

# Building Homes for the Community by the Community

### Annual General Meeting 15 June 2021

Dear Member

Invitation to the Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of East Bergholt Community Land Trust Limited ("EBCLT").

As last year, the Trustees have taken the decision to dispense with a physical, open meeting of the members due to the Covid restrictions.

The Trustees propose to have a Zoom meeting to deal with the legally required aspects normally reserved for the formal part of the AGM. This meeting will take place on <u>15 June</u> <u>2021 at 19:30</u>. It will not be possible for members to vote by show of hand during the Zoom meeting as this would exclude members without online capabilities.

However, members can and should exercise their right to vote at the AGM by completing the proxy form attached. We therefore urge you to complete the proxy form and return the completed form by 10 June 2021. The proxy form contains some notes, and your attention is drawn to the "Summary Notes for Completion of the Proxy Form".

The AGM usually provides an opportunity for members to ask questions of the Trustees and the proxy form includes a section for members to submit any questions to the Trustees in advance. This year we also propose to use the Zoom meeting to provide an online platform for members to ask questions. If you would like to attend the Zoom meeting on 15 June 2021, please complete the relevant section on the proxy form so that the invitation can be sent out to you before the meeting.

Notice is given that the AGM will be held for the following purposes:

- 1. Trustees Report by the Chair
- 2. To receive the Annual Accounts for the period 1 January 2020 31 December 2020 ("2020 Annual Accounts")
- 3. Appointment of an auditor to be dispensed with for the 2020 Annual Accounts
- 4. Election of Trustees
- 5. Application of surplus funds
- 6. Question from members

Minutes of the 2020 AGM will be available for inspection on the website (<u>www.eastbergholt-clt.org</u>).

# Background and explanation for the proposed activities and resolutions:

- The Chair will give a summary of events for the Financial Year ended 31 December 2020 and a report of the activities to date. This summary is attached to this notice through the link provided or is enclosed if you receive this information by post.
- 2. The 2020 Annual Accounts are accessible through the link provided in the e-mail accompanying this letter or are enclosed if you receive this information by post.
- 3. The Rules of EBCLT state that the members resolve whether or not an auditor should be appointed to audit the 2020 Annual Accounts. The Trustees are of the view that due to the nominal financial activities carried out by EBCLT in the Financial Year ended 31 December 2020 no auditor should be appointed.
- 4. The Rules of EBCLT state that one third (or the number nearest one third) of the Trustees must retire at each AGM. A retiring Trustee is eligible for re-election. The three retiring Trustees are all standing for re-election.
  - The Rules of EBCLT state that the maximum number of Trustees is 9. Before the AGM 7 Trustees were in place. With the compulsory retirements, and the lack of any nominations put forward, a total of up to 3 trustees can be elected at the AGM. Brief biographies of the candidates are attached.
- 5. EBCLT does not have any surplus funds and hence the Trustees recommend that no funds are allocated to community projects in the Parish.

If you have any questions about the process for the AGM, please send an email to <a href="mailto:admin@eastbergholt-clt.org">admin@eastbergholt-clt.org</a> or post your question(s) to the Chair of Trustees, c/o Gothic House, Gaston Street, East Bergholt CO7 6SD.

#### Voting Instructions and Proxy

At the AGM each member has one vote on each of the resolutions.

The form of Proxy is attached. Please read the instructions on the form and in the Summary Notes for the Completion of the Proxy carefully and return the completed form no later than 17:00 on 10 June 2021.

The proxy form must be signed and dated to be valid.

Rolf Althen, Secretary

For and on behalf of East Bergholt Community Land Trust

## **Biographies of Nominees**

<u>Chris McEwen</u> moved to East Bergholt with his wife in 2011 from Lawford where they had lived for over 20 years.

Chris is a chartered civil engineer and has spent his working life in construction in the UK and Africa. Until 2016, he was the MD of a regional contractor that he set up in 2004.

He has worked with many housing providers including most of the local Housing Associations. Chris was previously deputy chair of the Construction Confederation and on a Government "Quango" on Health and Safety. Although Chris became "partially retired" in 2016, he remains a non-executive director at Gipping Construction, is advising a company that designs and manufactures LED lights, and is a trustee of a charity for the Homeless in Ipswich: iHAG.

<u>Nigel Roberts</u> has lived in East Bergholt for over 8 years, having chosen to move from London where he had lived and worked for over 30 years. He is member of the Parish Council and was heavily involved in the preparation of the East Bergholt Neighbourhood Plan. He has been a Trustee of EBCLT since its inception and has contributed widely to its development so far.

He chairs the Land and Buildings working group. He is a graduate of the University of Essex, holds a degree in Economics and a post graduate diploma in Town Planning. During his career he has worked as a town planner for Norfolk and Mid Glamorgan County Councils, for Jones Lang LaSalle as Director and Chair of European Research and as Global Head of Real Estate Strategy for Hermes Investment Managers. He is now able to apply his knowledge and experience of property, strategy and planning to the benefit of EBCLT and in the village where he has chosen to retire.

Rolf Althen and his family moved to East Bergholt in 2010. Rolf was instrumental in setting up the legal and governance framework of EBCLT and manages the governance and compliance aspects of EBCLT's activities.

Rolf is a qualified lawyer and leads the legal & risk function of a global oil & gas services company based in Norwich. He has worked as an in-house lawyer advising on corporate, commercial, governance and compliance matters for most of his career. He serves as Secretary for EBCLT, and this gives him the opportunity to bring his experience to this long-term community project.