

# Independent Living

## Houghton Regis Central

### Newsletter No.2 –Nov 2017



Welcome to the second edition of the Houghton Regis Central newsletter. These newsletters will help keep you up to date with the development of Houghton Regis Central (HRC), the Council's new independent living scheme.

#### For more information

Sign up to receive e mail alerts: [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/hrc-emails](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/hrc-emails)

Visit the website: [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/houghton-regis-central](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/houghton-regis-central)

Ask a question: [HRC online form](#)

#### Starting on site

It remains our intention to start on site during the summer of 2018 – we are currently working hard to finalise the information required for the tender document. While we all want to get moving on the development - it's also important that we make time at this stage to get the finer details right, especially given the scale of the development and the size of the investment.

#### Questions from the Houghton Regis Community Day (August 2017)

It was great to see lots of people coming down to the Community Day in August and hear the amount of interest they had in Houghton Regis Central. We were asked lots of questions about the renovation of The Red House, a start date for the new development and the impact it will have on traffic and parking. We hope we've answered some of these questions in this Newsletter and will use the next update to report on parking and traffic management.

#### Giving Houghton Regis Central its permanent name

Houghton Regis Central is the working name for the development however it won't be the permanent name that we use in the future. As part of the process for choosing a permanent name we want to involve the community within Houghton Regis and importantly the residents of Red House Court in selecting a name for the development. In the next newsletter, coming out in early 2018 there will be more as information on how you can get involved.



**A great place to live and work.**

## Update on The Red House

If you've walked past The Red House you will have seen that works are progressing to prevent further deterioration of The Red House. The roof tiles have been removed and those that haven't been damaged are being stored to use again. The next step will be the structural engineer coming on site to complete a damp survey and assess the work that needs to be done.

Before we can apply for planning permission to undertake the works, we will need to seek consent from the conservation officer to ensure that the work is sympathetic to the original structure of the building.

The security measures we have in place now are working well. Alarms have been fitted inside the building, CCTV has been set up and the back fence has been extended and covered with anti-vandalism paint.

## Exciting new retail opportunities on the High Street

We've had quite a lot of interest from national and local retailers who are all keen to be part of this exciting new development that will bring a fantastic new look to the high street in Houghton Regis.

Our intention is to have six retail units facing onto the high street, as well as a restaurant, café, hair salon and health and beauty treatment rooms which will all be available to the public as well as the residents to use.

If you'd like any more information or have a suggestion about the type of shops or food outlets you'd like to see please get in touch, we'd love to hear from you.



*Artist impression of Houghton Regis Central development*



## Red House Court opens its doors to local residents

Did you know that Red House Court regularly welcomes local residents to visit and join in with the activities running there? If you're over 55 and fancy meeting new people or trying out a new activity, Red House Court residents are looking forward to meeting you.

Here's the info on what's happening at the moment

### **Motherz Kitchen Home cooked lunches for £6 – Monday to Thursday**

With the cold weather fast approaching what sounds nicer than a warm home cooked lunch and pudding? Motherz Kitchen serve lunch on Mondays to Thursdays at 12 noon in Red House Court. If you're interested in coming along give Lorraine or Shas a call on 07981 750095. Orders and payment are taken every Thursday morning at Red House Court.

### **Fancy a game of Boccia? – Every Monday**

If you've not come across it before, it's like bowls but played sitting down! If you'd like to give it a go, come along to Red House Court on Mondays from 11am to 12 noon. The first session is free and it's £2 a session after that.

### **Visit from the singing café – Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm**

The singing café is a great opportunity to make friends over a cup of tea and homemade cakes and have a sing-a-long to some old favourites. The café, run by the Community Link Project (CLP), will be at Red House Court on 29<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm. All are welcome.

### **Activity Taster mornings – Last Thursday of every month**

If you fancy getting out and having a go at some new activities why not pop along to Red House Court on the last Thursday of each month, from 10.30am to 12 noon. You can have a chat, try something new and maybe even suggest some new activities you would like to try out.

## **Contact**

Call: 0300 300 8000

E Mail: [IndependentLivingHR@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:IndependentLivingHR@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

Write: Central Bedfordshire Council, Houghton Regis Central Project Team, Housing Service, Watling House, High Street North, Dunstable LU6 1LF

