

BROADHEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held Saturday 9th January Broadhembury House at 11.30a.m. between M. Drewe Esq. and Cllrs. Nelson and Roberts with K. Granger (Clerk)

The Chairman thanked Mr Drewe for his invitation and invited him to outline his thinking on housing in Broadhembury. The meeting had been offered as part of the public discussions about affordable housing in the Parish.

Mr Drewe explained that when EDDC invited landowners to submit sites for development he put forward the site opposite 'Manleys' which became known as Site C131. This site is adjacent to site C319. He went on to say that he had later put his application 'on hold', effectively withdrawing it from the formal process, because he felt that the PC could approach him if they wanted to proceed. The Chairman explained that the PC had to follow the procedures laid down by EDDC and could not have approached individual landowners. This was why the PC had worked on the understanding that only one site was available. However despite this Mr Drewe confirmed that he was now willing to gift the sites in the interests of helping the community reach a decision with no commercial gain to the estate.

Mr Drewe was asked if these homes could be 'owned' by a Community Land Trust so that the community would benefit from any long term appreciation in the assets and to secure them for all time as affordable homes. In response Mr Drewe said he would be consulting his Solicitors and would give this consideration. Mr Drewe asked why the site (C 319) had been preferred by the PC.. Cllr Nelson replied that this was the only site which met the criteria . Most of the others were outside the 'sustainability distance' although the PC would have been happy with any submitted. The PC understood at the time that C 131 had been withdrawn from consideration.

Mr Drewe stated that the public awareness of what was proposed had not been properly managed by the PC which in his view explained why people were now opposed to the proposal. Cllr Nelson refuted this allegation saying that every PC meeting for the last two years had discussed the NP, there had been public meetings, articles in the Parish magazine and on the web site as well as a specific public meeting about the preferred site. He welcomed though that people were now engaged with the process and said that the PC was committed to finding a solution which most people supported. In response to a question about timescale he explained that the NP had a lot of stages still to negotiate and he did not expect the process to conclude until the end of 2016.

Finally it was explained that the Jan 2016 PC meeting would discuss the issue and Cllrs Nelson and Roberts would brief colleagues. Mr Drewe was asked if in a spirit of co-operation that some of the inaccuracies on the BVM web site could be corrected, Mr Drewe said if Cllr. Nelson would like to write to the BVM regarding inaccuracies on the web site the group would take them on board. Cllr Nelson said that the PC had not replied to the latest letter from the BVM but would cover these points in that reply. He thanked Mr. Drewe for his invitation and welcomed the possibilities which the discussion had now opened.

The meeting closed at 12.08a.m.