

**SIDNEY MICHAEL POLAND CHARITY  
FOR A HOME AND RECREATION GROUND**  
(Registered Charity No 204424)

**LOCAL HOUSING FOR LOCAL PEOPLE**

4 Oakdene Road  
Brockham  
Betchworth  
Surrey RH3 7JX

24 April 2009

Dear Brockham Resident

The success of 'local needs' housing developments within villages in Surrey has prompted the Sidney Michael Poland Charity based at Poland House, Kiln Lane in Brockham, to ask if there is a similar need in Brockham. 'Local needs housing' in this context is to help local people who cannot afford to remain in the village because of the high price of buying and renting on the open market.

The rules governing such a development locally require a Housing Needs Survey within Brockham parish to establish if there is a need for and interest in such homes. It is recognised that a similar survey was undertaken for the Village Plan but the Poland Charity is obliged to undertake an in-depth separate survey. This new survey will be only the first stage in a long process to find out what the demand might be – limited to people from Brockham or with close links to the village.

Sidney Michael Poland Charity is a local charity providing housing for the elderly in need and whose objective is to assist those in need in Brockham and the surrounding rural villages, and Brockham Parish Council is fully supportive of us undertaking this housing needs survey. **This is an important issue, so please take the time to complete this survey. Your views are important, particularly if you or someone in your household is in housing need.**

Local needs housing is essentially a home that can be rented or part-bought (shared ownership), usually from a Housing Association. Such housing helps local people who would like either to remain in or return to their village and in the long term contribute to maintaining the spirit of the community, as well as contributing to village services.

'Local people in housing need' might be young people trying to get onto the housing ladder; couples living with parents unable to access the property market; families with young children that need more space or elderly people who need to downsize.

In assessing demand and gauging the level of support a small scheme might have in our community, we are working with Mona Johansson of Surrey Community Action. This is a charity that supports communities in Surrey. Mona is the 'Rural Housing Enabler' for the county and acts as independent advisor providing information to villages on rural housing. She will analyse the survey and all information will be kept confidential. The Charity will receive a statistical summary. If the survey identifies a need for local housing from households either currently living in, or having a genuine local connection with Brockham, the next step would be to identify a low-cost site for a small development for local people. The Poland Charity will then assess the outcome and all residents will have an opportunity to comment. Please return this form using the freepost envelope provided by **22 May 2009**.

If a family member has left Brockham but wishes to return, please ensure that they receive a copy of the form by contacting Mona.

For further information, or additional copies of the survey, please contact either **Ann Meadows at Sidney Michael Poland Charity**, tel: 01737 842934 email: meadowsann@tiscali.co.uk or **Mona Johansson at Surrey Community Action**, tel: 01483 459292 ext. 226 email: monaj@surreyca.org.uk.

**Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and for completing the survey form.**

Yours sincerely



Ann Meadows  
Sidney Michael Poland Charity