Warwickshire Rural Housing Association

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February 2016

Councillors tour developments

Councillors came together recently to see the real difference which affordable rural housing is making to local villages. Five members of North Warwickshire Borough Council including Council Leader, David Hymphreys, were joined by councillors from Stratford District Council and local parish councils to tour three new developments with WRHA Board members and housing, maintenance and development officers. If you'd like to visit one of our developments, contact (to insert).



Bursaries transform lives

Twelve months on, our 25th Anniversary Bursary Scheme has been making a real impact on the lives of local people. Five bursaries of £500 were awarded to tenants to help them further their personal development, their education, their employment or how they contribute to their local community. For example, the bursaries have enabled:

- Mariah Clarke to begin a medical college course to achieve her dream career.
- Suzanne Coop to integrate more in her community thanks to her electric wheelchair.
- Jenny Yates to continue her counselling and psychotherapy degree leading to a new career.

Real need for affordable homes

The annual Halifax Rural Housing Review underlined the fact that the need for rural affordable housing is greater than ever. While rural homes across all regions are more expensive than urban properties, the price difference in the West Midlands is the greatest in the country.



MP discusses housing issues

Jeremy Wright, MP for Kenilworth and Southam, visited our new development in Stockton to discuss our concerns regarding the Government's Right to Buy policy and its impact on delivering local homes for local people. The visit enabled Jeremy Wright to talk about the issues which are impacting on rural housing and the policies for ensuring a greater supply of affordable homes in rural areas.

New developments in the pipeline

We're looking to develop a potential 37 affordable homes in Warwickshire between 2015 - 18.

LONG COMPTON

A planning application has been submitted and HCA and Stratford District Council funding is in place. We hope to start on site in Spring 2016.

WOOTTON WAWEN

Our exciting new Passivhaus project will comprise 12 properties for affordable rent and two for shared ownership. HCA and Stratford District Council funding is in place and work is expected to start on site in Summer 2016.

BROOM

A public consultation has just been carried out regarding plans for five properties for affordable rent and one for shared ownership. HCA and Stratford District Council funding is in place and planning application will be submitted in early 2016.

GREAT ALNE

We'll be undertaking a public consultation in January 2016 regarding plans for seven properties for affordable rent. HCA funding is in place.

STRETTON ON FOSSE

Planning permission has been received for five properties for affordable rent which will be funded through the developer's \$106 affordable homes obligation.

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