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Award for Southwater's redevelopment

SOUTHWATER'S £25 million village centre redevelopment has won a national silver award.

The news has just been received that the provider of the redevelopment, Horsham District Council, is one of the major prize winners in the International Green Apple Awards 2007 for the Built Environment and Architectural Heritage.

The International Green Apple Awards are awarded annually in recognition of building projects that enhance the built environment and/or protect architectural heritage.

The national silver award recognises the work that went on in developing a sustainable village centre for Southwater.

The judges commented:

"This village was home to an ever increasing population, and the heart of the community was becoming swamped.

"A major redevelopment of some uninspiring 1970s buildings has created housing and retail where it was needed most.

"Improvement works have been incorporated and the village can now provide for its inhabitants."

Green Apple Awards organiser Roger Wolens commented:

"We had around 550 nominations this year and presented about 60 awards, so Horsham District Council did particularly well to triumph against some very strong competition."

Speaking this week, Cllr Philip Circus, Cabinet Member for the Local Economy at Horsham District Council, said:

"The redeveloped Southwater village centre is a magnificent achievement and it is very pleasing that it is being recognised in these national awards.

"I know that huge efforts went into the sustainable design of the buildings and infrastructure and credit must go to all of those involved."

Jeremy Senneck, Chairman of Southwater Parish Council, said:

"The Parish Council is delighted to learn of the success of the Lintot Square development in achieving this award.

"The scheme is a great credit to the leadership of Horsham District Council, the development team involved in the project and also the community of Southwater, all of whom worked in partnership in order to provide the new heart to the community."

MORE FOLLOWS

The award winning project will be featured in the next National Treasures guide and the Council will also be presented with a prestigious Green Plaque later in the year, during a special prize giving ceremony at the House of Commons.

Ends

Notes to editors:

The Green Apple Awards campaign is run by the Green Organisation, an independent, non political, non profit organisation that recognises rewards and promotes environmental best practise around the world. Their supporters include the Environment Agency, the Chartered Institute of Wastes Management, the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health and various other professional bodies.

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