

THIS ISSUE - will we be recognised at the Sustainable Housing Awards? supporting the hub, RIBA recognition, Streetcar - serious about sustainability, winners announced for Projects of the Year, who has been riding a BMX? who is the new compere? great social events and who you need to contact now?

link

June 2010 issue 34

the monthly Higgins Group news update

Reinforcing our sustainable commitment

As we have said many times before, and you will be aware of our dedicated commitment, sustainability is embedded at the core of our organisation and flows through all areas of the business.

We continually look to improve our corporate sustainability challenges and use new technology that will help the environment. We know that true sustainability is only delivered when there is a firm commitment to developing opportunities for the communities that we work with. Offering training and skills for local residents is now pivotal to all of our projects, along with specific Site Waste Management Plans.



Our credentials have been recognised by our shortlisting for Sustainable Social Housing Contractor of the Year at this year's Sustainable Housing Award.

We know we are all doing an excellent job - we will find out in October if this can be nationally recognised - keep up the good work!

Granville New Homes shortlisted for RIBA Award

RIBA Awards are given for buildings that have high architectural standards and make a substantial contribution to the local environment. The awards are

annual, and have been running continuously since 1966. We are therefore very proud that Granville New Homes has been shortlisted in the 2010 Awards.

Staff support our partnership

Higgins staff supported the work of Barnardo's by taking part in the Windsor Triathlon. Allan Ronald (Sustainability Manager) and Robert Jarvis (Building Surveyor at Forest Gate PFI) completed a 1.5 km open water swim, 40 km bike ride and 10km run.

All funds raised will be used to support the Hub Construction Skills Centre, which is an alternative to mainstream education and training, where students aged 14-19 can study a range of courses in electrical installation, plumbing, decorating and carpentry.

The team have set themselves a target of £2,500 so any donation



would be gratefully accepted. You can easily make a donation at the Virgin Giving site:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Higginsconstruction>

Higgins

Higgins Homes serious sustainability

"A key facet of our business is ensuring sustainability in all our developments. The introduction of the Streetcar is another step towards achieving this and ensuring that we actively contribute towards the protection of the environment. These types of schemes will become increasingly prevalent as they are affordable, promote sustainability and reduce congestion. The Streetcar has been very well received by purchasers at The Old Hospital and there is now the potential for it to be used in many of our other urban developments."

Jeremy Marcus, Sales & Marketing Director at Higgins Homes



As already mentioned, sustainability is key throughout the Group and Higgins Homes is reconfirming this commitment with the introduction of the 'Streetcar' scheme at its new development, The Old Hospital in Maidstone, Kent. A car will be permanently based on site for residents and others to use, as and when they need it, at a fraction of the price that it would cost to retain a personal vehicle.

Figures recently released indicate that in one year, it is possible for a single car to release up to 120 tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere so the introduction of this scheme will have a positive impact on the environment.

The Old Hospital has been restored along very sustainable guidelines and it is highly environmentally sensitive. All the new apartments have been built to conform to level 3 of The Code For Sustainable Homes and features such as

energy consumption, carbon dioxide emissions, recycling schemes, environmental impacts and ecological management have all been examined. In addition to the Streetcar, various means of transport are available to residents and a specialist network of cycling paths and pedestrian walkways ensure easy access to town, as does the close location of Maidstone East Station.

We take sustainability seriously.



Prices at The Old Hospital start from £134,950 for a one bedroom apartment and £179,950 for a two bedroom apartment. For information please contact Rebecca and Moira at the Sales and Marketing suite on 01622 661511

Higgins Construction

Projects of the Year

Congratulations to everyone involved in the two projects that have been awarded 'Project of the Year 2010'

Downham Road

Client: A2Dominion

This design and build contract has seen the demolition of existing buildings and the construction of a new concrete framed structure of 7 floors, which include commercial units in the basement. This project has delivered 50 new homes, including rent, shared ownership and private sales.

LBB Decent Homes Phase 2

Client: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Following on from a successful pilot scheme we were awarded Phase 2 of this multi million pound refurbishment programme. We have once again been able to show our high standard and professionalism of delivery in bringing the existing housing stock up to the Decent Homes Standard.



Downham Road

Working to benefit the community



Greenfields Community Housing and Higgins work together on many community events to ensure everyone involved in the refurbishment programme has an opportunity to have a chat with a member of the team about any concerns or issues they may have - or give a compliment or feedback.

At the recent Braintree Carnival, the Construction Team and Greenfields had a joint stall promoting 'healthy living'. They gave away fresh fruit and veg, which was produced 80% from the local area, whilst

catching up with the local community.

As part of our community partnership we were also sponsoring the BMX Championship at a venue 1.5 miles down the road. Part of this included taking part in a 'Fun Race' - a BMX amateur race in between the main races.

Well done to our partnership team for taking on the challenge!

- Mark Harding & Steve Howard (Higgins)
- Kerry Johnson & Laura Hern (Community Police)
- Ross Cull & Amy Dear (Greenfields)

NEW STARTERS

We would like to welcome **Mantis Kvietkus** to Higgins Construction as he takes up the position of Assistant site agent at Beechwood Village (formaly Craylands Estate) in Basildon. Best wishes for your new role.

CONGRATULATIONS

Mark Francis and Arwen recently married at Maiden Barn, High Easter in a beautiful setting of secluded gardens and surrounding countryside. This was then followed by a fantastic honeymoon in Kenya for 2½ weeks. We send you both our best wishes for your future together.



LONG SERVICE

Our thanks and congratulations are sent to **Adrian Stanley** (1), Senior Planner, who celebrates 15 years working for Higgins Group along with **Shirley Donnelly** (2), Senior RLO, and **Jamie Atkins** (3), Team Leader



Surveyor, who both complete their 10 years service. Your hard work and commitment is very much appreciated.

FUN AT THE FOOTBALL

This year's winners of the 5-A side football tournament were the **Surveyors**; Tom West, Steve Quinn, Steve Watters, Andy Thomson, Dave Buckle and Colin Chatfield.

They managed to get a full 24 points, winning every game they played. They also won last year, with a slightly different line up, looks like the

Surveyors have hidden footie talents!

The losers were **Pre construction**; Paul Wilsher, Keith Briggs, Amanda Daly, Mike O'Sullivan, Dave Rayner, Paul Garner and Martin Nash. They say they were going for looks in their team selection!



NEW HOST IN TOWN

Many thanks to everyone who came and supported the 'first night' for the new Quiz Master **Rob Vieceli** who hosted a great night at Old Loughtonians Hockey Club.

In first place was 'Norfolk 'n' chance' and last place '5 daisies and a pansy'.



NEW LINK IN LINK

From this month Laura Williams will be taking responsibility for the monthly editions of Link, so if have any information or stories you would like to have included then either send the info to laura.williams@higginsconstruction or give her a call on ext: 6062



UPDATE ON THE GOSSIPING LEAGUE

If you wish to email your future tender gossips please send to the following email address **tendergossip@higginsconstruction.co.uk**

Department	Target	Tot	Department	Target	Tot
Pre Con Cost Mgmt	30	7	Surveying	40	20
Pre-Con Design Mgmt	64	36	Procurement	16	7
CSR	12	14	Site Mgmt	36	1
Contracts Mgmt	32	4	Support	4	4
			Total	234	93

If you would like a copy of 'link' in large print, Braille, on CD or in your language, please contact Laura Williams, laura.williams@higginsconstruction.co.uk