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c/o Emsworth Community Centre

North Street

Emsworth PO10 7DD

4th February 2021

House of Commons  
London SW1A 0AA

Dear Alan

I am writing to you to thank you for your help in securing the newly announced £4m funding available to help community led housing groups such as Emsworth CLT to bring forward projects and prepare bids to the Affordable Homes Programme. We realise that much more will be needed in the coming years, however we are very pleased that this funding has been allocated.

As you know Emsworth Community Land Trust came into being as we campaigned, with you and others, for the redevelopment of the Emsworth Cottage Hospital into a Drs surgery. How fantastic to see it progressing so well. Emsworth CLT now has a sizeable membership, 400 members, and we are active in a number of projects. Our newly revamped website outlines our work (emsworthclt.org.uk).

We are working with the council and the YMCA on a proposal to develop an early years, youth and community centre on the site set aside for the GP surgery at the edge of the Redlands Grange estate. This will be a fantastic and much needed resource for residents towards the north of the town where much new housing is being developed. We are also working with other groups on an exciting, post COVID, town centre plan (<https://emsworth.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/TheEms_Autumn2020_web.pdf>). And of, course we are still seeking sites for new affordable homes, for example the Gasholder site which may now become available.

I will keep you uptodate with our projects. When time permits it would be good to discuss our work, opportunities and challenges and how we may continue to enhance the wellbeing of Emsworth residents.

With Best Wishes

*Dwynwen Stepien, Chair*

Emsworth Community Land Trust