## **Exmoor National Park Authority and Exmoor Young Voices Press Release**

On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June, Exmoor National Park Authority and Exmoor Young Voices charity collaborated to arrange a self-build tour for local young people interested in building their own home in the National Park. The tour involved visiting six self-build properties in Wheddon Cross, Cutcombe, Hoe Farm and Exton.

The purpose of the tour was to provide young people that live and work on Exmoor, information on the variety of ways a self build home can be achieved through different methods of construction and design. Exmoor National Park Authority Head of Planning and Sustainable Development Dean Kinsella and Senior Planning Officer Tessa Saunders attended the tour to engage with the group and offer advice on planning and potential opportunities for self-build within Exmoor communities. Dean Kinsella stated

"Policies in the Exmoor National Park Local Plan enable self build homes for local people where they are unable to buy their own home to meet their needs on the open market. We are working with Exmoor Young Voices to provide advice as early in the process as possible to guide them through the planning process and signpost them to helpful resources so they are in the best possible position to make a decision on whether self-build is a realistic opportunity to provide them with a home close to family or work."

"We would like to thank the homeowners that gave up their time to talk to the Young Voices and answer their questions on the whole process of self build" said William Lock, Chair of Exmoor Young Voices. "Our next meeting when we will explore sites, finance, and planning further is going to be at The Rest and Be Thankful, Wheddon Cross, on the 11th July 7.30pm" said Samantha Harris, EYV Coordinator. "To book a place email me at <a href="mailto:eyv.coordinator@hotmail.com">eyv.coordinator@hotmail.com</a>, find us on on Facebook, or just drop in."



