

10<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

**Statement to Cabinet in response to WC's reply to PCLT Questions**

Pewsey Community Land Trust (PCLT) were disappointed in the lack of a positive response to the questions raised on the Community Right to Build Order (CRtBO) and to just receive a blanket response to all of the questions of jam tomorrow advising that officers are considering the submission and will respond soon is not supportive.

PCLT escalated their submission to Cabinet out of frustration because they have been trying since April, over 5 months ago to progress their submission but seem to be plagued by poor communications having to make repeated phone calls and repeated emails to get a response.

This submission should be a no brainer as it is for affordable housing, 7 flats and a house in the heart of Pewsey with transport links, service facilities for local people. The CRtBO submission is a draft submission that will be reviewed on a number of occasions during the overall process with opportunities to facilitate changes as required.

Last Friday at the Poverty meeting in Pewsey the Wiltshire Council Deputy Leader stated the need to:

- A. see more housing that is genuinely affordable and where possible in perpetuity
- B. work with local community stakeholders
- C. be an innovative / can-do council
- D. promote preventative long term solutions.

PCLT proposals fit all those criteria. What's been required for the last 6 months by WC planning is a can do way forward recognising PCLT is (at least highly likely to be) a suitable body to raise a CRtBO especially as the WC link officer and other advisory bodies have been providing excellent advice to PCLT for years.

PCLT needs a timeline so that it can progress the project and not just a response, will be received soon. Please also agree to activities like allowing the draft CRtBO to be distributed to other consultation bodies in parallel to reduce this stretched timescale.