Item No.09

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

MALMESBURY AREA BOARD 20 JANUARY 2010

BURNHAM HOUSE, MALMESBURY

Background

At the Area Board held on 19 November 2008 a discussion took place about the former residential care home at Burnham House. The Area Board considered various options for the future use of the Burnham House site. The meeting, following a formal vote, supported the proposal to look at the feasibility of developing the site for accommodation for older people / Extra Care housing. The Area Board established a Working Group to look at the agreed option for the Burnham House site.

The Working Group

The Working Group has met on 3 occasions. On average there has been 10 people attending the Working Group.

The Working Group has considered the following issues:

- The difference between sheltered housing, Extra Care housing, residential care homes and nursing care homes
- The national and local agenda to support older people to remain in their own homes and communities
- The aspirations of older people to have more modern accommodation to enable them to stay within their own communities
- An understanding of how Extra Care housing operates, including a visit to an Extra Care scheme in Devizes. Crammer Court
- The funding arrangements to develop an Extra Care housing scheme
- The operational arrangements to support Extra Care housing, including how people meet their care and housing costs at an Extra Care development
- A provisional timetable to develop a standard Extra Care scheme

The Working Group on 1st December 2009 agreed to support a recommendation that the former Burnham House site should be considered for a new Extra Care development.

Next Steps

If the Area Board is supportive of the Working Group recommendation then the next steps are for the Council to consider how best a feasibility study for the site could be developed. The Council, due to the funding arrangements to develop an Extra Care scheme, are unlikely to actually develop the scheme. The development is likely to be undertaken by a Registered Social Landlord / Housing Association.

It must be noted that the development of a feasibility study is likely to take in the region of 6 - 9 months. Until this feasibility study is completed it is not possible to establish a formal timetable to develop the Burnham House site.

Recommendations

The Area Board support the recommendation of the Burnham House Working Group to examine the feasibility of developing an Extra Care Housing scheme at the former Burnham house care home site.

The Area Board request an update on the feasibility study to a meeting in September / October 2010.

The Area Board would like to thank all the participants of the Working Group and formally ask the Working Group to continue to meet to progress the feasibility study.

J Cawley December 2009