

Affordable Homes for Little Horkesley: an update from the Parish Council

October 2018

The Parish Council has received the results of the housing needs survey and would like to thank parishioners for such a good response (better than the average). The RCCE (Rural Community Council for Essex – a charity with specialist knowledge of the provision of affordable homes in rural Essex) has guided us through their expert conclusions as to how many affordable homes would be likely to be provided by a Housing Association (HA) which received the survey results.

The RCCE's conclusion is that an HA would be likely to provide one 2-bedroom 'unit' and one 1-bedroom 'unit', OR two 2-bedroom 'units' (a 'unit' could be a bungalow, a house or a flat). These two homes will require only a small development area.

The Parish Council considered the RCCE's conclusions and proposes to take this forward (with the RCCE's assistance) to select an HA. Once selected the HA will lead the process all the way through to build the new homes and will interview the local people who qualify to be the residents. The RCCE's advice is that those wishing to be considered should, ideally, be on the Housing Register (Colchester Borough Council). See the link below.

The Parish Council hopes that this process will enable affordable homes to be built close to the centre of the village (a Planning requirement) for our parishioners. The HA will take the lead in the process but will liaise with the PC throughout. We aim to provide regular updates via the parish magazine and our PC minutes are available to view on the LHPC website.

Little Horkesley Parish Council, 11 October 2018

Notes;

CBC Housing Register: you apply to be on the register by going to the 'Gateway to HomeChoice' link; <https://www.gatewaytohomechoice.org.uk>

LHPC website: <http://littlehorkesleypc.org.uk/>