

NOMINATION OF A TRUSTEE TO EAST CAMBS COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

Committee: Finance & Assets Committee

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1.0 Issue

- 1.1. To consider the nomination of a Councillor as a trustee to East Cambs Community Land Trust (ECCLT).

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. Members are requested to nominate a Councillor as a trustee to East Cambs Community Land Trust.

3.0 Background/Options

- 3.1. ECCLT was incorporated in November 2017. The CLT is incorporated as a Charitable Community and Benefit Society and registered with the Financial Conduct Authority under the Co-Operative and Community Benefit Society Act 2014. It is incorporated to enable affordable homes to be owned and managed by an independent, locally-run body that enables people to live and work locally.
- 3.2. ECCLT was set up as an 'umbrella' CLT. This is an approach that had successfully been used in other parts of the country (for example, there is an umbrella 'Cornwall CLT') prior to ECCLT's set up.
- 3.3. Umbrella CLTs cover a wider area or region than local CLTs, and their purpose is to support affordable housing to be secured for people who live and work locally. They will particularly be active in communities where there is desire and need for locally affordable homes, but where there isn't the appetite to set up and run a local CLT. It is important to note that umbrella CLTs are not incorporated to replace or act in competition to areas where there is an existing CLT, and instead take a complementary and supportive role.
- 3.4. All Community Land Trusts have the option, at incorporation stage, to nominate a 'Custodian'. Nominating a Custodian gives CLTs an extra level of security against the core parts of their governing rules being changed in the future; this includes the Objects of the Trust, rules on its application of its profits, and dissolution. Custodians for CLTs are typically trusted local organisations such as the District Council, Parish Council or local Charity with similar Objectives. Custodians can also offer support and guidance via a limited number of seats on the Board.

The Objects of ECCLT are as follows:

- “The CLT is formed for the benefit of the community to operate as a community land trust in East Cambridgeshire (the area of benefit),
- The objects of the CLT are to carry on for the benefit of people in need (whether by virtue of poverty, financial hardship, age, physical or mental disability or ill health) in the area of benefit:
- The business of providing and managing housing (including social housing) and facilitating the provision and management of such housing,
- The provision of, and facilitating the provision of, information, advice, assistance, training, support, facilities, amenities and services incidental to the provision and promotion of housing,
- The promotion of regeneration in areas of social and economic deprivation in such ways as may be thought fit by the Trustees, and
- Any other charitable object that can be carried out from time to time by a community land trust and which the Trustees consider would further the social, economic and environmental interest of the community in the area of benefit.”

3.5. ECCLT currently own sixteen properties; two at Barton Road, Ely (one property is a shared ownership property and one is an affordable rent property) and fourteen shared ownership properties at Arbour Square, Ely.

3.6. East Cambridgeshire District Council is the Custodian Member of ECCLT. The rules of ECCLT require a minimum and maximum number of trustees. The minimum is three and the maximum is twelve. There are currently five trustees on ECCLT.

3.7. A Custodian Nominee is appointed for a term of 4 years and there are no limitations in ECCLT rules as to how many terms a trustees can serve. The requirement is that the Custodian Nominee is appointed every 4 years.

3.8. Councillor Anna Bailey currently serves as a trustee to ECCLT. This term comes to an end in September 2025.

4.0 Arguments/Conclusions

4.1. In accordance with ECCLT rules the Council has the right to nominate a Councillor and it is recommended that the Council nominates a Councillor as a trustee to ECCLT.

5.0 Additional Implications Assessment

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| Financial Implications No | Legal Implications No | Human Resources (HR) Implications No |
| Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) No | Carbon Impact Assessment (CIA) No | Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) No |

6.0 Appendices

None

7.0 Background documents

Nomination of a Trustee to East Cambs Community Land Trust- Finance & Assets Committee- 26 November 2020.

