

First images of the 600 flats at the new AFC Wimbledon stadium are unveiled, as reborn club is set to finally make it home

- More than 600 flats to be built next to the new AFC Wimbledon Football stadium
- Development will include a fitness centre and shops along with new football ground
- Prices not yet announced but site will include 'affordable housing'
- AFC Wimbledon born after original Wimbledon football club was moved to Milton Keynes and renamed

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PUBLISHED: 13:14, 15 December 2015 | UPDATED: 13:48, 15 December 2015



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The first images of the new homes being built at AFC Wimbledon's new football stadium have been unveiled, with the developer insisting there will be affordable homes for local people.

The multi-million pound transformation of the 14-acre site off Plough Lane in the South West London borough will see more than 600 homes built around a new football stadium. There will also be a new fitness centre - with a squash club, dance studio and gym - and shops at the massive development.

The development will be the latest twist in a rags-to-riches story for a football club that was born after the original Wimbledon FC was controversially moved to Milton Keynes and renamed MK Dons.



The first photos of the new housing development at Wimbledon Football Stadium have been unveiled



The development will include 'affordable housing' for local people, the developer has confirmed



AFC Wimbledon is 'delighted' that planning permission has been granted for the new football stadium at the centre of the development

The homes will cover everything from studio apartments to three-bedroom flats, along with some family maisonettes with private gardens. They'll be spread across several blocks ranging from six to 10 levels high.

Work will begin on the site at the beginning of next year, with the existing car and racing track buildings being demolished to make way for the new homes.

The site, which will also provide lower ground level parking, is scheduled to be completed within three years.

The centre piece of the development will be a new football stadium with an initial capacity of 11,000, which will be the new home of AFC Wimbledon Football Club.

AFC Wimbledon succeeds the original Plough Lane-based Wimbledon football team created in 1889. The original club relocated to Milton Keynes at the beginning of the millennium and adopted the name Milton Keynes Dons in 2004.

A group of Wimbledon based supporters responded by forming the new AFC Wimbledon club.

Erik Samuelson, chief executive of AFC Wimbledon, said: "We are all absolutely delighted, this has been a momentous day for our club. This is our home and we are delighted that we have been granted planning approval to return to Wimbledon."



The housing development next to the football stadium will include 602 new homes, including studio apartments to three bedroom flats



A fitness centre including a dance studio, a gym and a squash club will be built on the site of the new homes and stadium



AFC Wimbledon succeeds the original Plough Lane-based Wimbledon football team formed in 1889

Prices for the new homes being built around the new stadium have yet to be released, but the developer has confirmed that there will be 'affordable housing for local people'.

Mike Watson, planning and development director at Oaklaid Homes - which is responsible for building the homes - said: "We are delighted to have received planning permission to redevelop this important brownfield site into a new multi-million sports led destination for Wimbledon."



Building work will begin on the South West London site at the beginning of next year as it prepares to welcome back football



The area has been an unattractive brownfield site for many years, but will soon be redeveloped