

7 February 2006

### **FORMER CINEMA SITE PROGRESS UPDATE**

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council has been in discussions with the new owners of the former cinema site in Royal Tunbridge Wells, Ferlyn Properties Limited. It is hope that work will begin in April 2006.

Following the grant of planning permission for the redevelopment of the site, Ferlyn Properties Limited, who acquired the site last July, has instructed a professional team to proceed with the redevelopment of this key town centre site.

The development includes a night-club, over 5,000 m<sup>2</sup> retail floorspace and 800 m<sup>2</sup> of bars and restaurants, together with forty-eight dwellings.

The project is currently at the tender stage. Demolition is planned to commence in April, with construction following in July. The intention is to ensure that the new retail accommodation will be open for trade before December 2007.

Paul Carter, Broadlands Chartered Surveyors, said:

‘Ferlyn Properties Limited is proud to be associated with this prestigious development that, with the comprehensive redevelopment of the site will enhance the character of the Conservation Area, reinforce the retail presence in this important location, add to the viability and vitality of the town centre and provide residential accommodation, of which twelve will be affordable dwellings.’

Cllr Elizabeth Thomas, Portfolio Holder for Planning, said:

‘We are delighted that the proposed redevelopment is now getting underway. We want Royal Tunbridge Wells to be the first choice of residence for young people who want to contribute to our local economy to help us maintain our high standards. We are actively working with developers and builders to achieve this, in line with Government requirements.’

**- ends -**

**For more information in the first instance please contact Nadine Squire, Public Relations Officer on 01892 554032 or Sarah Olney, Acting Public Relations Manager on 01892 554270 or e-mail [pressoffice@tunbridgewells.gov.uk](mailto:pressoffice@tunbridgewells.gov.uk)**

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