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NEWS RELEASE

Chevin works in partnership to deliver affordable homes in Goldthorpe

In January 2009, Barnsley Council approved a Masterplan that was developed with the community to regenerate central Goldthorpe. The purpose of the Masterplan was to address issues such as, poor quality housing and new housing that is becoming isolated from the existing settlement. Other issues included tackling the poor condition of the existing school whilst looking at the underused main shopping area and a popular but poorly located market, along with considering crime and anti social behaviour issues. The proposals included the acquisition and demolition of 108 properties to facilitate the creation of a site for a proposed new Primary school for Goldthorpe. Various rehousing and support packages have been introduced to assist tenants, residents and property owners to relocate to alternative property which meets their requirements.

Chevin Housing Association, supported by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council have been successful in securing funding from the Homes and Communities Agency to purchase twelve family homes in the area, enabling residents affected by regeneration proposals to be relocated within the village close to family and friends.

The homes have been built by local developer, Lightmain Construction, who built the first phase of eight homes to eco-homes good standard and the second phase to meet the Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3 standard within the build fabric alone.

Helen Martland, Business Development Manager at Chevin said "This development has been a key priority for Barnsley MBC and Chevin Housing Association. The regeneration of Goldthorpe required the demolition to open up new sites and it was important that those people displaced had an option to remain in the area if possible."

Councillor Bill Newman, spokesperson for Barnsley Council's Development Directorate said "The Council are pleased to work in partnership with Chevin Housing Association to enable the delivery of much needed new affordable housing in the area of Goldthorpe. This has enabled residents affected by the regeneration proposals to remain in the area where they want to live."

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Mrs Trueman a resident who has recently relocated said “I was a bit worried when I found out my home on Main Street was going to be demolished. Barnsley Council were very helpful and got in touch with me to let me know that they were working with Chevin Housing Association who were able to offer me a brand new 2 bedroom house in the same village which was great. I did have a few reservations at first as I have mobility problems and had my name down for a 2 bed bungalow but I am able to get around my new home as it has a wider staircase, I absolutely love it. It was so nice moving in and not having to do much decorating or major changes and it’s great to be able to sit out in the garden and relax on sunny days, I can honestly say it’s made such a positive difference to my life”.

Photographed: Mrs Trueman in her new home.

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