FEATUERED PROJECTS IN ISSUE 2

ORPINGTON

Orpington is set to get a seven-screen cinema complex as part of the £10 million addition to the Walnuts Shopping Centre, which will include four large retail units and three new restaurants. Improved public spaces and the town’s first cinema in 30 years will also feature.

The 4,500sq m scheme by Miller Developments is under way and will be completed in early 2014. The existing market will relocate to the adjacent College Square. Walnut Square will be reconfigured, with two mature walnut trees planted and a new glazed frontage for the cinema lobby. The development will regenerate the town centre, improve the public realm and complement the Walnuts’ retail offer. The scheme will deliver associated parking and accommodation to suit contemporary retail requirements.

BROMLEY SOUTH, PAVILION LEISURE COMPLEX

The £7 million refurbishment of the 20-year-old town centre Pavilion leisure complex is now complete, the first in a series of area action plan (AAP) schemes. Operated by social enterprise Mytime Active, the Pavilion has a new 12-lane bowling alley, replacing squash courts, a completely refurbished 100-station gym, soft play centre, new dance studios and a refurbished reception area. Finishing touches include improved heating in the pool; a changing area and new cubicles have also been added.

Steve Price, Mytime Active chief executive, said: “The Pavilion leisure centre has now become a real feature of life in Bromley and is a place for all generations to enjoy together.” Mytime Active was formed in 2004 and manages leisure services for Bromley Council. Over the past nine years it has reinvested £12.2 million back into services.

BROMLEY SOUTH CENTRAL

Designed to kickstart the regeneration of the south end of Bromley High Street, this £30 million Cathedral Group scheme started on site in April 2013.

At the heart of the new residential and leisure quarter, designed by Guy Hollaway Architects and Studio Egret West, will sit a landscaped public square with 400 parking spaces on six levels below. The square will be surrounded by a nine-screen multiplex cinema, 2,250sq m of cafes and restaurants, a 130-bedroom business hotel and 200 private and affordable apartments.

The cafes, restaurants and other amenities will be grouped to create an attractive, managed environment. Family restaurant brands such as Prezzo, Nando’s, Turtle Bay and Las Iguanas will take units, and other national brands are showing interest in cafe and restaurant space. Premier Inn will occupy the hotel and Vue will operate the cinema.

Cathedral Group will embark on an ambitious public art programme to provide the new public realm with a relevant installation. Following initial removal of old buildings, the next stage in the preparation of the site involved work on the demolition of the five-storey Westmoreland Road car park.

Cathedral Group announced in May that it will partner with Hermes Real Estate Investment Management Ltd (HREIML) to deliver the scheme. HREIML will invest £54.9 million in forward funding for the commercial element – 85% of which is pre-let – as well as a funding facility for the residential development.

The new quarter is expected to create 220 jobs in Bromley and provide a total of £220 million GVA (Gross Value Added) to the local economy over the next 10 years. It is due to open in autumn 2015.

LoCATE BIGGIN HILL

Biggin Hill is identified in The London Plan as a strategic outer London development centre, underpinned by its status as London’s only specialist business and general aviation airport. Public and private sector partnership, LoCATE – the London Centre for Aviation Technology and Enterprise – plans to increase the attractiveness of the airport for new investment and create 2,300 new jobs.

New businesses and supply chain companies can build on recent investment by Formula One, Rizon Jet, and JETS Biggin Hill (part of the 328 Group).

Bromley’s emerging Local Plan aims to maximise the economic potential of Biggin Hill, with plans under way to identify further land for investment. Proposals include a modernised terminal and aircraft hangars. West Camp is identified for the development of business accommodation; South Camp has plots for new hangarage and larger floorplate buildings for specialist aviation businesses.

There are also plans for a hotel, specialist aviation skills training academy, and heritage attraction, marking 75 years since the Battle of Britain.
BROMLEY NORTH VILLAGE

Bromley’s High Street North, East Street and the Market Square, which form the main thoroughfares in the Village, will be transformed during the period up to the winter of 2014, as part of a £5.5 million regeneration programme.

Funded by Bromley Council and the mayor of London, the improvements will include new enlarged granite pavements, new street lights and furniture. The project is aimed at increasing footfall in the Village area to support the existing network of independent stores and consolidate the area’s position as a dynamic entertainment quarter. Works will commence in July 2013 and are planned to take place over 18 months.

Bromley has a rich heritage. A market town since the 13th century, it developed as a major coaching stop to London from the Kent coast. Many historic buildings, churches, listed pubs and coaching inns still exist, part of the attractive streetscape of Bromley North Village.