

New Neighbourhood Centre in Coventry, including primary care facilities – Aug 07

An article in the Coventry Telegraph about Coventry City Council and CareCapital joining forces to develop a neighbourhood centre in Allesley Park, including new primary care facilities, a pharmacy, optician, café and a long-awaited library.

New library – with a twist – to open

By Fiona Scott
POLITICAL EDITOR

A NEW public library is to be opened in Coventry.

It will form part of a new centre which will also contain a doctor's surgery.

The city council and a private firm are joining forces to build a new neighbourhood centre at Allesley Park.

Patients will be able to collect their prescriptions from a pharmacy on-site, get eye tests at an opticians, and even enjoy a cup of tea at a cafe on the site.

There will also be a one-stop shop for the city council.

Community services director John Bolton said it was good

Big plans for town centre

PLANS for a massive development in Leamington – which will include a flagship department store – are marching ahead.

Yesterday, Warwick District Council said it had appointed developers to start work on the scheme in Chandos Street in the

town centre. Work, which has been on the drawing board for more than a year, could get under way as early as next year.

The scheme will create shops, a 500-space car park for shoppers, apartments, and an as yet unnamed department store.

£1million towards the new building, and the rest will be paid for by Care Capital Ltd, a company listed on the Stock Exchange.

It had approached the doctors' practice in Winsford Avenue, Allesley Park, about developing the surgery and plans grew from there.

news for the city and marked the end of a long search for a suitable site for a library in the area.

The current temporary library operating in the grounds of St John's Primary School nearby will be closed once the new centre is up and running.

The city council is to put

The new centre will be next door to the Wilfred Spencer Centre – once considered as a possible site for the library but later discounted.

Mr Bolton said plans for a new library at Whoberley went back to 2003 when Coventry was criticised after an inspection. A report said the city needed three more libraries.

One was put in a former housing office at Cheylesmore, and one in the new Caludon Castle School in Wyken, but it proved more difficult to find a good site in Allesley Park.

Cabinet member responsible, Tim Sawdon, said: "I think it's fantastic. It combines a health centre with a library and there will be some shops in it too."

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