

## Suffolk ACRE Elmsett and Aldham Affordable Housing Needs Survey

*The following is Suffolk ACRE'S Summary of their findings*

400 local housing needs survey forms were delivered to all homes in Elmsett and Aldham in March 2009.

183 were completed and returned; giving a very good 46 % return for this type of survey which is statistically significant in terms of the findings of the report.

Parish housing information (based upon surveys returned):

Age: People aged 60 and over made up 30%, which is similar to other recent surveys. Children under the age of 15 make up 20% indicating the parish has a mixed age range of residents.

Household size: 64% are single or 2 person households.

Properties: 80% have three or more bedrooms indicating a shortage of smaller properties.

Tenure: 86% of homes are owned either outright or with a mortgage; 6% of survey returns were in local authority or housing association housing.

Opinion:

81% (145) were in favour of a scheme; this shows excellent overall support for a small scheme for local people. 22 respondents said No, which is 12% of respondents.

### **Need indicated by survey returns:**

10 x '1-2 bed' for single & couple households; this should include at least one bungalow due to elderly in need.

2x 1bed specially adapted bungalow for older disabled children

5 x '3 bed' for families with 2 or unspecified number of children;

2 could afford shared ownership

8 additional households indicated a future need for older children, did not go on to give details. 18 households reported that a close family member would like to return to the parish

### **Recommendation**

It is not suggested that all identified needs are planned to be met as these change over time. The recommended number and mix of properties is:-

Three '3 bed' houses- two rent, one shared ownership;

Three '1- 2 bed' houses - two rent, one shared ownership;

Two '2 bed' bungalow – both to rent

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Elmsett Parish Council discussed the report at their meeting on 14 July and resolved in principle to support the above recommendations.. Aldham Parish Council have yet to discuss the report and it is not clear at the moment what the breakdown is between the two communities.

This is only the first step and further discussions and public consultation to identify suitable locations and finalise the mix of provision will be necessary before anything further is proposed.