

Minutes of the meeting held with Mr Nigel Baldwin Winchester City Council Housing Enabler to receive finding related to the need for Affordable Housing in South Wonston.

All parish councillors were invited to this meeting; in the event, the Chairman (Cllr Peal) and Vice-chairman (Cllr Perrins) attended to receive Mr Baldwin's report on the verification of housing need in South Wonston and to make sure its findings were clear. Please refer to the report for details.

Neither councillor could say whether or not the Parish Council would support the proposed scheme on the land adjacent to Goldfinch Way. At the consultation event last June, twenty properties appeared to be the upper end of the scale, but it was thought the developer could indicate how many were for people with a local connection. Cllr Perrins asked if sixteen affordable homes were built, would they fill up? Mr Baldwin referred to La Frenaye Place and suggested that more than the verified figures might come along should the scheme get under way.

Mr Baldwin mentioned that Mags Wylie of Action Hampshire was away at present, and that Karen Hillhouse of Hastoe had left to work for the Metropolitan company. He offered a meeting with the new Hastoe representative. He advised reference to the National Planning Policy Framework (Revised Version 2019) on the subject of exception sites (77). Local Planning Authorities should support opportunities to bring forward rural exception sites to provide affordable housing to meet identified local needs and consider allowing some market housing to help facilitate that provision.

The land adjacent to Goldfinch Way and the lack of support for it, community support as evidenced by the New Amenities and Affordable Housing Surveys, the possibility of "downsizing" accommodation, the difficulties associated with Christmas Hill and the need to reach some kind of resolution at the upcoming Parish Council meeting (8th April) were all discussed. Were the final figures enough to make a project viable? Mr Baldwin agreed that the initial stages were the most difficult.