rubbish being recycled.

There are some items which cannot currently be recycled in your kerbside collection, including plastic packaging (such as yoghurt pots, food trays and margarine tubs), shredded paper and drinks cartons. These should be placed in your normal rubbish bin. Household rubbish collected in Hampshire is sent to one of our three Energy Recovery Facilities, which generate enough electricity to power more than 50,000 homes.

Please help us to help you, by keeping your bin area clean and tidy, and wrapping all domestic rubbish. For more information, visit: www.gosport.gov.uk/recycling, or telephone Gosport Borough Council on **08000 198 598**



Santa (and his elves) come to Rowner

The Nimrod Community Centre may not have a chimney, but that didn't stop Santa and his elves coming to the South Rowner Residents' Group Christmas Party. The hall was decorated beforehand by the elves, who also laid a glittery path from the door to Santa's grotto, along which they led each child one by one.

Santa then gave a small present to each of the 50 children who came. They were also entertained for a few hours by Tony Spaghetti with music and a magic show.

Residents laid on a buffet tea for everybody, and the whole event was free thanks to funding from SEHCO's Community Activity Fund.

Emma Forster, Chair of the Residents' Group, said: "All of the parents I spoke to afterwards said their children had a fantastic time and left the party completely exhausted!"

Help tomorrow take shape: Take part in the next census!

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) carries out a census to find out more about the people who live in England and Wales and about the make-up of local neighbourhoods.



Look out for your questionnaire in March!

They will be sending questionnaires to around 25 million households at the end of March 2011, asking about work, health, national identity, citizenship, ethnic background, education, second homes, language, marital status and so on. The answers will be turned into statistics used to build a picture of today's society.

The information from the census will be used to understand people's needs and make sure that communities get the services they need for their local area. So, you can really make a difference

– it's really important to take part! All you will need to do is answer a few very easy questions about you and the people you live with on census day. You can do it by post or online.

Any information you give will be kept confidential and will only be used to produce statistics. The ONS will not share your personal information with any other organisation. For more information, visit www.census.gov.uk.

Phase 1 impression of Alver Village Regeneration Project



Who's who on the Rowner Renewal team

Putting a name to the faces

These faces are probably familiar to the local residents in Rowner – they are based in the area and you may see them from time to time.



David Cox,
Sales Executive,
Taylor Wimpey



Jackie Lovell,
Homebuy Sales & Marketing
Co-ordinator, First Wessex



Tony Jones, Homebuy
Sales & Marketing Manager,
First Wessex



Elizabeth Blake,
Sales Executive,
Taylor Wimpey



Alyn Shott,
Rowner Senior Project
Manager, First Wessex



John Barker,
Head of Development,
First Wessex



Lyn Kenyon,
Rowner Neighbourhood
Regeneration Manager,
First Wessex



Anne Lueken,
Rowner Project Co-ordinator,
First Wessex



Yew Ling,
Rowner Development Project
Manager, First Wessex

If you would like to speak to any of them in person please call the **Rowner Enquiry Line** on **0845 034 3317** or alternatively email us via the Rowner Renewal website www.rownerrenewal.com
First Wessex, The Nimrod Community Centre, Nimrod Drive, Rowner, Gosport, PO13 8BE

Supported by The Rowner Renewal Partnership members:

First Wessex
Gosport Borough Council
Hampshire County Council
Homes & Communities Agency
and Taylor Wimpey Developments Ltd

If you would like this information translated into any other language, or made available in large print or audio format, please contact **0845 034 3317**.



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