

## **PRESS RELEASE INFORMATION**

27<sup>th</sup> July 2007

### **BARTEAK GOES ON THE LAND HUNT WITH NEW APPOINTMENT**

Solihull-based Barteak Developments Ltd has boosted its 30 strong in-house team with the appointment of Julian King as development surveyor within its land acquisition team.

Barteak, which has acquired 15 sites during the past 12 months, is undergoing a significant expansion plan across the East, South and West Midlands. Having increased annual turnover by 30 per cent in the last financial year to £26million, the appointment of a new land buyer will assist the company with its aim of increasing turnover to £40million for the 07/08 financial year.

25 year old Mr King has joined Barteak from South Kensington Estates – the management company for the Anstruther Estate in Knightsbridge. His remit is to work alongside landowners, local authorities and agents to secure development sites for commercial, healthcare and residential uses, with the specific aim of securing mixed-use development opportunities - with or without planning - of over three acres.

David Back, managing director of Barteak comments: "Barteak is certainly not a new company, in fact 2008 will mark our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, however, we are currently undergoing a period of growth that is totally unprecedented.

"We have driven this growth by actively communicating with the market the key factors that differentiate us from many of our competitors. We are privately owned and can make very quick decisions, we have significant cash at our disposal, boast an exceptional record of obtaining viable planning permissions, and we build out schemes ourselves, meaning we have a significant market advantage because we haven't got a contractor's premium fee to factor into our calculations.

"The appointment of Julian King will be a key driver in our continued expansion. Julian is rapidly developing a high profile within the Midlands development industry, and it is his network of fresh contacts - combined with the extensive networks of Barteak's entire land buying team - that will deliver new development opportunities."

Recent acquisitions for Barteak include an apartment block with 60 units in Hadley, Telford, which Barteak will undertake an extensive redevelopment programme on, and the former Penfolds golf ball factory in Erdington, which Barteak proposes to redevelop as a 120 bed care home and 30,000 sq ft of high-tech commercial space.

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In the South Midlands, Barteak has acquired a site on Merton Street in Banbury, which is the second phase of its sold out Market Quarter scheme, which has 130 apartments and active ground floor uses. And, in the East Midlands, a former office building has recently been acquired in the traditional village of Ruddington for a proposed care home redevelopment.

Barteak reports it has five new sites that are currently in solicitors hands, awaiting an exchange of contracts.

Julian King, newly appointed development surveyor comments: "I grew up in the West Midlands, and whilst I intended to spend many years building my career in London, the opportunity to move back to my home turf and join Barteak was one I simply couldn't pass up.

"Barteak has a very strong offering in a highly competitive marketplace. The company's track record for delivery – right through from the planning aspect to an exceptional product – is finally gaining the recognition it deserves. I am delighted to be on board to fly the Barteak flag and work with the team to continue to secure a multitude of exciting mixed-use development opportunities."

**ENDS**

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