

Notes from Affordable Housing Working Group

27 May 2025, 7.30pm, Montefiore

Present – all members of working group (3 Councillors and 4 public) and clerk to take notes

- **Agreed that all people need to walk and view the 4 sites as outlined in the Terms of Reference – meet 4.00pm 3 June at Village Hall car park**
- There was debate over how a site should be chosen as the preferred site. It needs to include the views of all parishioners and be unbiased. There should be a set of criteria to “judge” the sites (e.g. traffic, infrastructure etc). A questionnaire delivered to every house was considered. When delivered it would ideally include some form unbiased “canvassing” to ensure people understood and were more likely to return the forms. However, the group needs to be aware of GDPR if names are collected, and note that there could be bias according to where a person lives in relation to any possible site
- **It was agreed to approach an independent body for assistance. It was agreed that Cllr Hughes would approach RCCE** for advice and perhaps design of a survey plus collation of results
- Any survey by RCCE may come in their Affordable Housing Support costs but may require funding by the council (at least 280 stamps for return of surveys).
Chair to approach council for a budget for the working group
- Could there also be an open workshop to discuss pros and cons of the individual sites
- Must be remembered that Braintree District Council will have the ultimate / final decision in the approval of a site
- Date of next meeting was set provisionally but will be confirmed depending on response from RCCE