

CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE OF BRITONS CROFT SITE ON 20TH JUNE

The Parish Council has been in detailed talks with representatives of Saxon Weald Housing Association and their architect, involving all local Councillors, including those from Bramber and Upper Beeding.

We have been discussing with them in detail the future of the Britons Croft site and how this can be redeveloped for the best interests of local residents.

At our initial meetings we expressed concern that there was insufficient provision for older people in the first schemes that we saw, and this has now come back to us as two possibilities, namely an all older persons housing facility, centred round one and two bedroom flats at two storey level, or a mixed scheme with a lesser number of older persons' flats but five two storey houses, which would be for housing local families.

Both proposals are intended to go out to consultation by a wider audience, including in particular, local residents in Mill Road and Charlton Street.

The consultation will take place at the Parish Council offices at Fletchers Croft between 3.00pm and 7.30pm on 20th June. Representatives of Saxon Weald will be present, together with their architect to explain the two schemes and to demonstrate how these would work, both in terms of accommodation and highway and parking issues.

We are really gratified at the level of consultation being undertaken with local representatives by Saxon Weald. We need to move through to the next stage, which will be a planning application to Horsham District Council, and then ultimately construction of a new facility and hopefully opening new housing facilities at some point during 2014.

The Council has long campaigned to have the Britons Croft site retained in public ownership and for the benefit of local people in particular. This has now been achieved and now we can move to the next stage of site specific proposals.

David Barling
Chairman Steyning Parish Council