

Appendix 2 – Article for Brentor Parish News Letter and website (25/01/2021)

Brentor Community Housing Update

Many of you will be aware that West Devon Borough Council (WDBC) has been working with the Parish Council on a potential affordable led, community housing scheme for Brentor. The proposal would be for 12 houses, 2 x 3 bed & 2 x 2 bed shared ownership properties, 5 x 2 bed rental properties and 3 x 3 bed open market properties. Following a lengthy design process and engagement with Dartmoor National Park planning department and an internal review of the business case, WDBC intends to submit a planning application in the next 2 months.

It is hoped that this application is successful and if it is, officers will be able to take a report to the HUB Committee and to Full Council for a decision as to whether to proceed to the detailed design, tender and ultimately construction of the project. It would represent an investment of over £2m by West Devon Borough Council and there are risks associated with it, including having to spend around £85,000 at risk to undertake the detailed design, so this would be a significant decision. Should the project proceed to construction it would be self-financing using long term borrowing. Until a tender exercise is undertaken the actual cost of construction remains unknown, and only at that stage would we be able to make a final decision to move forward to construction.

For now however, West Devon Borough Council is pleased to be submitting the planning application, having spent a significant amount of time and Government grant funding to get to this point and wishes to thank the community and Parish Council for their ongoing support and patience.