



HOW

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PRESS RELEASE

May 2009

Planning Application Submitted For Multi Million Pound Redevelopment Scheme For Leigh

Project: Bridgewater Business Park
Client: Alard Properties Ltd.
Location: Leigh



Over 25 acres of ageing industrial space close to the heart of the town centre in Leigh, Lancs, could be transformed into a vibrant commercial, residential and leisure location following Manchester based HOW Planning's recent submission of an outline planning application and accompanying Masterplan to Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council.

Alard Properties Ltd (APL), owners of the site, now known as Bridgewater Business Park, together with HOW Planning have created a Masterplan for a mixed use development to include offices, up to 320 family homes; workshop/enterprise and small scale local retail units. The plans also incorporate imaginative ideas to maximise the value of the site's canal frontage incorporating family friendly cafes and developing the area's natural landscaping.

Says Gary Halman, Partner at HOW Planning: "This is a great application which will help Alard Properties to invest in the scheme and help establish the long term security of Bridgewater Place. The planning permission for the site makes it a very attractive proposition which will significantly contribute to the ongoing regeneration of the area."



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Commenting on the proposals, Tony Goddard, APL Chief Executive, said: "We have long felt that this area of town could do with a face lift. It is a very central location, which, through time, has become an eyesore at odds with the surrounding residential areas. We believe it could be turned into something really special.

"In working with the Local Authority we have been encouraged to look at a wider reaching scheme than merely the scope of our site to create a new vision for the area.

"Since buying the site, we have also been keen to support Christchurch Cof E School, which is located at the entrance of the site, to find a new location to build a brand new facility and have offered both financial and professional help in helping to achieve this. The school is continuing negotiations with the Local Authority to find a new location and whilst we have designed our Masterplan to keep these aspirations alive we have also ensured that the development is designed around the school's existing arrangements and made space available for its expansion, if needed in the meantime.

"We have always been convinced that having a primary school situated in the middle of an industrial estate next to a busy road is not acceptable. The new Masterplan alleviates both issues for the school whilst their search for a new location continues".

Alard Properties Ltd also own Kingmoor Park Wrexham and the company's flagship industrial estate Kingmoor Park Carlisle. The latter, a 400 acre ex MOD facility was bought by the company in 1999. Following an investment, refurbishment and new build programme the site now has over 120 tenants including Capita, Edinburgh Woollen Mill and Princes Soft Drinks, who have provided over 1500 jobs for the area.

The Leigh planning application and supporting documents can be viewed at the library in Leigh and at the Planning Department, Civic Centre, Wigan.