

BRITON'S CROFT

At their meeting on 9th July the Parish Council debated a motion to support an all older persons' housing scheme on Briton's Croft site. This was passed unanimously and we are delighted to learn that Saxon Weald Housing Association have now decided to go that route and to design and apply for planning consent for the demolition of the existing structures, and its replacement by 20 older persons' flats with associated car parking.

We believe that this may tick two boxes.

Firstly, it will provide much needed flats for older persons and disabled persons, and secondly, since a number of these will be moving from other Saxon Weald houses in Steyning, or the surrounding area, it may free up a larger unit of accommodation for a family. The housing survey which we undertook with regard to local needs, in conjunction with "Action in Rural Sussex" recently illustrated that there is a need for both types of accommodation.

The hope is that the planning application will be made and that will lead to an early start on site and completion and opening of the new facility in 2014.

Saxon Weald have also indicated that they will come back to us once their architect has firmed up on the designs, and will consult with us again. We congratulate Saxon Weald on the very positive way they have approached this, and the consultation they have undertaken with members of the public at their recent exhibition, and with ourselves and other Parish Councils.

David Barling
Chairman