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What is a Community Land Trust?

Community Land Trusts (or CLTs) are when people from a village, street, neighbourhood, town and so on get together to create a non-profit organisation for the good of their community.

Run completely by volunteers, a CLT strives to meet the longterm needs of its community, for example building permanently affordable housing, workspaces or acquiring pubs, gardens and shops; these then stay owned by the CLT organisation forever.

Does it actually work, or is it another one of "those things"?

Yes it works!

Stretham and Wilburton CLT is building 50 new homes 15 of these will be affordable homes, a new doctors surgery, small business units and green space for leisure and play.

Swaffham Prior CLT - is now building 8 affordable new homes, and the CLT setup costs are being covered by East Cambridgeshire District Council

Soham CLT - we're involved in discussions between landowners, the local authority and local people to devise a way to ensure that the newly formed CLT for Soham can provide permanently affordable housing for local people on a major urban extension on the edge of the town

What about profits?

A CLT is a not for profit organisation, any profits goes back into the organisation, to be used for a new project for the CLT.

How does a CLT get land?

- Get public land at little or no cost
- Purchase a rural exception site at agricultural value
- Get a site at open market value using a grant
- Already own a site

How does a CLT get funding?

There are a number of sources of funding including the CLT Fund, local authorities and the parish council.

Can a CLT partner with a Housing Association?

Some of the most successful CLTs have benefited from partnering with not-for-profit housing associations to develop and manage their homes.

How do you setup a CLT?



Want to know more?

Check out the CLT East website for more information about CLTs and what's happening in the East at www.clteast.org



An umbrella organisation providing help and support for new and existing CLTs

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