

# Latest news from Warwickshire Rural Housing Association

May 2017



## Sherlock's on the case!

There's a brand new sleuth in Warwickshire. We launched our new mascot, Sherlock Homes, to investigate the issues we're dealing with in our communities and the difference we're making to local people. His first case was in Alcester when he joined our special Skip Clearance Day in a bid to help clear up local neighbourhoods. Watch out for him out and about!

## Report reveals housing crisis

The National Housing Federation's West Midlands Home Truths 2016/17 report shows that local people are facing a housing crisis, with a shortfall of 45,000 affordable homes across the region. It's revealed that Warwickshire is one of the most expensive areas to buy a home in the West Midlands, underlining the urgent need for more affordable housing.

### New community memorial

Thanks to our support, a new memorial, dedicated to the Stockton parishioners who've served in the armed forces over the years, has been unveiled. We provided funding so that the area of land next to our Jubilee Fields development could be turned into a community Memorial Green by the Parish Council.



### **RIGHT TO BUY**

To ensure any Right to Buy scheme is fully tested, the Government has proposed a 'regional pilot', but, as yet, the location hasn't been confirmed. There's also not been any confirmation of the qualifying criteria that tenants must meet to be eligible for any scheme. We are continuing to keep tenants and other stakeholders informed, and will provide details of our policy position when the formal scheme is launched.

## **Universal Credit**

Universal Credit has now been rolled out in the Stratford-on-Avon District area. As changes are introduced, such as the latest news regarding claimants with three or more children, we're updating residents through social media and our tenant newsletter.



# New developments in the pipeline

BROOM

This year we're set to develop a potential 42 much needed affordable homes in six Warwickshire villages.

### WOOTTON WAWEN

We've appointed developer, Bouygues UK (formerly Thomas Vale), for our ground-breaking Passivhaus scheme. Work on site will be getting underway in June when we'll be working closely with Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Wootton Wawen Parish Council to bring the first ultra-low energy properties to the county.

> Work has now started at our first development in the village. Five properties for affordable rent and one for shared ownership are being built in partnership with developers, Orbit and Linfoot Country Homes. Funding has been received from Stratford-on-Avon District Council and the



### LONG COMPTON

Work has just started on site, with five homes for affordable rent and four for Local Market sale being built in partnership with Heyford Homes.

Homes & Communities Agency.

### **GREAT ALNE**

Our planning application for seven properties for affordable rent and 10 for Local Market sale, has been approved unanimously. We're set to start on site this Summer.

#### **STRETTON ON FOSSE**

Five homes for affordable rent are planned, funded through the developer's S106 affordable homes obligation. We're hoping to start on site this Summer.

#### **CLAVERDON**

One home for affordable rent and two for shared ownership are planned on a site next to the village primary school. It will be our first development in the village.

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