

Hook Norton Low Carbon
Homes For Hooky
Community Housing Project
August 2018



The results of the Hook Norton Community Housing survey in April delivered a positive message of support for a Community Housing Project in the village for those in need with a strong local connection. From the respondents, 37 people indicated they would like to live in one of the proposed homes on completion and a second, more detailed survey has recently been sent to each person in this group.

We are very excited about the project in which affordable homes will be designed according to the needs of the community and delivered through a community led group or organisation with support from Cherwell District Council. This might be through the formation of a Community Land Trust or a similar agreed model. The layout of the site and design of the homes will be based on the information requested from the second part of our Housing Survey. This will also determine the different types of tenure to be available, including affordable homes for rent, options for Shared Ownership and possibly a small number of homes available to purchase at closer to market value.

The results of the Part 2 Survey will be independently analysed in mid August and will then enable the Feasibility Study to be accurately completed. As a Community- Led project all prospective occupants of the homes will be invited to participate in workshops with the selected architects to contribute ideas to develop the design of the homes and their surrounding environment.

We have experienced some delays to the progress of the project, mainly due to recent staff changes at Cherwell District Council which has meant engaging with a new set of housing officers. We are now working with a new Interim Head of Strategic Housing who is supportive of the project and keen to keep communication between the relevant departments flowing.

We are pleased that things are moving again and as a result the deadline for the architects submitting for tender has been extended to mid August. We look forward to seeing their different visual

interpretations of the brief and will appoint the Project Architect soon after that date.

We are also excited to announce that Channel 4 have approached HNLC with regard to filming the community input and design process of the project for inclusion in a documentary about Community – Led Housing.

Cathy Ryan, Tim Lunel,
Community Engagement and Feasibility Study Project Managers
Hook Norton Community Housing Project

