
NOMINATION OF TRUSTEE TO EAST CAMBS COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

Committee: Finance & Assets Committee

Date: 26 November 2020

Author: Director Commercial

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1.0 ISSUE

1.1 To consider the nomination of a Councillor as a trustee to East Cambs Community Land Trust.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 Members are requested to:

- i) Nominate a Councillor as a trustee to East Cambs Community Land Trust as set out in 4.3 of this report; and
- ii) Include East Cambs Community Land Trust on the list of Outside Bodies.

3.0 BACKGROUND/OPTIONS

3.1 East Cambs Community Land Trust (ECCLT) is a Community and Benefit Society that is registered under the Co-Operative and Community Benefit Society Act 2014.

3.2 The Objects of ECCLT are to operate for the benefit of people in need in the East Cambridgeshire area. This includes providing and managing housing.

3.3 East Cambridgeshire District Council is the Custodian Member of ECCLT. The rules of ECCLT require a minimum and maximum number of trustees. The minimum is three and the maximum is twelve. There are currently three trustees on ECCLT. Councillor Lisa Stubbs currently serves as a trustee to ECCLT.

3.4 East Cambridgeshire District Council, as the Custodian Member, has the right to appoint up to 3 Trustees at any time. These are referred to as Custodian Nominees and whilst they are not required to be, they are permitted to be Members of the CLT. A Custodian Nominee is appointed for a term of 4 years.

3.5 Councillor Lisa Stubbs term comes to an end in September 2021 and as such it is timely to consider the appointment of an additional trustee (from the Council) now so that proper succession planning can be done to ensure that the business of ECCLT can continue in a seamless and uninterrupted manner.

- 3.5 Regardless of how many trustees the Council appoints to ECCLT (the maximum being three), the Council, as a Member, only has one vote. This maintains the independence of ECCLT.
- 3.6 It is important to note that as a Community Benefit Society, the Council cannot exercise control over ECCLT as it is an independent body that is governed by the Act it is registered under.
- 3.7 At the Finance & Assets Committee meeting, held on 24 September 2020, the Chairman requested that ECCLT is added to the list of Outside Bodies and an annual report be provided through that process.

4.0 ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 As Custodian Member the Council is entitled to nominate up to three trustees to ECCLT. As mentioned above there are currently three trustees, with one of them being from the Council. If approved, there will be four trustees, with two being from the Council, i.e. Councillor Lisa Stubbs and another.
- 4.2 Consideration has been given as to whether there is a need to appoint three trustees from the Council. At this point in time, given the small number of trustees that are not from the Council, there is no need to increase the number of Council trustees to three. The Council should monitor, through the Annual Outside Bodies Report, whether there will be a need in the future to nominate a third trustee.
- 4.3 In order to ensure succession planning (identified above), it is recommended that the Council nominates a second trustee to ECCLT.
- 4.4 It is further recommended to include ECCLT on the list of Outside Bodies and an annual report provided through that process.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT/CARBON IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. As identified in this report ECCLT is a Community Benefit Society which is entirely Independent from the Council and is governed by its own rules.

6.0 APPENDICES

- 6.1 None

<u>Background Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Officer</u>
None	The Grange, Ely	Emma Grima Director Commercial (01353) 616960 E-mail: emma.grima@eastcambs.gov.uk