

On the move

News, views and advice for the communities of **The Burgesses and Mill House**



Latest project update

Moving stories

Re-development timeline

Welcome to the latest issue of **On the Move**, keeping the community of Mill House and The Burgesses updated about the redevelopment plans in Kinver.

In this issue, catch up with some of your neighbours who have been settling in to their new homes. Take a look at the drawings submitted as part of the application for planning permission to redevelop The Burgesses and get an idea of the timescales involved in a project like this.

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Plans submitted in Kinver

A planning application to create purpose-built accommodation for older people in Kinver has been submitted. Housing Plus Group has applied to build 23 self-contained, accessible apartments replacing eight bungalows and one flat at The Burgesses.

The plans will deliver additional homes suitable for older people who want to live independently. A new, purpose-built development will offer self-contained apartments, social space and access to great care and support.

To ensure that current residents have as much time and support as possible to find a new home, development is being approached in two stages.

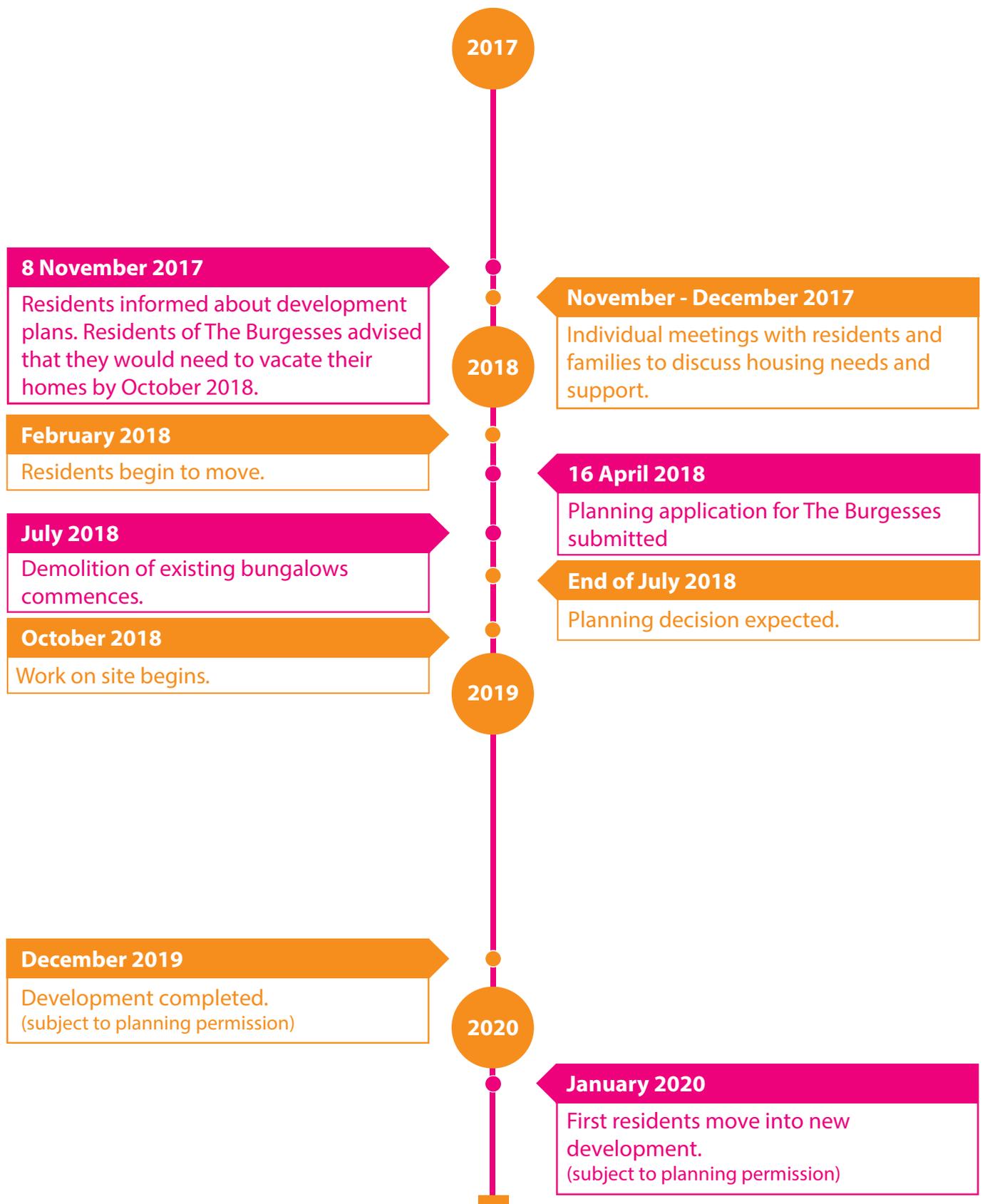
The Group is proposing to start work at the Burgesses towards the end of this year and create new housing at Mill House in 2020.

An information meeting is being held in Kinver, so that local people can learn more about the proposals, talk to the development team and raise any questions that they might have.

The meeting is taking place at **Senior Citizens Club, Kinver** at **4pm-7pm** on **Wednesday 13 June**. Anyone who is interested in what the project offers Kinver is welcome to attend.

More information about The Burgesses and Mill House is available online by visiting www.care-plus.org.uk/burgesses-and-mill-house

Redevelopment of The Burgesses: a timeline



Christine settles in to her new home

As you know, we are proposing to redevelop The Burgesses and Mill House in two phases. Although work on Mill House isn't likely to start until 2020, residents have the option of a supported move at any time.

Christine Carter has already made the move from Mill House into a home that she loves, nearby. Having lived in Kinver for four decades, Christine was keen to stay in the village. She had been very happy in Mill House but was finding it increasingly difficult to get outside without help.

"I feel as though I'm free!"

"I was able to walk along the corridors but I couldn't get outside on my own. I was starting to feel housebound. Here, I can open my French windows, let the sunshine in, see the grass and listen to the birds. I feel as though I'm free!"

Christine has moved in to a bungalow, where she says that she is enjoying the extra space.

"It's a proper home, with space when my family and friends come to visit. I'm happy here."



Funding new homes for local communities

South Staffordshire Housing Association and Care Plus are part of Housing Plus Group.

The not-for-profit group is committed to providing affordable housing to help local communities to thrive. The income that the organisation receives from rent or the sale of property is reinvested into home improvements, support for customers and the development of much-needed housing in our towns and villages.

Much of the funding for projects such as the proposed redevelopment of The Burgesses and Mill House comes from our reserves and the loans that we can secure as a highly-graded housing provider. In Kinver we are also eligible for a social housing grant from the Government



and additional funding from the Local Authority which allocates money levied on private developers to provide affordable housing in the area.

Housing Plus Group has a responsibility to deliver value for money and to spend its resources fairly, to benefit local communities. Each year we publish a Value for Money statement. You can read our most recent statement and view our annual report on the Housing Plus Group website www.housingplusgroup.co.uk

Tony spreads his wings

Tony Webster has moved from The Burgesses to a bungalow in Codsall. Although he is very fond of Kinver, he has very close links to Codsall and was keen to live somewhere within walking distance of local shops and amenities.

"I had a shop in Codsall for ten years and my mother was in business there for 25 years, so I know the area very well and have plenty of friends here," he says. "I wanted to be able to walk

"I've moved to Codsall. I had a shop there for ten years and my mother was in business there for 25 years."

to local shops without using the car. This is a great location and I settled in very quickly.

"I won't be turning my back on Kinver completely, though. I'll be keeping in touch with people in the area and of course I'll be going to listen to Bev Jackson singing in the White Hart."

Although he hadn't anticipated moving, Tony says that he is impressed with the support and information that has been provided since residents were told about proposals for The Burgesses and Mill House at the end of last year.

"They have been absolutely wonderful and Jackie is so caring, you know that she is doing her best for us. We have had lots of choices and all the support we could ask for, I'm delighted with the way that we have been kept informed and helped every step of the way."





No 'Heartbreak Hotel' for Elvis fan Bev

Beverley 'Bev' Jackson has already made his move out of The Burgesses. He is living in in nearby Mill House and hopes to move into one of the new homes planned for The Burgesses.

Bev has been an Elvis fan for as long as he can remember and is well known in the area's

"As soon as I saw this flat I couldn't wait to move."

pubs and clubs where he performs some of his favourite tracks by the King of Rock and Roll. He has made his Mill house flat feel just like home, with his Elvis memorabilia taking pride of place.

"As soon as Jackie Ilic showed me this flat I couldn't wait to move," he says. "I have got more space and it feels a lot more open. There is a walk-in shower, too, which is much easier for me to use. I knew all my new neighbours, so it feels as though I'm living with friends."

Familiar surroundings for Evelyn

Evelyn Handy is one of the neighbours moving out of The Burgesses. Residents there have been given time to make a move and support to find alternative accommodation in the area.

Most of the neighbours have chosen to make a permanent move into a new home. Some, like Evelyn, prefer to move into nearby Mill House. These residents will apply for one of the apartments which Housing Plus Group plans to develop at The Burgesses.

"I grew up in Kinver and moved back here 11 years ago. It's a nice place to live and I want to stay at this end of the village, within walking distance of the high street," she explains.

Evelyn has moved into a flat in Mill House and although she sees this as a temporary move, says that she enjoys having a little more space than was available in her old bungalow at The Burgesses: "I've got a nice view outside and I'm

comfortable in my flat. People are lovely here, everyone helps each other. They have made me very welcome."

"People are lovely here, everyone helps each other."

Evelyn is looking forward to seeing more details of the new development. Residents were told about the project well before a planning application was made and were shown early drawings during the pre-planning stage. Evelyn was also among the group of residents who visited another retirement living community recently built by Housing Plus Group, to get a clearer picture of the kind of accommodation which would be provided in Kinver. "I'm looking forward to seeing detailed plans of the apartments now, so that we can visualise the layout of the rooms," she says.

Letter to the editor



I cannot find the words to express my gratitude for the support and help I received from Jackie, during my move.

My happiness and health have improved dramatically since coming to live in this delightful property. To read in the lounge with sunshine streaming through the windows is something I could never do at The Burgesses.

I love the privacy and pottering in the garden is wonderful. Having my daughter nearby is very reassuring and she is a great support. I love everything about my new home and know I will be very happy here, thanks to you.

Mary Taylor

Moving house is hard at any age but a new guide to helping older relatives make a move could help...

The benefits of moving to a new home can be huge for an elderly person who is losing their mobility, wanting to move closer to family and friends, or looking for a home that better suits their needs. It is often difficult to make that move, though, because of the need to sort through decades of accumulated belongings and all the attached memories.

This can also cause stress to family members trying to help a parent or relative to move home, which is why elderly advice website www.myageingparent.com has come up with a new guide filled with tips to help the move go smoothly.

“Moving home is one of the most stressful experiences in anyone’s life,” says Deborah Stone of www.myageingparent.com, “The prospect of packing up a home can seem overwhelming.”

Together with Margaret Wilson, a professional ‘de-clutterer and former psychiatric nurse, Myageingparent.com has compiled a handy guide that will take much of the stress out of the move for both the older person and their family.

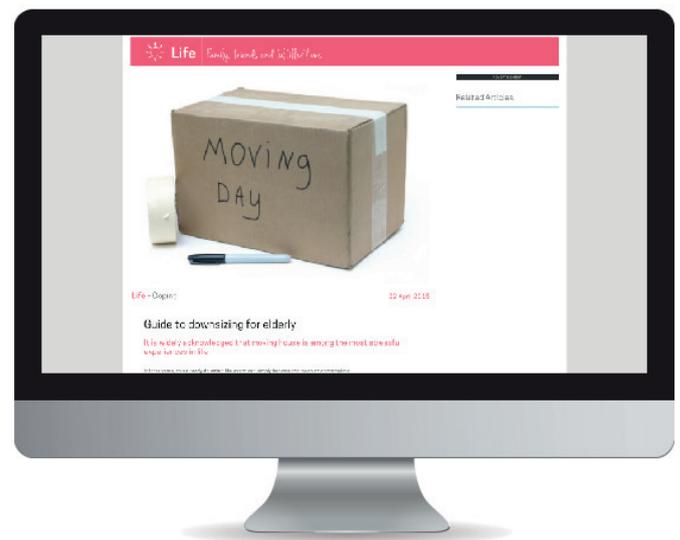
“Supporting an elderly person to make a move means much more than simply packing up boxes and calling in a removal firm,” says Margaret. “It’s really important to recognise and understand the

physical, emotional and cognitive changes faced by an older adult – and the impact this will have on their ability to cope with a move.

“No one should underestimate the impact that clearing and sorting a lifetime’s possessions will have: the process will involve rediscovering forgotten possessions, reliving memories that may be bitter-sweet and making dozens of decisions.”

You can find the complete guide here:

<http://www.myageingparent.com/downsizing-or-moving-for-the-elderly/>



The next issue of On the Move will be with you in the summer,

- Updates on the development project
- Catch up with neighbours making the move

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