



PLANTING FOR THE FUTURE

Youngsters from Wootton Wawen CofE Primary School have planted the first trees at our new Passivhaus development in the village. The trees will create a huge natural woodland screen at the ground-breaking development where homes are being built to the rigorous Passivhaus standard to make them as energy efficient as possible.

<http://www.warwickshirerha.org.uk/news/pupils-dig-for-an-environmentally-friendly-future/>

COUNCILLOR APPROVAL FOR BROOM

Councillors have given their seal of approval to our first affordable development in Broom, which has offered a lifeline to local people. Stratford-on-Avon District Councillors joined Bidford-on-Avon Parish Councillors in visiting the new homes and meeting the first residents. Six two-bedroom properties have been completed on Aspley Close.

<http://www.warwickshirerha.org.uk/news/councillors-give-seal-of-approval-to-broom/>

RETURN TO VILLAGE LIFE

Our rural affordable homes are continuing to transform lives. When the rising cost of privately rented accommodation forced Nigel and Natalie Hillman out of Fenny Compton, they spent two years living with Natalie's parents. Now the family are "over the moon" to have moved into one of our properties in the village, close to friends and family and only a short walk from the children's school.

<http://www.warwickshirerha.org.uk/news/wrha-helps-young-couple-get-a-new-start/>

SAFETY REVIEW

The next phase of the Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety was launched in January. An interim report, Building a Safer Future, has been published and the National Housing Federation is gathering views from members and partners so that recommendations can be made in key areas including design, construction and maintenance.

Ensuring our residents stay safe from fire has always been a key concern for us and we are continuing to share our safety advice through our various communications channels.

<http://www.housing.org.uk/latest-updates/hackitt-review-and-the-future-of-building-safety-shaping-the-next-phase/>

RURAL REPORT

Our commitment to developing local affordable homes for local people, is more important than ever, if we are to keep our rural communities alive. The National Housing Federation's Rural Life Monitor report finds that services, such as schools, post offices and pubs, which are the pillars of rural community life, have been closing on a regular basis in rural areas which have suffered from a lack of investment in new affordable homes.

<https://www.housing.org.uk/resource-library/browse/affordable-housing-saving-rural-services/>

New developments in the pipeline

Plans have been announced to develop a potential 50 much needed affordable homes in five Warwickshire villages.

GREAT ALNE

Work will be starting imminently to develop seven homes for affordable rent and 10 for local market sale, in partnership with Linfoot Country Homes and Orbit. The site will also comprise public open space, landscaping and an attenuation pond.

LONG COMPTON

Five homes for affordable rent and four for local market sale are due to be completed in April. A village play area will also be sited on the scheme as youngsters currently have to travel across Long Compton to reach the village's only play area.

CLAVERDON

By Summer, work will be starting on site, where one home for affordable rent and two for shared ownership are planned next to the village primary school.

WOOTTON WAWEN

Air tests have been carried out on the first two properties and are within the required Passivhaus Standard for ultra-low energy homes. The development is due for completion in April.

BEARLEY

A public consultation is being carried out in March to gauge local support for a proposed seven affordable homes.