

Emsworth CLT

**Report from the Directors
For the year ended 31st August 2021**

Report from Chair

This is our third year of operating as a Community Land Trust. But, as with many other groups, it has been a difficult year. We have supported the work of Emsworth Alliance and have been pleased to work with the community to support those in need.

Our work as a Land Trust has been limited, as has our engagement with members. We have kept in touch with members through newsletters and are pleased that our new website has been met with such positive feedback.

Having come into being three years ago it is fantastic for the ECLT to have been invited to the opening of the new GP surgery. It shows what our community can achieve through working together.

Work has continued on the vision for a new early years, youth and community centre for Emsworth. New designs have been produced and a project group has continued to work on engaging with the wider community. Over 100 people attended the open consultation event in July. There continues to be much support from the wider community but it is true to say that a number of residents close to the proposed development have concerns e.g. parking, anti-social behaviour. The project group is working to mitigate these issues and hopes to make a planning application in late October.

There has been little opportunity to progress our work on South Street and the linked Town Centre Plan. We are hoping that there can be more engagement with Havant Council in the coming year.

The ECLT has been working to develop a sustainable model for development. We continue to work with Havant Council to identify potential sites for a small development of affordable homes targeted at people with a local connection.

We were delighted to work with the Emsworth Neighbourhood Forum and to support the passing of the Neighbourhood Plan. This all bodes well for our work in the coming year.

Dwynwen Stepien (Chair)

Report from Secretary

We held our second AGM by Zoom on 26th November 2020, having first notified all members by Newsletter and publishing the details in the EMS newspaper. We commented that *“In line with the updated Corporate Insolvency and Governance Act passed by the Government in June 2020, the Board has taken the decision to hold the AGM by way of a closed virtual meeting.”* Voting on the Resolutions was conducted by way of a show of hands. Five Directors, four committee members and eighteen other members attended.

Annual Accounts 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021

Reports were presented by the Directors on our key themes. After the Treasurers report a resolution was proposed to receive the Company accounts and balance sheet and this was passed unanimously.

In line with our constitution 2 directors, Theo Schofield and Harry Thuillier resigned and were both re-elected.

The Directors held 11 Board/ Committee meetings, these were held on Zoom for the vast 75% of the year since the Covid 19 lockdown came in force, but were held face to face from July 2021. Sub groups led by Directors continued and reported to Board meetings.

Membership is currently at 400.

J Millar (Secretary)

Report from Treasurer

These accounts cover the period from 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021 and have been independently examined by Lisa McGarry

The principal costs incurred were a) for a scheme design for the Emsworth Town Quay and the remainder b) covered the cost of the new website <https://emsworthclt.org.uk/>. It should be noted that a great deal of professional expertise was given voluntarily.

At the end of the year the cash balance we held included grants received in advance which will contribute towards funding expenditure from September 2021 onward.

Exemption from audit

The society is entitled to exemption from audit under the provisions of The Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 (Amendments to Audit Requirements) Order 2018.

The members were asked at the AGM on 26th November 2020 to waive their right to require the society to obtain an audit of its accounts under section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 August 2021 and this was agreed unanimously.

Harry Thuillier (Treasurer)