



WIXFORD HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

**Commissioned by Wixford Parish Council
in partnership with
Warwickshire Rural Community Council**

**Analysis by Phil Ward
Rural Housing Enabler
Warwickshire Rural Community Council**

July 2012

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Appendices A1 and A2

1. Summary of Results.

Approximately 75 Housing Needs Survey forms were distributed and 4 forms were returned. This equates to a response rate of 5%, which appears disappointing for a Survey of this type.

None of the 4 respondents expressed a need for alternative housing.

2. Introduction.

Wixford Parish Council commissioned a local Housing Needs Survey in May and June 2012.

The aim of the Survey was to collect accurate housing needs information for Wixford Parish. This information can be used in a number of ways, but perhaps the most important is to help justify a small scheme of new homes, especially affordable homes, for people with a local connection. This type of scheme is referred to as a 'Rural Exception' scheme, because the development of new homes in rural areas is an exception to normal planning policy.

The Survey forms were essentially standard documents used in Parishes across Warwickshire. There were different forms to cover affordable housing and local market housing. Copies of the Survey forms were delivered to every home in the Parish. Additional copies of the forms were available for people not currently living in Wixford Parish. Copies of the forms can be seen as Appendices A1 and A2 to this Report.

All households were requested to fill out Part 1 of the Survey form. The first segment in Part 1 was designed to collect information on household composition and property tenure, type and size. The second segment was an opportunity for residents to comment on specific issues in order to build up a profile of positive and negative aspects to life in the Parish. The final segment asked whether any member of the household had left the Parish to find affordable or suitable accommodation and whether or not they would be in favour of a small scheme of new homes to meet locally identified housing needs.

Only households with or containing a specific housing need were asked to complete Part 2 of the Survey form. This asked for respondents' names and addresses and other sensitive information, eg financial details. Respondents were assured that any information they disclosed would be treated in the strictest confidence.

Completed Survey forms were posted via a 'Freepost' envelope to the Rural Housing Enabler. Analysis of all the information provided took place in June and July 2012.

3. Planning Context.

Planning policy at all levels (national, regional and local) imposes considerable restraint on new housing development in rural areas. There is, however, capacity for this restraint to be relaxed in exceptional circumstances, but only where new homes are intended to meet locally identified needs.

Policy CTY.5 of the Stratford-on-Avon District Local Plan 1996-2011 provides the local planning policy mechanism for 'Rural Exception' schemes. The policy states ;

"The development, in exceptional circumstances, of affordable dwellings to meet local housing need in perpetuity may be permitted in settlements where residential development is normally resisted.

Such schemes will be supported within or adjacent to existing settlements provided that ;

- It has been demonstrated that there is a local and long-term need for affordable housing
- The content of the scheme reflects and can reasonably be expected to meet identified local need
- The scheme has been initiated from within the local community and has the support of the relevant Parish Council, or is identified in an adopted Parish Plan (or equivalent)
- Satisfactory prior arrangements for the management and occupation of the properties have been made to ensure that the homes to be provided will meet identified local housing needs, both initially and in perpetuity, and
- The need to ensure that other relevant policies of the Plan are not undermined in the location and design of the scheme"

It is anticipated that the emerging Stratford on Avon District Local Development Framework Core Strategy will extend Policy COM.1 currently in the Local Plan 1996-2011 to those areas covered by Policy CTY.5.

Housing schemes brought forward under Policy COM.1, referred to as 'Local Choice' schemes, can include both affordable housing and local market housing.

'**Local need**' refers to need originating or relating to a particular village. For Parishes that contain more than one village, the housing needs of each village must be considered separately.

A household is considered to have a local connection if it meets one or more of the following **'Local connection criteria'** ;

- An individual who was born in the Parish
- An individual who currently lives in the Parish and has done so for at least 12 months
- An individual who was resident in the Parish for at least 3 continuous years but has left in order to find suitable accommodation
- An individual who works full time in the Parish and has done so for at least 12 months
- An individual with a close family member, ie mother, father, brother or sister, son or daughter resident in the Parish for at least 3 continuous years

'Affordable housing' is defined as homes available to rent through a Housing Association at a low (subsidised) rent or homes available on a shared ownership basis. Shared ownership (sometimes known as 'Homebuy') is a middle ground between renting a property and full ownership. A 'shared owner' buys a share of the property, typically 50% initially, and pays rent to a housing provider, usually a Housing Association, on the remaining share. A 'shared owner' can usually increase their share of the property up to a certain limit, but they are not able to buy the property outright (under current legislation).

'Local market housing' or 'Owner-occupier housing' is defined as homes available to buy outright.

All new homes provided as part of a 'Rural Exception' or 'Local Choice' scheme would be subject to a planning obligation, referred to as a **'Section 106 Agreement'**. This limits occupation of the homes, including any local market homes, to people with a local connection in the first instance and ensures that the affordable homes remain 'affordable' in perpetuity.

4. Results.

A total of 4 Survey forms were returned equating to a response rate of 5%.

Although this level of response appears disappointing for a Survey of this type, it should be noted that people generally respond for one of three reasons ;

1. To express a housing need.
2. To offer support in principle to the idea of a small housing scheme to meet local needs.
3. To state opposition to the idea of a housing scheme.

Given the low number of responses and no expressions for needing alternative housing, further detailed analysis of the responses is not appropriate.

5. Conclusions.

There is no identified need for any new homes in Wixford Parish for people with a local connection.

6. Recommendations.

In order to ensure that Housing Needs Surveys remain up to date and changes in local housing needs are identified, Stratford-on-Avon District Council recommends that they are reviewed every 3 to 5 years.

It is, therefore, recommended that the Parish Council undertakes another Housing Needs Survey in conjunction with Warwickshire Rural Community Council in 3 – 5 years time.

7. Acknowledgements.

Gratitude is expressed to Councillor Jack Fryer, Chairman of Wixford Parish Council and all those who helped to deliver the Survey forms.

8. Contact Information.

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Email philw@wrccrural.org.uk

Karen Parnell
Clerk to Wixford Parish Council
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Stratford upon Avon

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APPENDIX A1 WIXFORD PARISH AFFORDABLE HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

PART 1 – TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD

Q1 YOUR HOUSEHOLD

Number of people in your household that fall into each age category (Please specify the number for each category)	0-16 years		30-44 years	
	17-19 years		45-59 years	
	20-24 years		60-74 years	
	25-29 years		75 + years	

Q2 YOUR HOUSING CIRCUMSTANCES

Housing tenure (Please tick)	Tied accommodation <input type="checkbox"/>	Owner occupier/ no mortgage <input type="checkbox"/>
	Private renting <input type="checkbox"/>	Owner occupier/mortgage <input type="checkbox"/>
	Living with parents <input type="checkbox"/>	Housing association shared ownership <input type="checkbox"/>
	Living with friends <input type="checkbox"/>	Housing association renting <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify):	
Housing type (Please tick)	House <input type="checkbox"/> Bungalow <input type="checkbox"/> Flat/apartment <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile home <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Other <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify):	
No. of bedrooms (Please tick)	1 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 5 bed <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 6+ bed <input type="checkbox"/>	

Q3 LIFE IN THE PARISH

Do you feel the Parish (Please tick)	Has a good reputation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Is a nice place to live?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Has a balanced and varied population?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Has a friendly atmosphere/community spirit?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you feel the Parish (Please tick)	Suffers from crime?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Suffers from anti-social behaviour?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Suffers from a lack of facilities?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	If 'YES', what facilities?	
	Suffers from a lack of housing? If 'YES', what type of housing?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Has anyone in your household had to leave the Parish in the last 5 years because no affordable/suitable housing was available? (Please tick)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Would you be in favour of one or more SMALL (average 4 units) housing schemes based on the needs of LOCAL people being built in the Parish? (Please tick)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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PART 2 – TO BE COMPLETED ONLY IF YOU HAVE AN UNMET HOUSING NEED

IF THERE IS MORE THAN ONE HOUSING NEED IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD PLEASE CONTACT PHIL WARD, RURAL HOUSING ENABLER (CONTACT DETAILS ON BACK PAGE) SO THAT EXTRA FORMS CAN BE SENT TO YOU

Q1 YOUR DETAILS

Name	
Address	
Telephone no. (Home)	
Telephone no. (Work)	
Date of Birth	
Current housing tenure (Please tick)	Tied accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Owner occupier/ no mortgage <input type="checkbox"/> Private renting <input type="checkbox"/> Owner occupier/mortgage <input type="checkbox"/> Living with parents <input type="checkbox"/> Housing assoc. shared ownership <input type="checkbox"/> Living with friends <input type="checkbox"/> Housing association renting <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify):
Current housing type (Please tick)	House <input type="checkbox"/> Bungalow <input type="checkbox"/> Flat/apartment <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile home <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify):
Current number of bedrooms (Please tick)	1 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 5 bed <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 6+bed <input type="checkbox"/>

Q2 THE REASON FOR YOUR HOUSING NEED

Why do you need alternative accommodation? (Please tick)	Need larger accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Need smaller accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Need physically adapted accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Need less expensive home <input type="checkbox"/> Need to be closer to relatives <input type="checkbox"/> Need to be closer to employment <input type="checkbox"/> Need to be closer to a carer or dependent <input type="checkbox"/> Need secure accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Need supported accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Need independent accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify):
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Q3 YOUR LOCAL CONNECTION

Do you / have you / were you (Please tick all boxes that apply)	Currently live in the Parish? <input type="checkbox"/> If so, for how long? years Work in the Parish? <input type="checkbox"/> Close relatives in the Parish? <input type="checkbox"/> Born in the Parish? <input type="checkbox"/> Previously lived in the Parish? <input type="checkbox"/> If so, for how long? years
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Q4 HOUSING REGISTER

Are you on a housing register? (Please tick all boxes that apply)	Local Authority Housing Register <input type="checkbox"/>
	Housing Association Housing Register <input type="checkbox"/>

(You are recommended to register with the Local Authority, if you have not done so already)

Q5 YOUR FAMILY DETAILS (IF THEY ARE ALSO SEEKING HOUSING WITH YOU)

Title	Surname	First name	Relationship to you	Date of Birth

Q6 SPECIFIC HOUSING NEEDS

Please specify any specific housing needs (e.g. disability requirements)	
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Q7 TYPE OF HOUSING NEEDED

Tenure of housing needed (Please tick)	Shared Ownership* <input type="checkbox"/>	Rented <input type="checkbox"/>	
Type of housing needed (Please tick)	House <input type="checkbox"/>	Bungalow <input type="checkbox"/>	Flat <input type="checkbox"/>
No. of bedrooms needed (Please tick)	1 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 5 bed <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 6+bed <input type="checkbox"/>		

*See back page for definition of shared ownership

Q8 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Basic annual income, 'joint income' where applicable (Please tick)	Up to £14,999 <input type="checkbox"/>	£15,000-£19,999 <input type="checkbox"/>	£20,000-£29,999 <input type="checkbox"/>
	£30,000-£39,999 <input type="checkbox"/>	£40,000-£49,999 <input type="checkbox"/>	£50,000-£59,999 <input type="checkbox"/>
	£60,000-£69,999 <input type="checkbox"/>	£70,000-£79,999 <input type="checkbox"/>	£80,000-£89,999 <input type="checkbox"/>
	£90,000-£99,999 <input type="checkbox"/>	£100,000+ <input type="checkbox"/>	
If you need a shared ownership or owner-occupied home, what is the maximum amount you could afford to pay for this?	Maximum mortgage	£	(assume 3x joint income) +
	Equity in existing home	£	+
	Savings	£	+
	Other	£	=
	Total	£	

Q9 ETHNICITY MONITORING

Please specify the number of people in each group			
White		Asian or Asian British	
British		Indian	
Irish		Pakistani	
Other White background		Bangladeshi	
Mixed		Other Asian background	
White and Black Caribbean		Black or Black British	
White and Black African		Caribbean	
White and Asian		African	
Other Mixed background		Other Black background	
Chinese		Other (please state below)	
Chinese			

**THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM.
PLEASE RETURN IT IN THE FREEPOST ENVELOPE BY 8 JUNE 2012.**

If you have any questions regarding this Survey or you require additional forms, please contact Phil Ward, Rural Housing Enabler for Warwickshire Rural Community Council.

Address: Warwick Enterprise Park, Wellesbourne, Warwick CV35 9EF

Telephone: (01789) 472610

Email: philw@wrccrural.org.uk

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PROPERTY TYPES

Any small-scale scheme would probably include a mixture of property types and sizes. Some homes might be available for rent and some for shared ownership.

Rented properties would be available to people with a strong local connection and at an affordable rent. A Housing Association would retain ownership of the rented properties and there would be no 'Right To Buy' available to tenants.

Shared ownership is a 'middle ground' between renting a property and full ownership. A 'shared owner' buys a share of the property, typically 50% initially, and pays rent to a Housing Association on the remaining share. The Housing Association always retains a share of the property and in this way can uphold any local occupancy restrictions.

A shared owner can usually increase their share of the property up to a certain limit, but they are not able to buy the property outright. If the property is later sold, it is valued and the shared owner receives their share of the sale price, therefore benefiting from any increase in the value, should this occur.

APPENDIX A2 WIXFORD PARISH LOCAL MARKET HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

PART 1 – TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD

Q1 YOUR HOUSEHOLD

Number of people in your household that fall into each age category (Please specify the number for each category)	0-16 years		30-44 years	
	17-19 years		45-59 years	
	20-24 years		60-74 years	
	25-29 years		75 + years	

Q2 YOUR HOUSING CIRCUMSTANCES

Housing tenure (Please tick)	Tied accommodation <input type="checkbox"/>	Owner occupier/ no mortgage <input type="checkbox"/>
	Private renting <input type="checkbox"/>	Owner occupier/mortgage <input type="checkbox"/>
	Living with parents <input type="checkbox"/>	Housing association shared ownership <input type="checkbox"/>
	Living with friends <input type="checkbox"/>	Housing association renting <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	
(please specify):		
Housing type (Please tick)	House <input type="checkbox"/> Bungalow <input type="checkbox"/> Flat/apartment <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile home <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	
(please specify):		
No. of bedrooms (Please tick)	1 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 5 bed <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 6+ bed <input type="checkbox"/>	

Q3 LIFE IN THE PARISH

Do you feel the Parish (Please tick)	Has a good reputation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Is a nice place to live?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Has a balanced and varied population?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Has a friendly atmosphere/community spirit?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you feel the Parish (Please tick)	Suffers from crime?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Suffers from anti-social behaviour?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Suffers from a lack of facilities?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	If 'YES', what facilities?	
	Suffers from a lack of housing?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If 'YES', what type of housing?		

Has anyone in your household had to leave the Parish in the last 5 years because no affordable / suitable housing was available ? (Please tick)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Would you be in favour of one or more SMALL (average 4 units) housing schemes based on the needs of LOCAL people being built in the Parish? (Please tick)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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PART 2 – TO BE COMPLETED ONLY IF YOU HAVE AN UNMET HOUSING NEED

IF THERE IS MORE THAN ONE HOUSING NEED IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD PLEASE CONTACT PHIL WARD, RURAL HOUSING ENABLER (CONTACT DETAILS BELOW) SO THAT EXTRA FORMS CAN BE SENT TO YOU

Q1 YOUR DETAILS

Name	
Address	
Telephone no. (Home)	
Telephone no. (Work)	
Date of Birth	
Current housing tenure (Please tick)	Tied accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Owner occupier/ no mortgage <input type="checkbox"/> Private renting <input type="checkbox"/> Owner occupier/mortgage <input type="checkbox"/> Living with parents <input type="checkbox"/> Housing assoc. shared ownership <input type="checkbox"/> Living with friends <input type="checkbox"/> Housing association renting <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify):
Current housing type (Please tick)	House <input type="checkbox"/> Bungalow <input type="checkbox"/> Flat/apartment <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile home <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify):
Current number of bedrooms (Please tick)	1 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 5 bed <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 6+bed <input type="checkbox"/>

Q2 THE REASON FOR YOUR HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

Why do you require alternative accommodation? (Please tick)	Require larger accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Require smaller accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Require physically adapted accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Require less expensive home <input type="checkbox"/> Require to be closer to relatives <input type="checkbox"/> Require to be closer to employment <input type="checkbox"/> Require to be closer to a carer or dependent <input type="checkbox"/> Require to be closer to school <input type="checkbox"/> Require supported accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Require independent accommodation <input type="checkbox"/> Changed family circumstances <input type="checkbox"/> First time buyer <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify):
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Q3 YOUR LOCAL CONNECTION

Do you / have you / were you (Please tick all boxes that apply)	Currently live in the Parish? <input type="checkbox"/> If so, for how long? years Work in the Parish? <input type="checkbox"/> Close relatives in the Parish? <input type="checkbox"/> Born in the Parish? <input type="checkbox"/> Previously lived in the Parish? <input type="checkbox"/> If so, for how long? years
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Q4 SPECIFIC HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

Please specify any specific housing requirements (e.g. disability requirements)	
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Q5 TYPE OF LOCAL MARKET HOUSING REQUIRED

Type of housing required (Please tick)	House <input type="checkbox"/>	Bungalow <input type="checkbox"/>	Flat <input type="checkbox"/>
No. of bedrooms required (Please tick)	1 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 5 bed <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Bed <input type="checkbox"/> 6+bed <input type="checkbox"/>		

Q6 PURCHASE PRICE INFORMATION

At what price range are you looking to purchase a home ? (Please tick as many boxes as appropriate)	Up to £199,999 <input type="checkbox"/>
	£200,000-£249,999 <input type="checkbox"/>
	£250,000-£299,999 <input type="checkbox"/>
	£300,000-£349,999 <input type="checkbox"/>
	£350,000-£399,999 <input type="checkbox"/>
	£450,000 + <input type="checkbox"/>

Q7 ETHNICITY MONITORING

Please specify the number of people in each group			
White		Asian or Asian British	
British		Indian	
Irish		Pakistani	
Other White background		Bangladeshi	
Mixed		Other Asian background	
White and Black Caribbean		Black or Black British	
White and Black African		Caribbean	
White and Asian		African	
Other Mixed background		Other Black background	
Chinese		Other (please state below)	
Chinese			

**THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM.
PLEASE RETURN IT IN THE FREEPOST ENVELOPE BY 8 JUNE 2012.**

If you have any questions regarding this Survey or you require additional Survey Forms, please contact Phil Ward, Rural Housing Enabler for Warwickshire Rural Community Council.
Address: Warwick Enterprise Park, Wellesbourne, Warwick CV35 9EF.
Telephone: (01789) 472610 Email: philw@wrccrural.org.uk