



PRESS RELEASE: March 17 2019

Working together

Emsworth Community Land Trust (ECLT) held its first public meeting on 15th March. More than 140 local people attended over the two sessions giving their feedback and ideas to the CLT. Chair of the group Dwynwen Stepien said: "We were delighted with the level of support and hope that people were able to get round to the displays and share their views. We will shape our strategy round the feedback received from those that attended."

At the meeting the Land Trust outlined three key objectives:

Affordable homes for local people

Work with others to build affordable homes for those in need in the Emsworth area

- Work with land owners/council to acquire land (at below market price)
- Identify developers/builders to develop innovative schemes
- Review opportunities in South Street, improving and developing public facilities
- Find ways to assist people to get finance to enable them to rent or buy properties

Thriving Town Centre

Work with others to ensure Emsworth centre is sustainable and vibrant

- Develop a 'town partnership' to identify issues and innovative solutions
- Contribute to improving public transport links and improving the connectivity of North and South Emsworth
- Identify opportunities to develop start-up businesses possibly with potential for housing above

Community and Youth Opportunities

Work with others to ensure sufficient facilities for the community and young people

- Work with young people and local organisations to develop a vision for young people in Emsworth
- To work with key organisations and the council to explore the potential of Redlands Grange site for community and youth facilities
- Ensure that existing community space is not lost to developers

A number of challenging projects are being investigated by the group now. They include:

- Working with the council to get land to build key worker homes
- Regenerating South Street – re-developing the toilets, improving the square
- Developing Redlands Grange site to provide community and youth facilities

Those who missed the meeting can see a video of the short version on utube here:

<https://youtu.be/76NofftLldc> or the full version here: <https://youtu.be/7KdC46JHpuA> and other details are on the website www.emsworthclt.org.uk with the video clip. (Many thanks to John Tweddell and Philippa Oakley for their photography.) The ECLT committee thanks all those who came to the meeting and will be in contact with members again nearer the date of their annual meeting on July 11th 2019.

Ends.....