



Cosmopolitan Housing Project Manager Mike Pearmain at the site of the old sheltered housing scheme at Holly Vale, Kirkby

New era for Holly Vale as derelict sheltered housing is cleared

A date has been set for the demolition of a dilapidated former sheltered housing scheme on James Holt Avenue in Holly Vale, Kirkby.

On 24th January 2011 demolition experts J.P Tisdale Ltd will begin to demolish the disused building which has lain empty and boarded up since January 2010.

Cosmopolitan Housing Association purchased the site from Anchor Trust in March 2010 and hopes to replace the old building with a new extra-care scheme for older people in the community.

Mike Pearmain, Project Manager with Cosmopolitan Housing Association, said: "We have successfully obtained planning permission from Knowsley Council and funding submissions have been made, which we are awaiting a decision on very shortly, so we can go ahead and offer comfortable, safe and affordable homes for the older people in this area."

"The demolition of the building and clearing of the site will take approximately eight weeks, by which time we hope to have more news on the new development which will replace it."

Local shop manager Elizabeth Fowell is just one of many local people who will be pleased to see the eyesore cleared away: "It's been empty for quite a while and the vandals have been at it so it's a bit of an eyesore now" said Mrs Fowell, who manages The Store, directly opposite the site on James Holt Avenue.

"I'm glad they're taking it down but we were sad when the sheltered flats closed down.

“A lot of the old people used to come in here for their bacon butties and we knew them all by name. If we didn’t see anyone for a few days we’d pop over to check they were OK or sometimes we’d help them with their shopping.

“I hope they can get to build this new place. It would be nice to have older people back in the community.”

Notes to Editors

Cosmopolitan H.A. is a housing association that provides over 2,000 social housing properties across the North West of England. It is a progressive and dynamic organisation with a clear vision for the future which sees it as ‘an increasingly well respected and growing housing association with a reputation for delivering quality and excellence to a diverse range of service users’.