

CVCLT Election statements 2023

Simon Brearley

I am one of the original Trustees who has been here from the start which now seems to be a very long time indeed! The progress we have made over that period when I look back has almost been miraculous.

I am keen that the CVCLT now continues to move forward until we become sustainable and that now feels to be within our grasp.

My expertise comes from my day-to-day work within the property market, as a chartered surveyor.

I feel that I provide a level of insight which is a benefit to the Land Trust and dovetails well alongside the various skills brought together by the other Trustees.

I hope to be re-elected and to continue to the work which we have already started with a particular emphasis on growing our membership and ensuring the CVCLT is sustainable and can provide long term benefits to the local community.

Sally Hinton

Sally has worked professionally in many aspects of housing development, for charities, local authorities, housing associations and government (including the organisation now called 'Homes England'). Until recently she was currently Company Secretary for a social enterprise successfully running a volunteer led community shop and community room in the village of Midgley (in 2010, the Association was able to purchase the Old Co-operative building in Midgley, following extensive local fundraising and successful grant applications including from charities and the Big Lottery Fund). She and her partner have just completed a newbuild home on the edge of Halifax, built on passivhaus principles.

Anne Sutcliffe

I'm a legal professional who specialises in Insurance law and has acted for housing associations amongst other clients for a number of years. I have an ability to take a risk-based view on matters and my experience in strategy is of particular use to the board. I am active in the local community with special interests in developing & growing local communities and supporting education through the linking of groups. I am also part of a community project encouraging the exchange of clothes and accessories in order to develop community spirit, reduce consumption and raise awareness of unethical consumer habits.

I have had a great few years on the board and have started looking into social value and marketing communications strategy. I would therefore love to be re-elected to continue this work.

Oliver Chan

Having lived near Walsden for over two years, I first heard about the work of the Calder Valley Community Land Trust through the local Birks Court development and joined the Board of Trustees in September last year.

I am a researcher with a varied career working for local government, charities, universities and think tanks. After moving to the UK from New Zealand in 2015, I have worked in special education and electoral politics at UCL, public services at the Institute for Government and in charity sector issues at the National Council of Voluntary Organisations. Currently, I am a Lead Analyst at the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, where I am responsible for measuring progress against a range of social, economic and environmental goals of the Greater Manchester Plan, providing an evidence base for further devolution of central government power, and embedding inequality measures into assessing our programmes. My career brings a strong understanding of VCSEs like CVCLT including the challenges of funding, governance and relationships with the wider sector and government.

As a renter, I am acutely aware of affordable housing needs across Calder Valley. I am also passionate about member cooperatives as democratic and rooted in the communities and members that they serve.

Having been a trustee for more than 9 months, I have been keenly supporting CVCLT communications, fundraising and project work. I am determined to put my expertise and ideas into website content, social media, blogs and articles, and mailouts to further promote both the CLT's mission of affordable housing and generate further interest in membership and community share offers as crucial to expanding the CLT. My experience in grant writing can help with future grant applications and my keen interest in the community shares model can be channelled into promoting and supporting future schemes and attracting potential investors. I am also keen to support local community projects including Fielden Hall/ Acres and Todmorden Enterprise Centre housing.

Dave Collins

Born in Bradford, after completing an Economics degree I worked in the local textile industry for many years. This gave me a good grounding and experience in financial systems and stock control. I then completed a PGCE (FE sector) and a PG dip in Environmental Protection and Pollution Control.

A variety of jobs led me to the Voluntary Sector, which, in turn, led me to West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service on its inception in 2000. I was the Bradford Community Accountant for 20 years till my retirement. This gave me an understanding of the marvellous and efficient work done by small charities and voluntary organisations. It also gave me a good insight into the issues and pressures facing treasurers, trustees and finance workers.

I would like to use my experience in a volunteering role with the CVCLT. I have lived in the Calder Valley since 1993 initially in Hebden Bridge then Todmorden, Sowerby Bridge and finally Mytholmroyd!