

CHIDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

M J Penny
Chidham Parish Council Chairman

Glenthorne
Broad Road
Hambrook
Chichester PO18 8RF

June 2006

Dear Parishioner,

Affordable Housing in Chidham and Hambrook

The need for affordable housing in Chidham and Hambrook is thought to be significant. Local people can find themselves priced out of the market due to high house prices whilst at the same time there is less rented accommodation available due to affordable housing being sold under the Right to Buy. The result of this often means that young people and those on lower incomes have to move away. Family networks can break up, older villagers can lose the support of nearby relatives, local businesses struggle to find employees, and schools, pubs and post offices suffer as a result.

The attached questionnaire is being sent out to all residents and to people who have strong connections with the parish to find out how many households have a housing need and wish to stay in, return to, or need more suitable accommodation in the village. It will also indicate what type of housing is needed and what rent/mortgage repayments are affordable. If you require any more questionnaires for members of your family or friends who have moved away from the village because of the reasons above, they are available from myself at the address above.

The results may show a strong need for affordable housing. If so, the Parish Council can press for a small development of affordable homes for people who have strong associations with Chidham and Hambrook. Such homes would be affordable in perpetuity. The survey also may provide information about the future need within Chidham and Hambrook and whether those in need of housing are registered with Chichester District Council.

Even if you have no interest in low cost rural housing in Chidham and Hambrook, please could you answer Question 1 and return your form.

If you are interested in local housing in Chidham and Hambrook then you need to register on the District Council housing waiting list, as this is vital for you to be considered for any new development.

When you have completed the questionnaire, please either post or deliver it by hand to me at the address above, using the enclosed addressed envelope. Alternatively, please give the envelope to a Parish Councillor – see Parish Council noticeboards for addresses. This should be done by Friday 14 July.

Our aim is to establish what level of need there is for low cost housing in our parish. You will be kept informed at all stages of this project if it progresses any further.

Although it would be helpful if you could give your details on the survey form, this is not essential, and we would prefer you to complete the form anonymously rather than not complete it at all.

Yours faithfully

M J Penny
Chidham Parish Council Chairman