

Issued on behalf of Onward Holdings Ltd

Date: June 3 2013 Ref: PR22a Phase Two Turf Cutting

TURF CUTTING CEREMONY FOR PHASE 2 SIGNALS CONTINUING SUCCESS OF ONYX RETAIL PARK

June 12th 2013 will see another stage in the continuing success story of a disused South Yorkshire colliery's transformation into a thriving retail development and dining experience when the turf cutting ceremony takes place for the start of Phase Two construction at the Onyx Retail Park.

Onyx Retail Park is built on the former Manvers Colliery at Wath-Upon-Deane, mid-way between Barnsley and Rotherham, which only opened for business just over 18 months ago. Owners Onward Holdings Ltd has brought forward Phase Two of the development after the take-up of units in Phase One was much quicker than originally anticipated.

An invited audience will see the chairman of Onward Holdings, Granville Storey, strike the first spade into the ground to signal the latest chapter in the area's regeneration into a popular shopping and eating destination that has so far led to the creation of around 100 new jobs.

Already 60% of Phase Two is pre-let or under offer with grocery giant Spar, a well-known charity and a renowned fish and chip chain set to join other blue-chip names on the site. These include Greggs the Baker, Domino's Pizza and Subway, as well as Motor World, the UK's largest independent car parts and car accessories retailer. In addition two restaurants, Thai Garden Café and Bistro 63, enhance the culinary range on offer to visitors.

Adjacent to 1,100 homes the Onyx Retail Park is also surrounded by industrial development and outdoor leisure facilities, giving rise to an impressive 18,000 passing vehicle movements per day on the A633, according to figures provided by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council.

Unlike many new opportunities that come onto the market, it is of little doubt that this high volume of passing trade and the subsequent footfall it creates provides an initial strong customer base from which to build, making it an ideal location for a wide range of prospective businesses.

In full the Onyx Retail Park comprises 17,500 square feet of retail space and holds a cross-section of planning consent including A1 (retail), A2 (financial), A3 (food) and A5 (hot food to take away).

Onward Holdings director, Neil Storey, said: "Take up of units at the Onyx Retail Park has been phenomenal and is providing a real economic boost for the local area. The turf cutting ceremony for Phase Two marks another major step forward and a number of units have already been let ahead of the scheduled timetable."

Promotion of the site is handled by Andrew Miller Chartered Surveyors of Sheffield, who can be contacted on 0114 236 2340.

END

Background

Onward Holdings has been involved in warehousing and industrial estates owned and run by the company since 1930. Today, this family-run business is primarily involved in development and construction, including the provision of multi-sized warehouse facilities in the M62/M1/A1 corridor of West Yorkshire, and residential and mixed-use developments.

In addition to ONYX the business has an exciting development at Green Lane Industrial Estate at Featherstone and a large industrial estate in Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire. The Scunthorpe estate is currently being developed and offers commercial and industrial land and buildings suitable for a variety of users on either a freehold or leasehold basis.

For further information or photographs please contact:

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