

Community Consultation 14 September 2011

Affordable Housing for local people – Braishfield Parish

A potential site has been identified in Braishfield to address local housing need. The land is in the countryside and as such can only be developed for affordable housing for "local people". A local housing needs survey has identified a need for circa 10 new homes in response to the local need for 25+ households.



Approximate site location

Landscape and Ecology

The development will complement the existing biodiversity by suitable choice of plants, trees and shrubs for shelter and food, the sympathetic management of the grounds, as well as by providing additional bird and bat houses.

The design proposal creates suitable habitats for species, and additional benefits such as:

- Positioning plants and trees to improve the energy efficiency of houses
- Sustaining valued local character and enhancing local community by providing trees, green spaces and rejuvenation of unmanaged hedgerows;
- Resident well-being. Homes, gardens and amenity space are positioned to create quiet areas for private and family enjoyment and relaxed areas for fun and games.

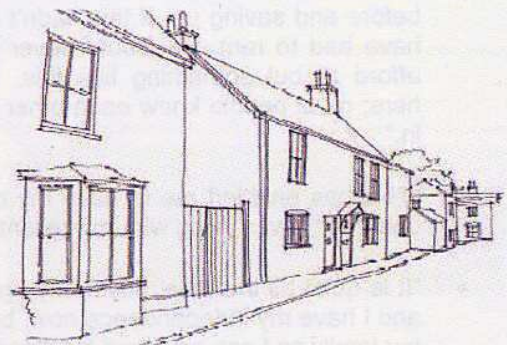
Braishfield Parish Council

The Parish Council has worked with representatives from the Hampshire Alliance for Rural Affordable Housing (HARAH) to understand local housing needs. Housing needs surveys have been assessed and reported to the parish council by Community Action's Rural Housing Enablers (RHE).

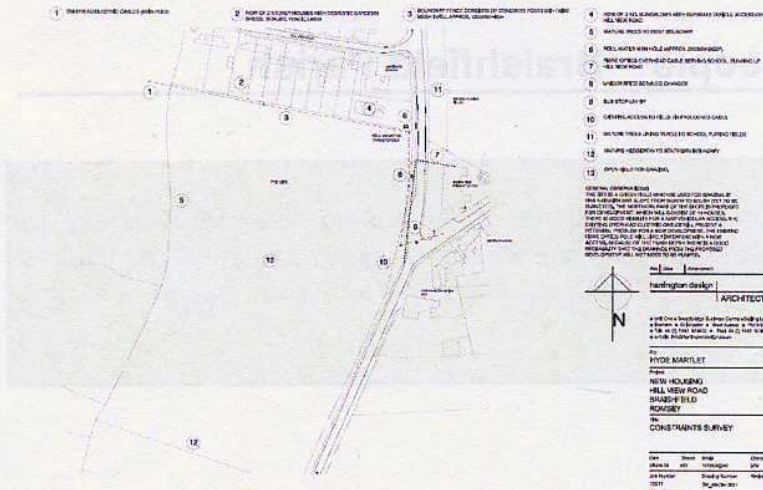
The parish council agreed to appropriate development sites in the parish being searched for, a number of sites were considered and analysed by Test Valley Borough Council. The site options were presented to the parish council along with background information.

The proposed site was chosen for its suitability because of Planning support and a willing land owner, other potential sites considered were either not suitable in terms of planning or not available for sale.

The Parish Council supports the concept of a development of 9 new affordable homes for local people in Braishfield Parish.



Example design - Wickham



HARAH Successes

HARAH has worked on small developments in parishes across Hampshire such as Swanmore, Monxton, Preston Candover, Charter Alley, Ropley, Littleton, Hurstbourne Tarrant and others. The developments have been successful and the parish councillors have been pleased with the designs, quality and that their communities have been strengthened by local people being able to stay.

Residents who have moved into these developments have said –

- “Bliss about sums it up. My mum is over the road, very convenient for babysitting. It has saved a lot of driving about from where we were living before. Without this house even with both of us working we could never have afforded to live here in a place like this.”
- “It is very peaceful, I can sleep at night. My lad can go out and play in the garden. It is so nice here I don’t want to go and visit friends, they all want to come here.”
- “This is our first home, we were living with relatives before and saving up. If this hadn’t come up we would have had to rent, we would never have been able to afford to but something like this. It is really friendly here; most people knew each other before they moved in.”
- “This has enabled me to have my own space with my daughter. I was living with my parents before”
- “It is quiet all the time, this is my first home of my own and I have my independence now, but I am still close to my family so I can go round for dinners”

Housing Need

Information on Housing need is available from the Rural Housing Enabler and East Hampshire District Council. To register your housing need or to update details about your housing need please contact east Hampshire district Council.

Local Connection

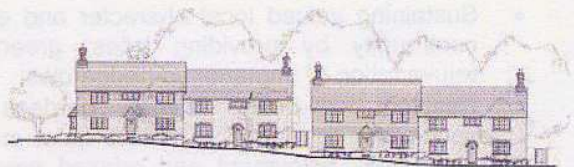
To qualify for a house in this development you must have a **strong local connection**.

A strong local connection means a person who meets at least one of the following criteria:

- they currently live in the Parish
- they have previously lived in the Parish and have family who currently live there
- they currently have permanent employment in the Parish or they take up an offer of permanent employment in the Parish
- they need to live in the Parish either to support or to be supported by another member of their family who live in the Parish

*Family will be taken to mean: spouse, civil partner, mother, father, sister, brother, daughter, son, grandparent or grandchild of the person or if they live with the person as husband or wife or partner without being legally married

**Please note the above does not include persons residing through serving in the armed forces, detained under the authority of any Act of Parliament (e.g. prison, mental hospital), or placed in temporary accommodation or employment in the armed forces



Example design - Steep