The CLT is working with local organisations Young Devon and Robert Owen Communities (now part of United Response) to deliver some of the affordable rental units specifically for young people with support needs and adults with learning disabilities, to create an inclusive community at Clay Park. These vulnerable groups will benefit from affordable housing close to their support networks, while being supported to live sustainably in a way which is sensitive to their needs.

We received planning permission for 27 houses, of which two were 4 bed rental houses intended as ‘Houses of Multiple Occupation’ for YD and UR, but they advised us that best practice had moved on, and self-contained accommodation was better for the people they worked with, who often have complex needs, and would better enable them to live independently. In 2017 we applied for permission to convert one HMO into 4 studio flats for young people, and the other into 2 one bed flats for adults with learning disabilities. The changes to the flats won’t have any impact on the number of people living at Clay Park or how many parking spaces are required.

“Most people in society don’t have the opportunity to spend time with people with learning disabilities, so living in the close knit community that will be created at Clay Park will foster a greater knowledge and understanding of the difficulties they face day to day. Nonetheless people with learning disabilities have much to contribute to the communities they live in and we anticipate that this will quickly be demonstrated as they become productive and valued members of this new community. In a nutshell this scheme will provide an opportunity for greater connection and mutual understanding, learning skills together and growing as a community.”

Therese Timberlake, Operations Director United Response

“Totnes lacks any provision for supported accommodation for young people and there is an opportunity provided by the development of Clay Park to create an inclusive, diverse and supportive community where residents will be given support to live in a more sustainable and socially connected way”.

Andy Moreman, CEO Young Devon