

Library moves step closer

Date: 12 Jun 2008

The eagerly-awaited new library for Portishead has moved a step nearer.

The Secretary of State for Transport has authorised the stopping up of a length of highway verge at the A369 Station Road, opposite the fire station.

This land is needed for the £6 million development which will include a modern, state-of-the-art library, 32 residential flats and car parking facilities for residents and library visitors.

The new library will not only include books, DVDs and free internet access, but will also provide Portishead residents with easy and convenient access to our services.

The development is a joint initiative between ourselves and developers the PG Group.

"I am delighted that this stopping up order has been authorised and we can now move forward with this exciting and much-needed development," said Cllr Ian Peddlesden, executive member responsible for the library service.

"I am looking forward to seeing the benefits a brand new library with all its modern features will bring to the residents of Portishead."

The PG Group's project director, Ian Walker, said: "We are thrilled that this obstacle to the development has been overcome.

"We trust that we can now complete the remaining legal documentation with the council as soon as possible so that we will be in a position to make a start on this long overdue project.

"We now have the opportunity to proceed with design development in preparation to start on site.

"Initial enabling work starts on 1 October and contractors will be on site in January 2009. The development is due to be completed in summer 2010."