

20th July 2009

NEWS RELEASE

A member of
Westward
Housing
Group

Westcountry
Housing
provides 4,500
good quality
affordable
homes in the
south west

- ❖ Affordable
- ❖ High quality
- ❖ Rented
- ❖ Low cost
ownership

Housing advice
and services
provider

**“Your home
should be
somewhere
you want to
be”**

Attractive New Affordable Homes at Tiverton

*** PHOTOS ATTACHED ***

Launch event - at Newport Street, Tiverton

Westcountry Housing's latest affordable housing scheme has provided local people in desperate need of rented housing with 33 one and two-bedroom apartments at Newport Street, Tiverton.

The land and vacant bingo hall formerly on the site were purchased by Westcountry for £830,000 in 2004. Planning Permission was granted on appeal in December 2005 and Mid Devon District Council funded £472,000 of the project (the largest funding they have ever offered for such a project).

The Homes and Communities Agency (formerly Housing Corporation allocated funding of £1m towards the cost of providing 18 x one-bed and 15 x two-bed homes - all for rental. Coyde Construction built the homes starting in December 2006 on a contract of £2,328,000 with the total scheme costing £3.7m.

The Development team worked hard to protect local wildlife, including delaying work due to swallows nesting. Archaeological remains on the site were also protected by changing the type of foundations so the remains could be preserved under the new building.

Resident Holly Morris said she was delighted with her family's new home and felt the whole process of getting it had gone very well.

Cllr Frank Rosamond, Chairman of Mid Devon District Council, said a few words at the launch event on 9th June. And then those present enjoyed music by a jazz band and children's entertainment by a clown in a marquee. Residents could browse information stands whilst they ate the buffet and looked at a consultation survey about their views on the new scheme.

Chairman of Westcountry Housing, Mike Winwood, said: " *I am very impressed with how attractive these new homes in Tiverton are and pleased it has clearly been such a good partnership with Mid Devon District Council. What a wonderful community of so many young families seem to be here. How nice that all these young children will grow up together, what a great start in life.* "

Contact: Vanessa Gray, Group Communications Manager
Telephone 01803 217500 Mobile 07515 197006
Email: vanessa.gray@westwardhousing.org.uk

Notes to editors:

As a social landlord, Westcountry Housing strives to work in partnership with local authorities to meet the needs of local people in the greatest need of housing.

Westcountry Housing is a member of Westward Housing Group which provides more than 6,000 affordable, high quality homes and housing related services across Cornwall and Devon.

Visit: www.westcountryha.org.uk

Ends



Darren Snell and Holly Morris, the first residents to move in, open the scheme whilst Cllr Rosamond looks on (left of photo)

Holly Morris and Darren Snell with little Millie

