



Good Practice - Event

Objective

<p>Parish Council Rural Housing event – February 22nd 2010</p>	<p>Designed to engage Parishes and District Council members through forging closer relationships with Oxfordshire Rural Housing Partnership officers within Cherwell, provide information and advice, and consulting Parishes on improvement plans.</p>
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Detail

The event was arranged to strategically react to feedback from some Parish Councils, which pointed to the fact that they did not feel fully involved in the enabling process and left out of the communication loop. This meant a risk of a loss of confidence and hence their engagement and support. The event provided some important feedback to ensure these Parish Councils become fully involved as partners in the process of delivering affordable housing schemes.

The event was arranged and delivered by the Oxfordshire Rural Housing Partnership within Cherwell including the [Oxfordshire Rural Community Council](#) and [GreenSquare Housing Group](#).

The event was attended by Parish Councils and District Council members and a number of external speakers (contact Cherwell DC for the programme)

Outcomes

The event received a number of positive comments, including: *'It was gratifying to see the enthusiasm of officers and elected members for rural affordable housing'*

Three parishes expressed a wish to investigate a rural exception site as a result of the event. New ideas for improvement included: 1. Writing to all local landowners at the same time as Housing Needs Survey to establish possible interest in providing an exception site; 2. Consider bringing forward part of a stalled private development site as an exception site in lieu of contribution on private site; 3. Registered Providers to submit an early outline planning application to secure site ahead of the full application to secure site and help funding bids

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Rural Affordable Housing
Project

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