

BRIT OVAL REDEVELOPMENT PLANS MOVE FORWARD



Following the recent approval from the Secretary of State for plans to redevelop the Pavilion end of the Brit Oval, Surrey County Cricket Club have confirmed that they intend to start the building works in October 2010.

The redevelopment proposals are significant – involving the demolition of the existing Lock, Laker and Peter May Stands, the building of a new stand in its place, the construction of a 168 bedroom Arora Hotel and the creation of a large open square in front of the historic Pavilion – and therefore require an appropriate length of time for planning and preparation to ensure their successful delivery.

Paul Sheldon, Chief Executive of Surrey County Cricket Club, commented: “It has taken us almost two years to secure the necessary approvals for this important development, and it is equally important for us to take the time to map out the detail of how we will bring the drawings and plans to life. To this end, we believe the best time to commence the demolition and rebuilding works is at the conclusion of the cricket season next year.”

Surinder Arora, Chairman of Arora Hotels and development partner for the landmark project added: “We are committed to delivering a world class stand and hotel that will bring many benefits to the ground and the local area of Kennington, and building a development of this scale takes time and a lot of careful planning.”

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Note to editors

About Arora Hotels

Arora Hotels is an independent hotel company owned and founded by Surinder Arora in 1999. It is the UK's leading specialist hotelier to the airline industry and one of the fastest growing private hotel companies in the UK.

The portfolio currently comprises of 7 hotels with over 2500 bedrooms. Prime locations include Arora Hotel Heathrow, Arora Hotel Gatwick/Crawley, Arora Hotel Manchester city centre, the flagship Sofitel London Heathrow, directly connected to Terminal 5, Sofitel London Gatwick at the North Terminal and Mercure London Gatwick. Both Sofitel hotels and the Mercure operate under a franchise agreement with Accor Hospitality.

At the Brit Oval, Arora is currently working in partnership with Surrey County Cricket Club on the development of a four-star, 168-bedroom hotel. Each of its hotels is Investors In People accredited.

The company recently announced that it had secured an agreement to design and construct four new budget hotels at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted airports. Subject to planning, the hotels will open on a phased basis from autumn 2011.

Discover Arora Hotels on www.arorahotels.com

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