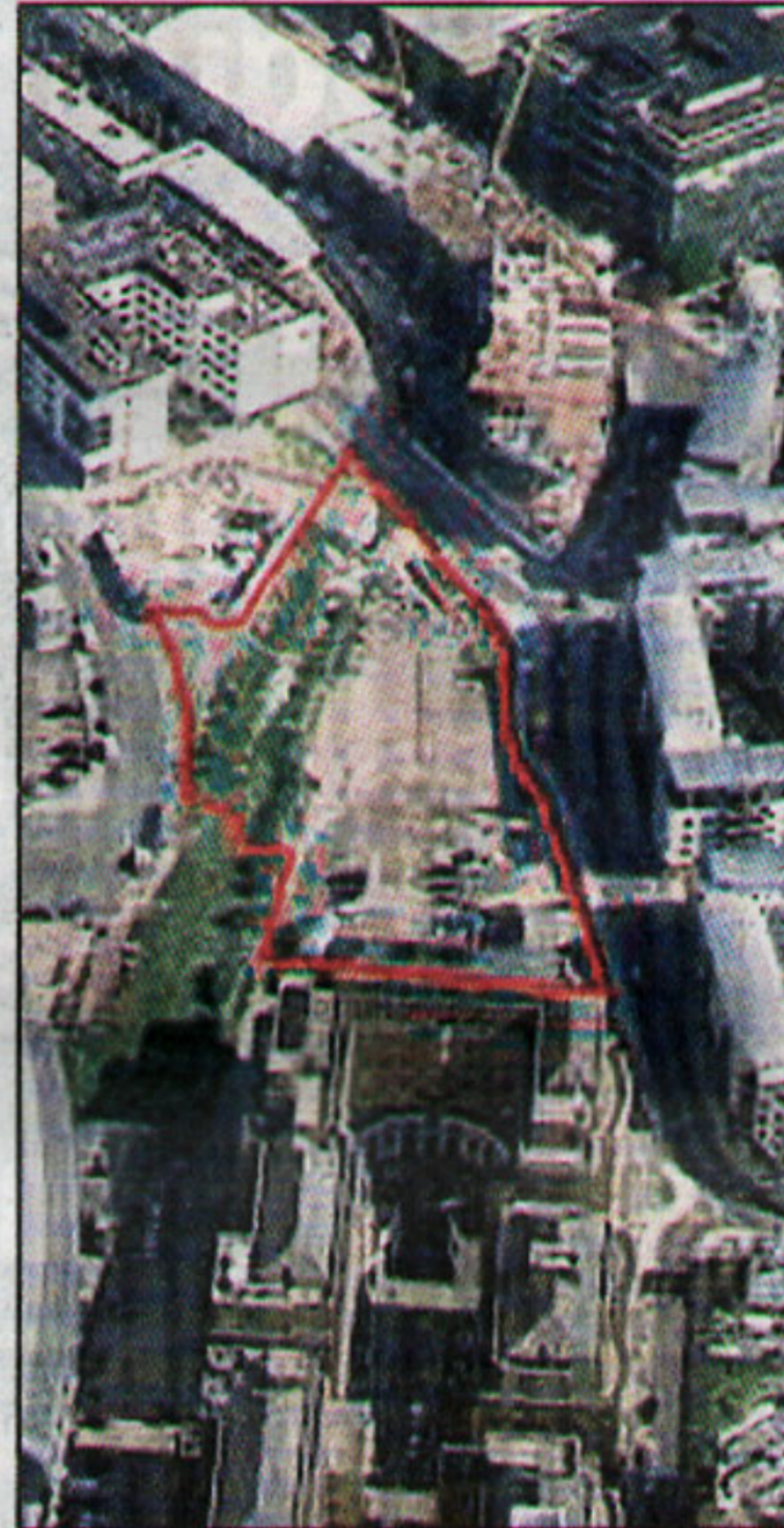


Developer wants to build homes, offices and shops on site

PICTURE: LIZ FINLAYSON

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FINAL PIECE OF THE JIGSAW: The Block J site in Brighton's New England Quarter, above, and from the air, right

Man dies after crash

AN ELDERLY man who was seriously injured last week has died.

Joseph Judd, 81, from South Chailey, was hurt when his blue Vauxhall Corsa collided with a black Citroen Saxo shortly before 5pm on the A275 on November 1.

He was taken to Royal Sussex County Hospital.

Sussex Police announced yesterday that Mr Judd had died.

The driver of the Citroen, a 41-year-old man from Lewes, suffered minor injuries.

Sussex Police are appealing for witnesses to contact them on **0845 6070999**, quoting operation Smallbrook.

£500 for petting zoo

A PETTING zoo set-up to help reduce youth crime is one of the latest projects to receive council funding.

The Summer Activity Youth Diversionary Project was given a grant of £500 by the Safer Arun Partnership.

The mobile farm and petting zoo was held for 70 children in Hotham Park, Bognor. It was designed to relieve children's summertime boredom, which can often lead to crime.

Members of Aldwick Environmental Group were also grateful recipients of a grant.

£30m regeneration plan

by **TIM RIDGWAY**

A £30 MILLION development has been described as the "final piece of the jigsaw" in the regeneration of a prime city centre site.

London-based developer Square Bay has unveiled proposals to create housing, offices, shops and a hotel on the Block J site in Brighton's New England Quarter.

It is thought the scheme will cost up to £30 million and create hundreds of construction and commercial jobs.

The area, known as New England Square, has remained a derelict site since the collapse of plans to build a massive 42-storey tower block in 2007.

City leaders welcomed the news as a "terrific vote of confidence".

The "sustainable eco-friendly" development includes 147 flats and a variety of commercial units.

A 92-bedroom hotel, a public square – which could be used for performing arts – a children's playground and highways linking Brighton Station with surrounding areas are part of the plans.

It is believed the development will be no more than seven-storeys high.

Tony Mernagh, chief executive of the Brighton and Hove Economic Partnership, said: "This is a terrific vote of confidence in the city of Brighton and Hove.



VISION: An artist's impression of the development

"It is fantastic news about the office space and the housing will no doubt be snapped up. My only reservation is about retail units.

"But I will not be jumping up and down until I see some bricks and mortar being laid."

Square Bay, which according to Companies House was founded in February 2007, bought the site from the Beetham Organization in March.

It is believed the firm, which is funded by Far Eastern investors, paid about £5 million for the brownfield plot to the east of Brighton Station.

It is currently partly used as an auxiliary car park for commuters.

Beetham sold the site after its plans for a development were rejected, first by the city council and then by the independent planning inspector.

Markham Hanson, director of Square Bay, said: "This is the final piece of the jigsaw for the New England Quarter."

City council leader Mary Mears said the local authority had been working with all interested parties in the redevelopment of the Brighton Station area.

She said: "It would be wrong of me to pre-empt the decision of the planning committee but, in principle, I very much welcome this.

"It shows that, as a city, we are still very much 'open for business'."

The plans will be displayed to residents in the One Brighton Community Centre, in Stroudley Road, Brighton tomorrow from 10am to 8pm and Friday and on Saturday from 10am to 4pm.

Members of the development team will be available to answer questions.

A planning application is expected to be submitted in the coming weeks.

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Campaign aims to make roads safer

A ROAD safety publicity campaign starring Brighton and Hove residents is being launched in London Road and Lewes Road.

Posters have been put up in bus shelters in London Road featuring residents as they walk, cycle, ride or drive in the city – giving a real representation of transport use.

The campaign is aimed at helping prevent accidents in two of the city's busiest roads.

The message is all road users should look out for each other.

A radio advert will be aired across the region to remind people to look out for others when crossing or driving on the road.

The campaign is a response to research by the Sussex Safer Roads Partnership which identified groups and locations most at risk of accidents in the city.

It showed that young pedestrians, cyclists and moped riders were

particularly vulnerable, as well as motorcyclists of all ages.

Geoffrey Theobald, Brighton and Hove's cabinet member for environment, said: "Residents appear in the campaign posters going about their daily journeys.

"By raising awareness of different road users we aim to change the attitudes and behaviours that cause collisions and encourage good road safety habits so everyone is safe."

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