

PRESENT

CW&C Senior Housing Policy Officer – Allan Batty

Malpas Parish Council, Threapwood Parish Council & Malpas Community Land Trust – Chris Whitehurst

Tattenhall & District Parish Council & Tattenhall Community Land Trust – Sheila Chapman Tarporley Parish Council - Gill Clough.

Clerk - Ann Wright

Purpose of Meeting: To discuss creation of Rural Housing Guide.

The meeting had been called as a result of the new housing allocations policy which no longer includes a rural connection/p[priority criteria for people applying for homes in the rural area, unless this connection was specified as a planning condition (S106) for the properties.

As such there was a concern some people applying for homes would have an idyllic view of living in a rural area where there can be very few services and limited public transport. As such it was important that people make an informed decision when apply for homes in a rural area.

It was explained when people log on to the West Cheshire Homes listings, they will only be able to see properties that they are eligible to bid for e.g., a single person will only see one bed properties.

When looking at a property there is a tab with a map which shows you where the property is and can identify schools, libraries etc.

The group viewed a property which was stated as being in Tarporley but was in fact in Kelsall. It was noted this was a concern as the facilities and community in Kelsall are very different from that in Tarporley, it was noted that properties in Edge and Tilston are advertised as being in Malpas.

Chris Whitehurst agreed to develop and circulate a template for Parishes to capture their local facilities which could be added to the website for people applying for the properties to review. It was agreed an extra box could be included for parishes to add narrative about their Parish including links to other websites and Facebook pages.

A discussion took place as to where best this guide should be made available to encourage those applying for properties to look at it.

It was agreed to see if it could be added to the Parish Council Information page on the CW&C website and a link included on the West Cheshire Homes website in the help section.

It was agreed the information should be called the Rural Living Guide.

Actions

Alan Batty to contact CW&C regarding placing information on Parish Council pages on CW&C website.

<u>Chris Whitehurst</u> to develop and circulate Rural Living Guide Template for completion and discussion at next meeting.

Rural Connection Criteria

Chris Whitehurst raised concerns regarding a reserved matters (REM) application currently being considered by Malpas Parish Council which includes 17 affordable properties. He reported that Parish Council has asked if it is possible to include a rural connection condition to any permission however the planning officer had not supported this.

It was noted that it was a concern if planning officers were not willing to include this condition in new planning applications in the rural area. It was agreed the matter should be discussed with Rachel Rens at CW&C.

Sheila Chapman agreed to confirm such a policy will be include in the permission for the affordable development in Tattenhall being brought forward by the Tattenhall Community Land Trust.

Next Meeting Thursday 20th May 2021 10am via Teams

> Ann Wright 25 04 21