

Come and celebrate with us!
Saturday Feb 29th, 1pm onwards

INVITATION

We have great pleasure in inviting you to the Grand Opening of
BIRKS COURT, St Peter's Gate, Walsden, Todmorden

Six new independent-living bungalows for older people, for renting
at affordable rents

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 29TH 2020, 1pm onwards
(Opening ceremony at 3pm)

**TODMORDEN TOWN BAND WILL BE PLAYING DURING
THE AFTERNOON**
Light refreshments

**These new homes have been developed through local voluntary community
endeavour**

*Important! There is NO parking nearby. Please park elsewhere in Walsden village
and walk, or use public transport.*

If very wet, we will also be using Walsden Parish Church

An invitation from the Trustees of Calder Valley Community Land Trust
and the Trustees of John Eastwood Homes (almshouse trust).

We'd be delighted if you could join us on Saturday February 29th (yes, there is a Feb 29th this year) at the grand opening of the CLT's first development, Birks Court in Walsden.

We're keen to show off what community-led housing has been able to achieve locally. With our partner community organisation John Eastwood Homes, we'll be holding Open Doors at Birks Court all afternoon from 1pm until about 5pm. Come and have a look round the independent-living bungalows which will very shortly be affordable homes for local people.

To make the occasion more enjoyable, **Todmorden Town Band** will be playing. Light refreshments will be available in one of the bungalows. And, at about 3pm, we will ask the Mayor of Calderdale Cllr Dot Foster to undertake the ceremony to declare the bungalows well and truly open for their first residents.

Birks Court is just over the canal in Walsden, behind the Post Office and near the old Methodist Church. Be warned, though, that there is **no parking** near Birks Court.

Come even if it's wet. We have also booked the next-door parish church in case the weather is truly horrible.

Can you help?

We may need some extra volunteers on the Saturday morning, helping us get things straight. Tasks will include putting up the bunting and putting down the floor covering to protect the new floors.

We may also need volunteers during the afternoon for the refreshments.

If you think you could help, let our secretary Andrew Bibby know on info@caldervalleyclt.org.uk.

Update on the allocations process

We advertised the four CLT bungalows for two weeks in January on the Keychoice system (the bidding system which has taken over from the old council waiting list) and as we expected there was a great deal of interest. We're sorry we can't meet everyone's housing needs.

The fourteen applicants which Keychoice tells us have the greatest housing need have been approached by us and asked to complete a very short supplementary questionnaire. Once the questionnaires are back, our allocations panel will meet and make their decision. Our thanks to Martyn Broadest of Connect Housing and Cath Miller from the council who are volunteering to join CLT trustees on the panel.

Hebden Bridge Signal Box

If you're interested in the fast-developing proposal to take over the decommissioned signal box into community ownership (using the CLT as the legal vehicle), you may be interested in the meeting of the Hebden Bridge Signal Box Preservation Group, which will be held on Sunday March 8th, 3pm, at Hebden Bridge Town Hall. Our architect Jacquie Milham will be reporting back on her early thoughts. CLT trustees Andrew Bibby and Karin Lowson will also be there to talk about developments in terms of potential funders. Please let us know in advance (info@caldervalleyclt.org.uk) if you plan to come as the Town Hall will not be open to the public that afternoon and we will need to let you in.