

## **Affordable housing for Bigbury Parish**

### **Project summary – November 2011**

- 1 Bigbury Parish has been considering the development of a site for Affordable Housing under the Village Housing Initiative.
- 2 The plan will involve the building of 12 properties:
  - 1 detached house for the owner of the land; 1 detached house for the housing association (both available on the open market); and 10 affordable homes.
- 3 The affordable homes will comprise a mixture of semi-detached and link-detached houses of 2 or 3 bedrooms, similar to other developments in the South Hams.
- 4 Following a PC Meetings earlier this year we received offers of 10 sites from interested landowners (1 at Challaborough, 3 at Bigbury-on-Sea and 6 at St Ann's Chapel).
- 5 With advice from the Planning Department at SHDC the PC has drawn up a list of criteria to help determine which of these sites would be most suitable for development (see table).
- 6 Criteria involved impact on landscape, visual connection with village, access for vehicle and pedestrians, nearness to local amenities, effect on neighbours and provision of improved facilities for the parish. Objective scores were applied to these criteria.
- 7 Results show that three sites scored significantly higher than others (80% or above versus 68% or less) (see chart).
- 8 At its meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> November, the PC endorsed the view that these 3 sites should be evaluated further and a final selection will be made after the views of parishioners have been considered.
- 9 At the same meeting, the PC supported the view that every effort should be made to ensure that local people (as defined in SHDC's Village Housing Initiative) should receive preference for new house ownership or rental.
- 10 More information regarding the final three sites will be published in December's Bigbury News allowing parishioners to make their preference known with a view to starting the development as early as possible in the New Year.
- 11 Archeological, ecological and tree surveys will have to be conducted and may result in the exclusion of a site (although this is unlikely).

