

voice

www.kingswoodparks.co.uk

...the best place to live in Hull

Health Centre given the go-ahead



Oyster Catcher

A new look for an old favourite

Business Focus –

Behind the scenes at Trident

Competition Winner

See how our winners got on at David Lloyd

Beat the credit crunch

Advice from Mortgage Advisor Phil Gray

It's a good time to buy a house in Kingswood Parks - see inside for details

Welcome...

..to the Kingswood Parks Voice. The first two issues of the newsletter proved to be very popular and we have received lots of positive feedback from readers via our website. We hope you enjoy reading this latest edition, produced by the Kingswood Parks Development Company, as much as the previous ones.

We are delighted to be able to announce that plans to build a health centre in the development have been approved – read more about what you can expect on pages 4 and 5. In the last edition, we offered readers the chance to win a month long pass to health and fitness club David Lloyd and we're delighted to catch up with the winner Helen Richardson and her husband Martin on Pages 8 and 9 to find out how they got on.

As part of our last Kidz Corner competition, which always appears on the back page of the magazine, we also offered our younger readers the chance to win an evening of family fun on us. Eight-year-old Cesena Ball was our lucky winner and took her family to Hollywood Bowl and Frankie & Benny's, you can read about it and see some photographs from the evening on Page 10.

In this edition, we're continuing to promote the development by offering youngsters the opportunity to win £50 worth of clothes vouchers for Next. We have also been to take a look at the recently refurbished Oyster Catcher pub and to have a chat with landlords Yvette and Mark Featherstone, who you can read about on the facing page.

Meanwhile, on Page 7 we have profiled some of the best properties for sale in Kingswood Parks, with something for everyone from first time buyers to spacious family homes – no matter what you're looking for, our development has got it covered. In addition to this, one of the region's mortgage experts is giving our readers some top tips on how they can get onto the property ladder on page 10.

Best Wishes Kelly

Yorkshire Water update...

Yorkshire Water is delighted to give readers an update on the £1.5m investment made into its Bransholme Pumping Station since the floods in June 2007.



A standby pump being lowered into the station

A spokesperson from Yorkshire Water said: "The most significant investment we have made at the Bransholme Pumping Station has been in the installation of two new pumps and back-up generators, which offer 100 per cent stand-by capacity during periods of extreme weather.

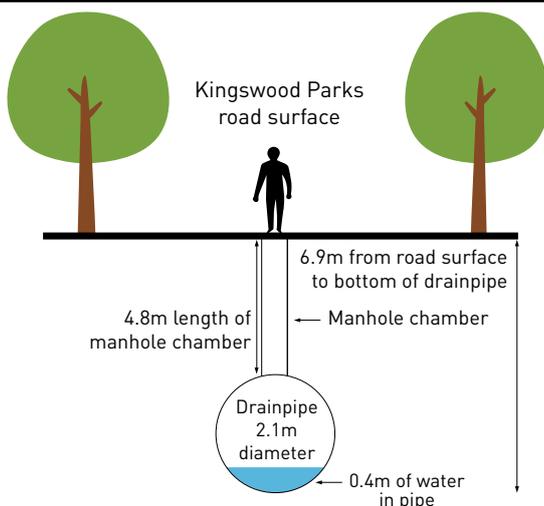
"Although we can never offer a cast-iron guarantee that Kingswood and Bransholme will never flood again, Yorkshire Water has been actively playing its part in reducing the risks since the deluge of 2007 and has completed a £1.5m investment at the station.

"The resident diesel pumps overwhelmed a year ago have now been serviced and repaired, a new cooling system has been installed to improve their resilience and protection has been built in for the electricity sub-station which powers the site.

"However, if another series of summer storms were to inundate the station once again, the two additional pumps and generators installed this year would start up and ensure the pumping station continued to operate, regardless of the weather.

"Although we're satisfied our investment will keep the pumps running in even the most extreme circumstances, Yorkshire Water will continue to work with Kingswood Developments to understand any future demands on the station.

"We would also like to thank residents who live close to the station for their patience while the work has been carried out and apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused."



Water rarely rises above 0.4m since floods

KPDC comments on rainfall levels:

"During all recent periods of heavy rainfall, we have continued to monitor the manholes and we are pleased to report that water has continued to flow, rarely even rising to 0.4m in depth, as shown in the illustration on the left."

Meet the couple who have lived and worked in Kingswood Parks for a decade



WINNING TEAM: Yvette and Mark Featherstone, landlords of the Oyster Catcher, with key members of their team

The Oyster Catcher

has been a familiar venue to the residents of Kingswood Parks for 10 years. However, it's recently had a bit of a facelift; in fact you probably won't recognise it at all.

Kingswood residents Yvette and Mark Featherstone originally opened the pub back in 1998 as a family venue with a Wacky Warehouse for children to play and a menu offering 2 for 1 food. Yvette said: "We were really successful for 7 or 8 years, but we gradually started seeing more places opening offering something similar, that's when we decided we were ready for a change."

After meeting with the board of directors, they were presented with two options, to refurbish and reopen the same as before, or to take a risk and try something new. They took the risk and closed for 10 weeks, spending £500,000 on transforming the venue into a modern, fashionable bar. "We'd lived here for 10 years and we'd changed in that time and so had the people of Kingswood, it was time for a change for the bar too," said Yvette. "We spoke to a lot of people before we went ahead. We sent some of our staff out to talk to residents and after hearing their feedback, we realised that the people of Kingswood didn't have anywhere more upmarket to go and with everyone else competing on price, we had to offer something different."

That is definitely what they have done. The main bar area is modern and spacious and wouldn't look out of place in the city centre, with black chandeliers, leather sofas and all the accessories and extras that show the amount of effort and attention to detail Yvette and

Mark have put into this project. Then there is "The Barn", this huge open area used to be a more family orientated venue but now it is a great dining area, with booths for groups, huge tables for larger parties and some more private little corners.

The Barn is also available to book exclusively and is perfect for hosting weddings, functions and private meetings. Yvette said: "We're off to a great start, it's been like starting afresh with a completely new business, we're getting people through the doors now who wouldn't have ever come to us before and what is great is that they're coming back, so we must be doing something right!"

Another area which has had an overhaul is the menu. Gone are the two for one offers and microwave meals. Everything is now cooked fresh on the premises and the menu now includes a range of light bites and sandwiches as well as restaurant quality dishes such as the house speciality dish which is pan fried chicken filled with goats cheese and slow roasted tomatoes wrapped in pancetta. Then there is the new carvery, with all of their meat coming from Red Tractor Assured Farms, which is another sign of their dedication to quality.

The work at the Oyster Catcher is more than a mere refurbishment; it's a completely new venue, with everything from the décor and staff through to the customers changing. Yvette has been enjoying the new revitalised bar, saying: "It was great to have the success for all those years, but now we feel we have a new challenge, which is even better. We know everyone is going to love it as much as we do."

A **FREE** glass of house wine with every carvery purchased*



*one glass of wine per adult consuming a carvery, per visit



New health centre for Kingswood Parks



Residents in Kingswood Parks will be delighted to hear that the development of a pioneering health centre has been approved at planning. Jo Barnes, Chief Executive of Citycare, outlines her plans for the site.

The £2.5m centre - which is designed as a two-storey, 1,232 metre-squared facility - is expected to open in Autumn 2009 and will be developed by Citycare, the company that is delivering NHS LIFT (Local Improvement Finance Trust) in Hull, a national initiative designed to change the face of primary healthcare.

The state-of-the-art centre will be sited in the planned village centre of

Kingswood Parks, which sits at the back of the existing development. It will house up to four GPs and is expected to provide members of the rapidly growing community with other associated health services all under one roof.

Jo Barnes, Chief Executive of Citycare, said: "Everyone involved with Citycare is delighted that plans for a new health centre in Kingswood

Parks were given the green light. We're really looking forward to the next stages of this development that will really benefit the community."

"The people of Kingswood Parks deserve access to modern, state-of-the-art facilities and the realisation of this scheme - which is being developed at the same time as a similar scheme in Bilton Grange - will be another step in the



An artists' impression of how the health centre in Kingswood Parks will look



STATE-OF-THE-ART: Other health centres developed in Hull by Citycare give an impression of what residents in Kingswood Parks can expect (above). Simon Stallard, of the Kingswood Parks Development Company, and Jo Barnes, Chief Executive of Citycare (centre) look at plans for the centre

complete modernisation of primary and community care in the city.”

Citycare has already successfully delivered the first phase of Hull’s NHS LIFT programme, with six new centres operational across the city and work on the seventh – the flagship £14m Orchard Centre – well underway. Over a period of 25 years, it is estimated that £100m

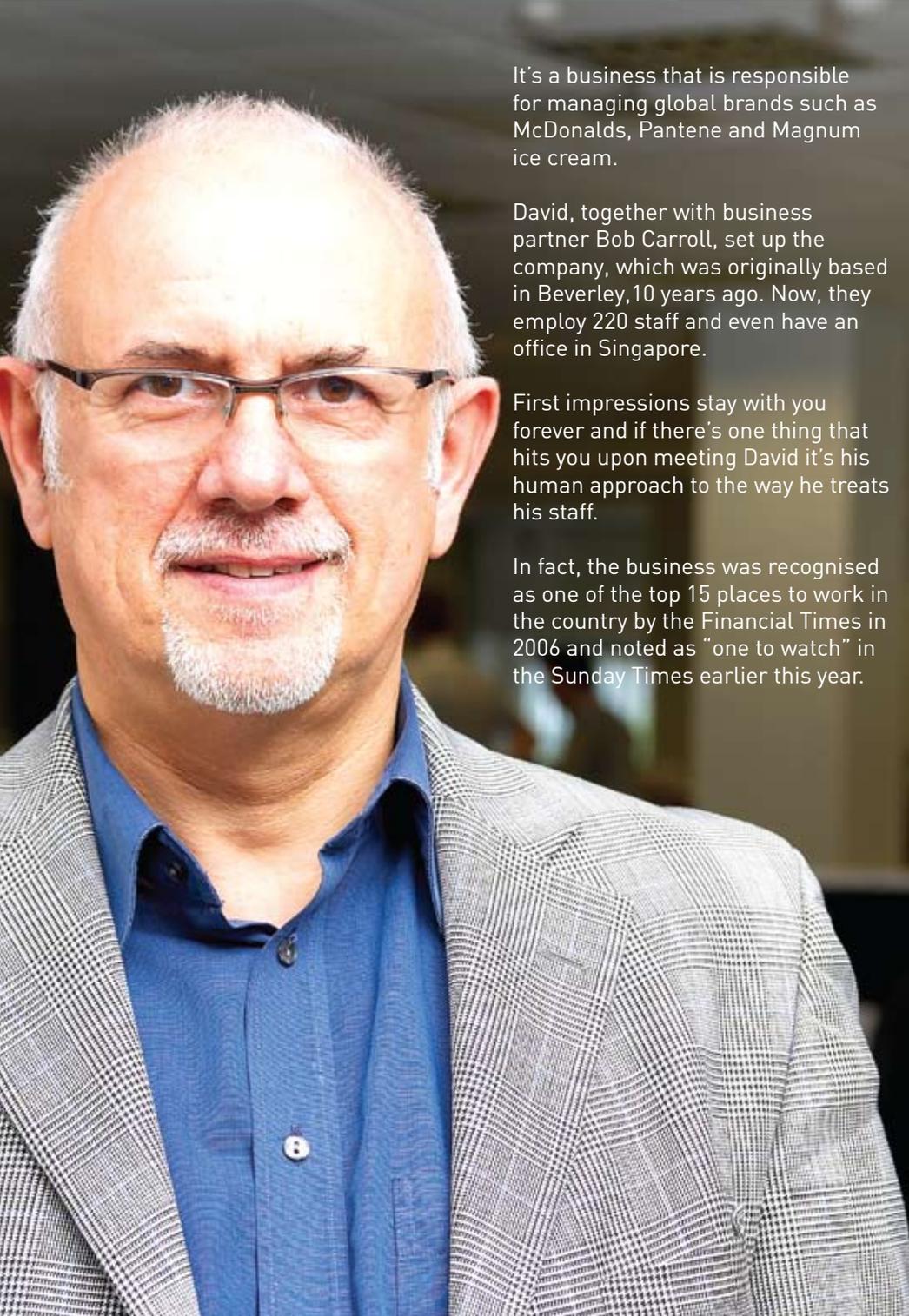
worth of investment will be made to improve Hull’s primary care estate.

For more details about Citycare, please visit www.hullcitycare.co.uk. If you would like to find out the exact location of the health centre, you can view our proposed village centre plans at www.kingswoodparks.co.uk.



Business focus

Taking a closer look at the businesses in Kingswood Parks. This month we meet David Keel of Trident...



It's a business that is responsible for managing global brands such as McDonalds, Pantene and Magnum ice cream.

David, together with business partner Bob Carroll, set up the company, which was originally based in Beverley, 10 years ago. Now, they employ 220 staff and even have an office in Singapore.

First impressions stay with you forever and if there's one thing that hits you upon meeting David it's his human approach to the way he treats his staff.

In fact, the business was recognised as one of the top 15 places to work in the country by the Financial Times in 2006 and noted as "one to watch" in the Sunday Times earlier this year.

Trident's workforce enjoy Indian head massages once a week, as well as access to relaxation areas with pool tables, free toast and coffee all day long, in addition to free sandwiches on Fridays.

"I think that life here is really interesting for our staff," said David. "Not only can they enjoy fulfilling careers, but a wide range of restaurants, shops and bars are right on their doorstep in Kingswood Parks.

"We work for a huge portfolio of the world's Fast Moving Consumer Goods brands – you could walk into any house and usually find between 10 and 20 household names that we brand manage."

Trident takes one design of a product's packaging and makes it work all over the world, ensuring it is globally consistent no matter which country you pick it up in. "We have grown 20 per cent year on year since the company was launched," he added.

"We started off with just four or five members of staff and had an office in Tokenspire Business Park, based down the road in Woodmansey, as well as one in Beverley; we needed to consolidate the two parts of the business and we were looking for somewhere that had plenty of facilities – Kingswood Parks was the obvious choice, we moved here three years ago and have never looked back."

www.sonoco-trident.com

STOP PRESS: Trident UK is frequently looking to employ full time Apple Mac Artworkers, Customer Account Administrators, Customer Managers and C++ and SQL Software Developers – send your CV to Brenda Dowds, HR Manager (brenda.dowds@sonoco-trident.com) if you wish to register your interest. Trident also often has ad hoc opportunities for Print Finishers – individuals who have the ability to hand craft different printed material into finished customer packaging samples. If you are interested in doing a trial for an ad hoc role, contact Nathan Thoresby on 710371.

Perfect properties to suit all tastes

Whilst all housebuilders offer a range of different properties we have profiled certain ones to give you a flavour of what's available at Kingswood Parks



First time buyers

The iPad Delta and iPad Zeta apartments, by Barratt Homes, both offer spacious and modern open plan living ideal for people with a busy lifestyle. Set in landscaped gardens, both iPads come with one parking space as standard. Inside, there is a modern bathroom suite and the open plan living/kitchen is a great social space.

With prices starting at £79,995, it really is one of the best first time buyer properties around.

www.barratthomes.co.uk 01482 830122



Families looking for luxury

If it's a spacious family home you're looking for, David Wilson Homes has a luxurious five bedroom family home called The Balshaw on offer. With over 2,688 square feet of living space, arranged over three floors, the house is centred around a stunning kitchen, family and breakfast room creating a hub for families to relax together.

Priced at £449,999, The Balshaw is ideal for entertaining, spending time with the family and working.

www.dwh.co.uk 01482 820732

Perfect home for a professional couple

When you're busy working all day and trying to manage a social life, it can sometimes seem that you spend very little time at home. That makes it all the more important that you are in the right environment when you do come home. The Durham at the Persimmon Homes development has a spacious kitchen/dining room and a large lounge, it's a great place to come back to and relax at the end of a long day. The two bedrooms are both doubles, perfect for having guests to stay - The Durham costs from £124,999.

www.persimmonhomes.com 01482 822111



Young family home

Finding a smart, modern home for a young family, with enough room to grow, can be a struggle. Beal Homes has the answer in the form of the Rosedale at their Oakwood development.

This three bedroom house has an impressive sized lounge and stylish kitchen/diner with patio doors looking out into the rear garden, so young children can be kept in sight at all times.

With prices starting at £136,995, including Beal's high specification, you really do get a lot for your money.

www.beal-homes.net 01482 830046

Ideal home for friends

These days it's sometimes easier to get onto the property ladder by pooling resources with friends and buying together. George Wimpey's The Ingleton is a three bedroom townhouse arranged over three floors, making it ideal for sharing, with a huge living room and spacious kitchen. There is plenty of communal space and because the two main bedrooms are on separate floors, it's easy to get away and have some time to yourself.

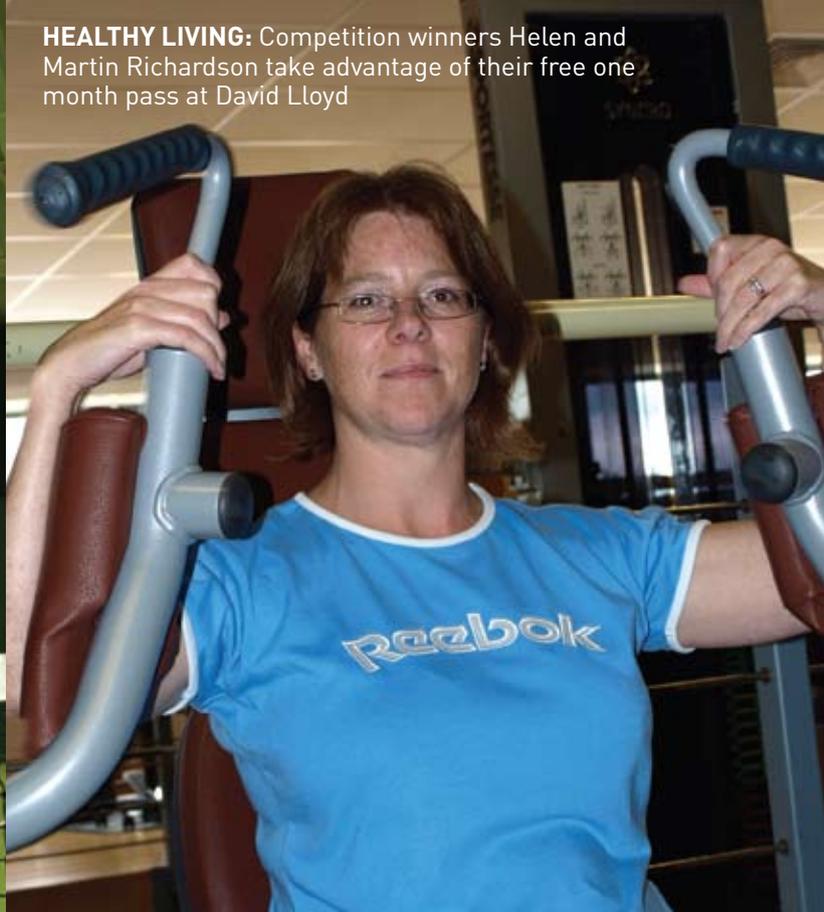
www.georgewimpey.co.uk 0845 026 5511



Our competition winners



HEALTHY LIVING: Competition winners Helen and Martin Richardson take advantage of their free one month pass at David Lloyd



David Lloyd competition winners “love having everything on their doorstep”

When we launched our competition to win a free month’s membership at state-of-the-art fitness centre David Lloyd, we were inundated with responses from readers.

Everyone that entered received a free day pass to the centre, but only one lucky reader was presented with an unlimited pass for a month.

Competition winner Helen Richardson and her husband Martin began their month’s membership on July 1. At the

time of speaking to the Voice, the pair said they would miss using the gym’s facilities and were hoping to join as full members for the next twelve months.

The Richardsons moved from Sutton in Surrey to Kingswood Parks over two years ago and haven’t looked back since. The move was manufactured from the desire for a quieter and more peaceful lifestyle; the couple strived for an easier and slower pace of life which they felt they

could gain from living in Hull.

Helen, 40, and Martin, 44, both enjoy maintaining a good level of health and fitness. Their one month membership at David Lloyd enabled them to exercise in spacious and comfortable surroundings, making the ideal prize for the fortunate pair.

Living only nine minutes walk away from the gym itself, Helen and Martin have been able to make full use of the gym and its facilities, visiting the centre three or four times a week.



Helen refers to herself as a "water baby" preferring to swim in the indoor and outdoor pools rather than workout in the gym. Swimming three times every week, Helen is certainly clocking up the miles and is very keen to maintain the exercise during the months ahead. The outdoor pool seems to be a particular favourite as it is a feature that many other fitness suites fail to offer, with a patio area and sun-terrace it allows swimmers to relax and enjoy their surroundings.

Prior to winning the competition Helen regularly visited Ennerdale swimming baths. However, after spending time at the Kingswood Parks-based fitness suite she feels that no other public swimming pool can compare to the high standard at David Lloyd. "The changing rooms are clean, fresh and

pleasant," she added.

The Richardsons praised the friendly and welcoming staff at the gym. "Many of the employees provided motivation and support, making our time spent there enjoyable and rewarding," she said. Although Helen and Martin have not yet attended any classes they say that they intend to do so, hoping to try their hand at dancing, yoga and keiser cycling taught by professional coaches and instructors.

The David Lloyd gym offers customers both indoor and outdoor swimming pools and spa areas, world class indoor and outdoor tennis, badminton and squash courts, a comprehensive range of children's activities, a fully licensed bar and restaurant and a childcare crèche and nursery.

Kingswood Parks is well known for providing its residents with retail stores, supermarkets, cinema, bowling alley and restaurants. The Richardsons commend the area for having such fantastic services saying that, "it is a bonus to be in walking distance from everything we need; it not only benefits our health but also the surroundings." Despite developments on Kingswood Parks growing rapidly, it boasts a sustainable environment and celebrates a mixed community.

"We love having everything we need right on our doorstep. We're very happy living in Kingswood" says Martin. The couple are thrilled to have won the competition and are excited about joining the gym as full members.

For more details visit www.davidlloyd.co.uk

Bowled over

The winner of the Kidz Corner competition we ran in the last issue of the Kingswood Parks Voice was eight year old Cesena Ball.

Cesena, of Bushey Park, won the competition for an evening spent at two of Kingswood's best attractions for herself and her family.

Cesena and her family took to the lanes at Hollywood Bowl, where she made an impressive start, knocking eight pins over with her first ball!

The fun was followed by a meal at Frankie and Benny's, where Cesena said: "I'm really pleased that I won, I love bowling, we've had a great time."

www.hollywoodbowl.co.uk



News from Kingswood College of Arts



Plans to re-build school approved!



EXCITED: The school's student leadership team

These are exciting times for Kingswood College of Arts. The school will be one of the cornerstones of Hull's £400m Building Schools For The Future (BSF) project and will build on its existing position within the community.

Outline planning that will transform the fabric of the school has been approved and follows years of dialogue with students, parents and residents.

"The new building will be a genuine hub of community life," explained headteacher Nicole Swallow, "and it will be designed in consultation with the community. There will be a sense of ownership."

Tony Hammond, director of resources, said: "The new building will be a much bigger community provision."

But for the staff at Kingswood College of Arts, placing people at the heart of everything that they do is nothing new.

Miss Swallow said: "We've worked hard to build community confidence with the school and have built relationships for many years

and, regardless of the future, we already listen to and hear what our students say."

Sessions built around BSF will be delivered, enabling students to fully contribute to the future of their learning institution.

"What we do will inform the way the building looks and feels from our students' perspective until we get to the point where each member of the school community has informed the design of the building. We can design a building that fits our vision and shape it in response to what is happening," said Mr Hammond.

"This present school building was built without any consideration for learning. That was a lesson that will not be repeated. The community needs to feed into the school and vice versa," added Miss Swallow.

Kingswood College of Arts has been radical in some of its approaches. It was quick to adopt Accelerated Curriculum Enhancement (ACE) teaching methods, a skills-driven approach that replicates the world beyond school.

In recent years the school has also fostered a culture of family learning, with family days taking place during school holidays. The Learning Centre based on the site has seen parents studying just rooms away from their children.

"It is wonderful to see three generations of people studying together. We don't have to separate fun activities from learning, they are one and the same. If children see their siblings and their parents learning that sends a very positive message to them about education.

"There wasn't a culture of going to college until recently amongst our students and those that did go on to further education did not complete their courses.

"Now, our young people have the confidence and skills to be able to be successful and survive in their study. We are preparing our young people for 21st century learning and listening to our students' voice is, and will remain, at the heart of everything that we do," said Miss Swallow."

Although full plans are yet to be drawn up, the new school building will be constructed while the existing building remains open, ensuring the minimum of disruption to students.



HEADTEACHER: Nicole Swallow

“Beat the credit crunch”

says Phil Gray, Chief Executive of Beverley Building Society



12 months ago we didn't use the phrase but now the 'credit crunch' is everywhere around us - on TV, in the paper and coming up in conversation over a coffee or a beer. Property prices are reported to be falling and generally there are more negative feelings than positive ones at the moment. But are we starting to see the first signs that perhaps things may finally be changing a little.

Phil Gray, Chief Executive of Beverley Building Society hopes so. "For months the news has been covered with stories of

the Bank of England increasing interest rates and then banks and building societies increasing mortgage rates outside of these changes. In the last few weeks however we have seen reductions in the Bank of England's base rate and more cuts are expected as the government has taken concerted and coordinated action to ease the problems. Lenders will start to reduce interest rates on mortgages as the rates that banks lend to each other continue to ease off from their previously high levels which hopefully is the start to an easing of the funding problems which many have faced. Hopefully this too will help to bring some stability and much needed confidence to the housing market."

Phil added: "Property prices have fallen recently due to the lack of mortgage funding available but in some ways this correction may be what is needed to help make homes affordable."

"We need a combination of sensibly priced houses and sensibly priced mortgages to help bring back stability to the housing market. No-one likes what has happened over the last 12 months but certainly in this area property is still reasonably priced. Homeowners with good repayment records buying good quality homes in good areas should always be able to get mortgages and hopefully the most recent announcements in respect of mortgage rates are starting to point us in the right direction to helping people achieve their home owning aims."

www.beverleybs.co.uk



