

Could park homes help ease housing demands?

WITH demand on housing reaching new highs the Government is backing an alternative solution to the problem.

Park homes are seen as having a real role to play in expanding housing choice and diversity and providing affordable energy efficient homes.

When John and Lilian Whalley, of Westgate Park, started looking for a new home in Sleaford they found a park home was an unexpected solution to their search.

The retired couple wanted a smaller place with low maintenance which was close to their daughter and the amenities of Sleaford.

Mr Whalley (79) said: "We

by Amy Woolford

amy.woolford@lincolnshirecho.co.uk

had been coming down to Sleaford from Harrogate for around 20 years to visit our daughter and wanted to move closer to her.

"We never knew that Westgate Park existed but we bumped into a couple who had moved into a park home and they recommended it."

He added: "We went to have a look round Westgate Park and before long someone sitting in their garden had a chat with us.

"Before we knew it we were invited in to have a look around one of the homes and we were stunned by what we saw.

"We had looked around bungalows in Sleaford and nothing was quite right but this suited us perfectly."

The couple bought a new fully-furnished home to fill a vacant plot on the site, which is less than 10 minutes' walk to the town and 15 minutes from the station.

The home incorporates a lounge, a six-seater dining room, a master bedroom with



HAPPY: Lilian and John Whalley moved to a park home in Sleaford to be nearer their family.

en-suite shower, a spare bedroom, bathroom, kitchen and utility room.

Mr Whalley said: "We had lived in our house in Harrogate for 49 years and there were a lot of things I wanted to know before making the move from bricks and mortar to a park home.

"I wrote to several different

companies and visited a number of parks. I found out that the insulation was as good as a brick-built house and the council tax was band A.

"There is a pitch fee to pay to rent the plot but that includes water rates so the balance between these two more or less evened out."

The grandfather-of-two ad-

ded: "We have been here a year now and inevitably some things have cropped up, like a change of park ownership last year, but it has been wonderful.

"We can easily walk into town or catch the train and we have modern accommodation, a small garden and everything we need."

Hot property at a glance



● **LOUNGE:** The Cotswold is a Homeseeker park home and is priced at £135,000 at Westgate Park.



● **STYLISH:** The Fairfax park home offers open plan living with a lounge diner.



● **ATTRACTIVE:** The Whalleys bought a two bedroomed park home in Sleaford.

On the market

- **PROPERTY:** Westgate Park, Sleaford
- **PRICE:** Cotswold home, 42ft x 20ft, fully sited £135,000
- **AGENT:** Westgate Park 07748 967044