

CVCLT news October 2020

Can you support our work by joining our Advisory Panel?

We are now ready to establish an Advisory Panel for the CLT, of people with skills, experience and professional expertise which we can call on as and when we need it.

This is a significant step forward for us. Please consider carefully whether you've got skills (or know someone with skills) that we might find useful.

Can you, for example, tick any of the following?

Housing: Housing for special needs; Housing for older people; Housing for those with disabilities; Housing management; Tenant relations; Housing consultancy; Co-housing; Community-led housing; Other

Construction/Technical: Housing design; Groundworks; Engineering; Cost estimating/control; Modern methods of construction; Straw bale construction; Traditional build construction; Electrical; Water; Build project management; Planning process; Refurbishment/empty properties; Other

Environmental: Energy generation; Energy usage; Insulation; Heat pumps; Solar; Passivhaus construction; Landscaping; Tree management/planting; Other

Financial: Accountancy; Other

Governance: Governance issues; Social impact assessment; Other

Fundraising: Fundraising from local sources; Fundraising from national sources; Community shares; Other

Legal: Housing law; Commercial contracts; Charity law; GDPR and privacy; Employment law; Other

HR: Recruitment; HR issues; Other

Diversity and Community engagement: Equality & diversity policy; LGBTQ communities; S Asian community in Todmorden; Disability issues; Other

Marketing: PR; Social media; Other

We don't expect to call on Advisory Panel members necessarily all the time, but we will be organising regular get-togethers for Panel members, at least on a yearly basis. We had planned to launch the Panel with an informal reception, but instead we'll arrange sometime online, in later October or November.

We have a very simple application form for Advisory Panel members. Request it from Andrew our Secretary on info@caldervalleyclt.org.uk

We're launching a share offer

The big news from the CLT this month is that we are very close to launching our first full-scale community share issue. We are looking to raise funds in interest-bearing withdrawable share capital to enable us to buy the land and buildings surrounding the Fielden Hall community centre in Todmorden.

We hope to have the share launch (by Zoom!) within the next few weeks, and will send you details as soon as they are confirmed.

Strengthening our board

Following our recent recruitment process, we are delighted to welcome three new members to the CLT board. Thank you to Anne Sutcliffe, Sally Hinton and Abigail Gregory for agreeing to join us. All will be coopted/appointed until the 2021 AGM, when they will submit to the usual election process by CLT members.

Details of the new trustees are up on our website www.caldervalleyclt.org.uk/who-we-are/.

Tweeting our story

We've become much more active on Twitter (@cvclt1) recently. If you use Twitter, please follow us and retweet our posts when you can. We regularly use the hash tag #communityledhousing.

Our social impact survey

Thank you if you responded to our request to take part in our 'social impact' survey last month. We closed the survey at the end of August when 101 people had responded. The results are, we think, very interesting and will help us plan the way forward for the CLT.

The full social impact report is available on our public website. Just click <http://www.caldervalleyclt.org.uk/docs/socialvalue.pdf>. Here is a short summary.

- 101 completed surveys received: 25% response rate
- 80% regularly read the CVCLT monthly Newsletter
- 60% mention CVCLT to friends and colleagues
- 10 had recruited other people to be members
- 42% had attended the public meetings on 'Housing – an Issue' in 2018
- 87% understood the CVCLT aims quite well or very well
- Respondents have greater knowledge about local issues and the CVCLT than about national issues.
- Respondents have greater knowledge about housing need than about broader topics such as the community-led housing movement and the role of social housing providers
- 76-79% respondents believed that the contribution of CVCLT to housing issues had been significant.
- 61% felt that the contribution to equity and inequality had been significant.
- Of the 86 respondents who answered what should CVCLT priorities be over next 2 years, 73% said 'creating affordable homes'; 19% 'raising awareness of housing issues'; and 12% acquiring heritage or disused buildings on behalf of the community
- 85% of respondents lived in the Upper Calder Valley, 58% were women, 75% were aged 60+ years and 97% were white British.

