

Cavendish Square Dream Becomes a Reality

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Residents have been told the latest fabulous news about the scheme to regenerate Cavendish Square in Swindon. After years of consultation, planning and preparation for the project, developers will start work on site on Monday, 24 July.

The massive project takes in all aspects of life at Cavendish Square - residential, commercial and community. It will see the building of 174 new homes - 33 of these will be affordable housing.

The shopping area is to be revamped and a new Co-op store built. The library will be enlarged, refitted and restocked and improvements will be made to Oak Tree School. Plans include a play area and a multi use games area to be shared by the school and community.

Swindon Borough Council partners on the development Leehampton Developments Ltd will begin school works and Bellway Plc will start residential works on 24 July. School works will take about three-and-a-half months, residential works about 38 months and commercial works about 26 months.

Through this project, Swindon Borough Council is fulfilling, in part, promise 39 of its 2010 commitments to redevelop a range of sites, including Cavendish Square. Cavendish Square was built as a centrepiece to a new council housing estate in the 1960s, when it was highly regarded by residents. The Council intends to return the area to its former glory and create a development of which to be proud.

The community is at the heart of Swindon Borough Council's scheme to redevelop Cavendish Square and plans were formed following consultation with local people. As well as working with developers (both commercial and residential), the Council has forged a partnership with Parks and East Walcot Neighbourhood Renewal Company.

The Renewal Company works with the community, public, private and voluntary sectors for regeneration and renewal in Parks and East Walcot and has an office at Cavendish Square.

Swindon Borough Council Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Social Care, Cllr David Renard, said: "The Cavendish Square scheme is an amazing project which the community has helped us shape. There may be some disruption as the scheme comes to fruition but the end result will be a fabulous regeneration project to benefit the whole community. We are working together to create a scheme which will serve the entire community for generations to come."