



At the government commission of 9 September, the Formentera Island Council awarded the building contract for a multi-purpose locale in El Pilar de la Mola, moving forward with plans to construct an elderly social centre, a computer centre and a meeting point for the associations based in La Mola that have for years requested such a space.

The vote is a green light for the project and fitting of the locale has already begun. The centre's opening is anticipated to precede the start of summer, so fulfilling a historic debt held with the residents of El Pilar de la Mola.

In 2011 the local administration acquired the building space – with a 344 m² floor plan – with two basic objectives in mind: provide the local population with municipal services and acquaint local residents with the administration. It is worth noting that, despite the reduced dimensions that exist on Formentera, La Mola is located at some 20 kilometres from the island's major towns. It is also in the unique position of being distinctly rural; the town of El Pilar de la Mola contains a church, a number of restaurants and locales selling sundries, and a biweekly arts and crafts market open from May to October, this last feature representing the area's chief tourist attraction. These factors – together with the 822 people registered as residents in La Mola – made the provision of these services a necessity.

Services at El Pilar de la Mola Social Centre

Located at the town centre, the new locale will be fitted with a computer lab and will serve the principle function of meeting place for elderly residents as well as the numerous neighbourhood associations that exist there.

The centre's computer lab will be equipped with nine new computer units to connect the local population to new technologies, offer introductory computer courses for seniors, and serve as an educational resource for area children.

The 136 square metres that constitute the social centre will provide the town's association of senior residents adequate space for all of its activities. It will allow for more interaction between

neighbours, assist in the organisation of group activities and provide a space for encounters organised by neighbourhood associations. Likewise, existing associations in La Mola (the Festival Commission, Association of Neighbours, Hunters Association, etc.) will be given a space of nearly 100 m². Neighbourhood groups can meet, organise talks, plan training courses, or simply hold routine gatherings at the centre. The space is designed to serve as a point of contact between different local associations as well as between associations and local residents.

Leader Programme

Fifty percent of the project, awarded to INCOC SL for an estimated cost of 264,000€, is financed by the European Leader project and will assure the creation of the second digital classroom in Formentera to be funded under Leader. It will also simultaneously create a social centre for the elderly and a meeting space for local associations.