



# Wickham Parish Council

Parish Clerk Nicki Oliver BSc (hons) Heatherdene, Turkey Island, Shedfield, Southampton SO32 2JE  
Tel 01329 835019 email wickhamparishcouncil@msn.com

---

Steve Opacic  
Head of Strategic Planning  
Winchester City Council  
City Offices  
Colebrook Street  
Winchester  
SO23 9LJ

11<sup>th</sup> August 2008

Dear Steve

## **Affordable housing in Wickham**

As you will know, the Parish Council is supporting the provision of affordable housing in Wickham to meet the needs of its community. These have been quantified through a housing needs survey carried out in April 2007 resulting in a recommendation that 25-30 houses be provided together with 8 through a Community Land Trust model.

At the same time the Parish Council wishes to address the existing social imbalance which is the result of a very high volume of social housing built continuously in the village since the 1940's. Current South East Plan proposals indicate the possibility of future developments including a high percentage of affordable housing which if occurred in Wickham would exacerbate the current social imbalance.

Wickham Parish Council supports the provision of an additional 150 houses outside the current village envelope to the north of the village centre, over the next 20 years to reinforce and enhance its role as a sustainable 'key hub'. The Parish Council hopes that the allocated total as a result of the LDF Preferred Options will not exceed this.

The Parish Council would like to request that Wickham be granted special status to exclude new developments from a district wide percentage allocation of affordable housing and it only be expected to meet the needs of its community. This will allow the Parish Council's vision for a better balanced social structure to be realised.

Yours sincerely

Nicki Oliver  
Parish Clerk