

Trustee Election Statements

Annual General Meeting, 14th June 2025

John Berry

Hi All. I was first elected to the Board seven years ago and am now, as required by our democratic rules, stepping down. This is intended to ensure that no Board member can have life tenure by default and must refer themselves to the membership for re-election if they wish to continue to serve this Trust. As a dedicated follower of Democracy, I am happy to do so and am offering my services for another three years: there's still a lot to do.

My particular background in; social housing management, housing financial planning, and the IT systems that support them these days, has proven very helpful in achieving high standards of service to our tenants, both now and in the future. The housing management agreement made with Connect Housing Association, which shares our ethics, has proven to be the affordable key that made this possible. In addition we ourselves are ensuring that financial provision is made from the rent income to repair and upgrade our homes as time moves on. We recently achieved a score of 83% on the independently assessed 'Tenant Satisfaction Measures' specified by the Government, an improvement on our 80% score last year.

In a years time, the Trust will likely have 12, up from 9, tenants living in environmentally friendly low cost (rent and energy bills) homes. This also means tenant involvement and engagement with the Trust is becoming more significant to its role as a responsible social landlord and Community Land Trust. I hope my long experience of living in, and working with, Housing Co-operatives will also assist the Trust's development in this area.

Finally, I wish to continue to support the Trust's efforts to bring empty properties and vacant sites in the Valley back into productive, sustainable use. This isn't just housing, it can be commercial projects too like the Signal Box and the Enterprise Centre.

Innovation, thinking outside the box and trying out new ideas, while managing the risks therein, are a key part of what we do. Long may it continue.

Adele Buckley

I am a graduate in housing with over 30 years experience and a strong track record of successfully delivering difficult projects to help meet community needs. My career was in Local Government before retiring from my role as Head of Housing Growth and Regeneration for Kirklees Council in 2024. For the past year I have been a trustee of CVCLT and have enjoyed my time on the Board supporting the work to deliver much needed exciting housing projects locally and I am keen to continue in this role. I have expertise covering strategy development, options analysis including risk management, identifying delivery routes and funding sources, procurement, partnership working and on-site delivery.

Dave Collins

I have been a trustee of CVCLT for 2 years and would like to continue my service. My start at CVCLT coincided with the start of the Ferney Lee Project for new housing and an enterprise centre in Todmorden. I have specialised in work for this project, bookkeeping and management accounts etc.

I have enjoyed being part of such an hard working and highly skilled set of trustees. My background before retiring was as a community accountant working with many charities and voluntary groups throughout West Yorkshire. I now volunteer with a number of charities and voluntary groups in Calderdale to try and support the excellent and inspiring work they do.

Richard Henderson

I have been a trustee of CVCLT for the last nine years, during which time I my focus has been the High Street development, where I am an active member of High Street Task Group, and latterly working on the Northfield project and chairing our Financial Planning and Funding Group.

I am retired, after 40 years of working the financial services sector and I have experience in project management and a wide range of business disciplines. My main interest is in improving the environmental performance and the design quality of affordable housing.

If re-elected, I am looking to help CVCLT deliver our housing objectives, particularly securing a house in Heptonstall as a long term, secure, affordable home for a local family, and working to continue our journey to financial sustainability.