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Author	Message
<p>spartacus</p> <p>Joined: 04 May 2007 Posts: 94 Location: Middlesbrough</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Posted: Sun Jun 24, 2007 2:47 pm Post subject: Defend Council Housing report quote</p> <hr/> <p>I am led to understand that Middlesbrough Councillor Brian Hubbard Indie formerly Labour has been barred from attending area forum meetings of Erimus. He recently was reelected in the Beckfield ward thrashing Erimus chairman Bob Brady.</p> <p>I understand that Brian has been accused of negativity and diruptiveness but has asked where in the meetings minutes are these accusations? This smacks of undemocratic behaviour and must be overturned.</p> <p>As a campaigner against the stock transfer of Council housing in Middlesbrough I warned about the undemocratic nature of these new organisations who are answerable to their boards and not the tenants.</p> <p>http://www.defendcouncilhousing.org.uk/</p>

This slave is revolting

[Back to top](#)**spragger1**
 Posted: Sun Jun 24, 2007 3:17 pm Post subject:

 Joined: 06 May 2007
 Posts: 82

Looks like the same ol Labour tricks

Once they are found out the toys go out of the pram

Council house sales is a much maligned topic

It would be worth a whole debate on social housing

[Back to top](#)**Indie**
 Posted: Sun Jun 24, 2007 8:39 pm Post subject:

 Joined: 01 May 2007
 Posts: 170

Last year, the Director of Erimus Housing, Betnard Williamas who used to work for Mbro Council and is a good friend of Bob Brady wrote to me telling me that my complaints sent to Erimus on behalf of residents in Beechwood Ward were always in the form of a complaint (?) and were demoralising for his staff. I cannot telephone a complaint in nor e-mail one nor send one in as other cllrs do, via the council. Instead, all complaints and even requests for information from either myself or residents must be sent in writing to a member of Erimus Staff who will then look at them. What happens now, is that approx. a week to 10 days after I notify Erimus, I receive a letter from them telling me that they have got my letter and will look into the matter. !! that means that the tenant has to wait so much longer for help - one of them had a ceiling, part of which which had fallen in on them weeks ago !

Three weeks ago, myself & two residents witnessed a man we know, take a claw hammer and smash the rear fence of an empty property in G. Hill. He then took some of the fence and walked away, leaving behind an eyesore & waving to me at the same time as he knew me. The residents & myself all reported this to Erimus. Noboy even acknowledged this despite two reminders & yesterday, I had a call from the Beat Bobby telling me thast they had spoken to Eirmus who were not interested in this. Why then, do they leave such things as boilers, radiators, perfectly good kitchens & bathrooms in properties awaiting demolition when they know too well what happens - people break in steal what they want to and vandalsie the property iin doing so. There

is of course the question of why did nobody in Erimus have the manners to let us know they were not interested in this theft & vandalism? You can put money on the fact that Labour will get Brady back as a cllr one way or another.

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spartacus

Posted: Mon Jun 25, 2007 9:33 am Post subject:



Joined: 04 May 2007
Posts: 94
Location: Middlesbrough

Indie wrote,

' I cannot telephone a complaint in nor e-mail one nor send one in as other cllrs do, via the council.' Thats shocking

How do the other councillors get their complaints in through the council Indie?

Spragger I'm all for a debate on Social housing do you want to start off on a new thread or stick to this one?

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Indie

Posted: Mon Jun 25, 2007 10:08 am Post subject:



Joined: 01 May 2007
Posts: 170

Other cllrs can either use their computer to e-mail Erimus os they can ask council staff to pass messages to them, or they can tel Erimus direct. Don't forget, many cllrs have no Erimus properties in their wards si this does not concern them.

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spragger1

Joined: 06 May 2007
Posts: 82

Posted: Mon Jun 25, 2007 6:30 pm Post subject:



Spartacus - happy to use this thread to prolong the debate.
Except for a few rabid right wingers most people would say the principle of Social Housing was a good thing. Housing built to a reasonable standard with an economic rent charged.

According to the pundits we have a housing shortage so what do we continue to do - sell social housing.

We have managed to create a situation where our own children cannot either obtain a social house, or afford to buy. Weird state of affairs.

The local council is not allowed to use the receipts of Council house sales to build new (or replacement) houses?

I don't buy into the fact there is an actual shortage of houses just a severe misuse of resources. We have people that have multi property ownership either as a second or third home. Or the pariahs of the modern age they buy to let mafia (who get a tax advantage over first timers) who then sit on an empty property as it appreciates.

We have ol granny in her 5 bedroomed house moaning about the council tax.

That's enough to kick it off

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REDCARMAN

Joined: 02 May 2007
Posts: 248
Location: REDCAR

Posted: Mon Jun 25, 2007 7:02 pm Post subject:



"spragger1" said

Quote:

We have ol granny in her 5 bedroomed house moaning about the council tax

The old granny, as you call her might be living in a 5 bedroomed house worth what, £500,000 say.. Doesn't mean that she's worth £500,000.. It means that the house is worth that.. Doesn't mean she can pay her council tax easy.. She might be on a pension and not have two pennies to "scratch her ar*e with"...!!!

You have a point relating to the fact that people owning 2/3 houses have taken some of the stock from the housing market and are sitting on it, waiting for an appreciation in value.. What the answer is to that one I don't know, but overall I would reckon it's a small percentage of housing stock we are talking about...

Let's not also forget the immense change in the last 20/25 years of the family unit.. At one time you'd have a family (mam,dad,kids) living in a house.. Now, a lot of the time you've got mam/kids living in one house and dad in another..!!! Two houses, whereas it used to be one..!! That's not to mention the enormous amount of single mothers who seem to be able to get a council house easily enough.. An enormous drain on the housing stock.. That's down to the society we are now living in, and I don't think we can do an awful lot about that..!!

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spragger1

Posted: Mon Jun 25, 2007 8:02 pm Post subject:



Joined: 06 May 2007
Posts: 82

If we want to solve the housing problem and not concrete over greenfields 'ol granny' is going to have to downsize and thats why a swingeing CT can work

A large percentage of our housing stock is out of action or missing, we need incentives, or taxes to get it back into gainful use

Last edited by spragger1 on Mon Jun 25, 2007 8:11 pm; edited 1 time in total

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REDCARMAN

Posted: Mon Jun 25, 2007 8:10 pm Post subject:



Joined: 02 May 2007
Posts: 248
Location: REDCAR

Well, that's the first time I've come across anyone who actually advocates an increase in Council Tax.. !!!! It's a new one on me.. Got a feeling that it might not go down too well with the electorate though..!!! 😊😊😊

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spragger1

Posted: Mon Jun 25, 2007 8:16 pm Post subject:



Joined: 06 May 2007
Posts: 82

Have a look at the facts:
Land is finite(its a bit like Oxygen and water)
Therefore housing is finite
Do we want a concreted over England?

My priority is to see our young people housed whether in private or social housing. We all had the chance but of late WE have pulled up the drawbridge, many people in a very greedy fashion

The market is as good as it gets but it does not work well for housing (Hence why I support social housing for some.)

Big houses should attract a big CT Second homes a huge CT. Buy to lets should be taxed the same as for new starts

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REDCARMAN

Posted: Mon Jun 25, 2007 8:36 pm Post subject:



Joined: 02 May 2007
Posts: 248
Location: REDCAR

Just because people live in big houses doesn't mean that they have big incomes... Lots of people who bought their houses in the last 10/20 years have seen their property values double and even triple.. Their income has not kept up with the runaway housing market.. How do you expect them to pay more council tax when they can barely afford it now..?? My opinion is that the housing market is grossly over inflated, and that prices will start to fall back in the near future, as interest rates inevitably rise.. As to "slinging poor old granny out" and telling her she'll have to downsize, who's gonna' do that.. you.!!! She's maybe been there many years and doesn't want to move.. What about all the immigrants pouring into the country.. They'll all want somewhere to live.. Maybe a poor immigration policy is fuelling the demand for housing.. These immigrants don't want to buy a house.. they want one from the local Council.. Less houses for the indigenous population to occupy.. There are many reasons why we are short of housing my friend, but taxing people to the hilt ain't gonna' solve the problem.. Besides, I love my old granny..!!! 😊 😊

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**spartacus**

Posted: Mon Jun 25, 2007 10:02 pm Post subject:



Joined: 04 May 2007
Posts: 94
Location: Middlesbrough

Nice debate guys,
I've just read an article about the housing bubble bursting in the USA this could have big effects on the US economy and Britain[when the the USA gets pneumonia we catch a cold]

Anyway it began with sub prime mortgages these are additional mortgages for those who can't afford a Prime mortgage on it's own. In other words people are over extending themselves on mortgage repayments and are defaulting bigstyle and being made homeless.

Instead of house prices growing they have fallen just under 10% in the past year. People had been taking on sub prime mortgages knowing that the repayments would increase after a few years [nearly 3 times as much] but would sell on before that time and make a profit. Now house prices are falling they can't sell and are getting clobbered.

In the past year 56 large companies who provide mortgages have gone into liquidation they had

borrowed heavily from Wall St cartels who are now recalling their loans that run into trillions of dollars.

It's a lot more complicated than I have written with pension funds being wiped out and other financial skullduggery and wheelerdealing. What happens across the pond can easily happen here. The major financial markets like hedgefund speculators etc are getting edgy .

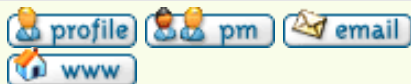
What happens in the USA happens here people here are now being offered mortgages over 6 times their salary at some point the bubble will burst. I can't believe that so much trust is being put on market forces by the powers that be.

Back to social housing since 1990 over £13 billion has been taken from council house rents by central government and not gone back into council housing. This is called the Daylight Robbery scheme [There is a website that discusses this] With this money Council Housing should be absolutely superb. Coupled with this No money from the sale of Council Housing has been allowed to be spent on Council Housing.

More later

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spragger1

Posted: Mon Jun 25, 2007 11:10 pm Post subject:



Joined: 06 May 2007
Posts: 82

You selectively tax the areas that are underutilising housing

So whats your answer Redcarman?

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TinTin

Joined: 05 May 2007
Posts: 234
Location: Middlesbrough

Posted: Tue Jun 26, 2007 7:07 am Post subject:



Sorry spagger, I think that you point is the most pathetic I have heard. I may be wrong but I think that you are jealous of people who have nice big houses and multiple property owners.

You have yet to answer rcman's view on ---- Just if someone lives in a £500,000 property it does not mean that they are rich, why should they move it is not their fault their property has gone up in value at such a rate.

I do agree that the house prices are too high and dont believe that the market will continue to look that way as the interest rates continue to go up, but your answer to this problem is archaic.

Don't lie, steal or cheat because our government hates competition <http://teesside.proboards79.com/>

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REDCARMAN

Joined: 02 May 2007
Posts: 248
Location: REDCAR

Posted: Tue Jun 26, 2007 12:02 pm Post subject:



Hi "spragger".. I don't have all the answers.. who does..?? ..But in order to continue this debate, I just need you to clarify what you mean when you state that **you would tax the areas that are underutilising housing..**

At the moment I'm not exactly sure what you mean by that, who is underutilising, and which housing..?

And you leave my old granny alone..!!! 😊😊

By the way "TT", thanks for your comments.. For the moment I'll give "spragger" the benefit of the doubt, and regard him as a "social warrior"...!!

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