

Close to family and friends

Bev and Ken Gilbert were delighted to have the chance to move back to the village when 8 affordable homes for rent became available at Nursery Close in St Giles in the Wood, Torrridge.

"There is a real lack of affordable housing to rent in the village" Ken said. When a previous tenancy ended they were forced to move away from the village where they had lived together for over 15 years in order to find suitable accommodation. "Of course we jumped at the chance of moving back".

"It is a great location for both of us," Bev said. Ken is an active member of the Parish Hall and Social Club and Bev is pleased to have moved closer to her family.

Bev suffers from MS and both are pleased to be back in the centre of the community where they feel supported.

Families with a local connection to St Giles have moved into all eight properties and there is already a feeling of community amongst the neighbours.

The Nursery Close development came about after Torrridge District Council, working with the Rural Housing Enabler from the Community Council of Devon and St Giles in the Wood Parish Council, identified a need for affordable homes for local people in St Giles. It was part-funded by a £500,000 investment from the Homes and Communities Agency with additional funding from the District Council. The land was released by Michael Hookway, a local farmer.

