

Report from the Chair & Directors for 2022-23 (AGM 1st November 2023)

This is our sixth year of operating as a Community Land Trust. Our work as a Land Trust has been limited again this year as there is no available land to build affordable houses on at this time. Various prospects for partnering with HBC to release underutilised public land have been investigated but no serious candidates have survived detailed analysis so far. It may prove to be the case that the CLT model for housing is not viable in Emsworth without something extraordinary such as a gift of land from a benefactor. We are not calling time on affordable housing however and remain vigilant to any opportunities that present themselves.

We continue to be committed to improving facilities and activities for Young People working closely with Emsworth Residents Forum. The Project with the YMCA for a new centre for an early years and youth has not come to fruition as YMCA were unable to agree a lease with HBC. The land is still available and we are in discussion with HBC to look at alternative projects.

We are working closely with Emsworth Residents Forum on the implementation of the Neighbourhood plan. We support their work on areas such as traffic calming measures, improving the environment, and improving recreation facilities. We will also support them in exploring the possibility of having a Town Council for Emsworth.

Dwyn Stepien Chair