Westbury-on-Severn Parish Housing Needs Survey - May 2010

written by
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Introduction

In February 2010 Westbury-on-Severn Parish Council enlisted the support of the Rural Housing Enabler to carry out a survey to determine the affordable housing needs in parish. Questionnaires were distributed to all households. The responses form the basis of the full published report (available upon request from Fiona Wallbank, clerk to Westbury-on-Severn Parish Council tel 01452 849178 fiona@wallbank.enta.net).

The Rural Housing Enabler:

- is employed by Gloucestershire Rural Community Council.
- works closely with rural communities, housing associations, local authorities, other community organisations and landowners to meet the affordable housing needs of rural communities.
- is an ***independent*** advisor.

Aim

The purpose of the survey is to find out the affordable housing needs of Westbury-on-Severn Parish. By comparing people's needs with the existing supply of affordable housing and the number of re-lets, we can assess the number, house types and tenure of any new dwellings required.

Parish

According to estimates for 2008 Westbury-on-Severn has a population of 1820, comprising 721 households.

Survey Findings

There was a response rate of 27% with 194 replies received. According to information provided on returns ***20 households are in need of affordable housing***, including 8 single people, 5 couples, and 7 families.

What happens now?

Representatives of Westbury Parish Council and the Rural Housing Enablers have identified five sites in the parish for the provision of affordable housing, all of which have been passed to Forest of Dean District Council's planners for comments. Forest of Dean planners' two preferred sites are located on undeveloped land adjoining existing housing in Colchester Close, Westbury.

Two Rivers Housing Association is investigating further the two identified sites in Colchester to establish their financial viability and development potential.

A public consultation event will be held in the village which will allow people the opportunity to make comments when we have further information available about each of the two sites.

Anyone seeking affordable housing should apply with Gloucestershire Homeseeker www.gloshomeseeker.co.uk tel 01594 810000 Housing Advice, Forest of Dean District Council.