

Toller Porcorum Village Association Open Meeting
Held at the Village Hall on 28th February 2012

Present: Steve Watson, Somerset Devon and Dorset CLT Project. Tim Crabtree, Wessex Community Assets. Robert Aspray, Rural Housing Development Officer West Dorset District Council, Nigel Lester, Synergy Housing Association. Simon Thompson, Dorset Community Action. Colin Baker, Barry Rutherford, Jill Bacchus, Evelyn Whitcombe, Vanora Hereward, Rorie Geddes and 38 village members.

Colin baker welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced those offering assistance from outside the village.

It was explained to the meeting that the existing premises for the Post Office would not be available in the long term. The TPVA had been investigating a scheme put forward by Vanora Hereward to try to build a new Post Office and some affordable homes on land she owned. Additional adjacent land might be available and it was hoped that by making a gift of her land there would be a sufficient development to enable the Village to have a purpose built Post Office owned by the village.

Robert Aspray is to do a housing needs survey in the village.

Steve Watson explained how the village, working in partnership with a Housing Association, could form a Community Land Trust and obtain funding through the Homes and Communities Agency to build affordable homes. Grants are available for the next three years. A CLT is not for profit organisation that can hold assets for future generations. It is open for membership to all members of the community and could be incorporated in several different ways.

Funding for legal fees of £5,000 is available from WDDC.

Members of the Village were asked to give their names and contact details if they were interested in becoming members of the Steering Group.