***Article for the WM and village website.***

**Call for information on housing sites**

A neighbourhood plan for our parish will give us a lot more power to oppose inappropriate development in Westbourne, Woodmancote and Aldsworth.

The steering group drafting the plan already have a lot of information – most importantly the views given by residents in last year's questionnaire. But now they need some more information – on where landowners might be thinking of building houses.

This information is needed because Chichester District Council's local plan says the parish must take another 25 new homes.

We can't stop them coming. But what we can do, with a neighbourhood plan, is to keep some degree of control over where they will go. If we don't decide which sites should take new homes, then it will be decided for us.

The neighbourhood plan steering group needs local landowners to let them know if they are hoping to develop their land for housing. Once all possible sites are identified, and we have the full picture, residents of the parish will be consulted on which ones they would prefer to see developed.

The steering group needs anyone who owns land in the parish, and who is hoping to develop it in the foreseeable future, to get in touch. **Please email** **rahitchcock@btinternet.com** **or call 01243 389096 by 18 April.**

***Article for various other publications***

**Residents call for information on housing sites**

Residents in Westbourne parish are calling on landowners to tell them if they are hoping to develop their land for housing.

The information is needed to help residents draw up a neighbourhood plan, which will give them more power to resist inappropriate development.

The parish, which includes Westbourne village and the hamlets of Woodmancote and Aldsworth, has been allocated 25 new homes in Chichester District Council's local plan.

The group drawing up the neighbourhood plan is hoping to identify all possible housing sites, so residents can be consulted on which ones they would prefer to see developed.

Neighbourhood plan spokesman Richard Hitchcock said: "We can't stop new homes being built in the years to come, but a neighbourhood plan will give us some degree of control over where they go. If we don't decide which sites should take new homes, then it will be decided for us.

"We need landowners to let us know if they are hoping to develop their land for housing. Once all the possible sites are identified, and we have the full picture, residents of the parish will be consulted on which ones they would prefer to see developed."

Landowners can contact the neighbourhood plan steering group by emailing rahitchcock@btinternet.com or calling 01243 389096. The information is needed by 18 April.

*ends*

*Contact numbers for media (not for publication): 01243 389096*