

JUNE 2020

# BRADLEY BIG LOCAL COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

Membership information, terms and conditions



# BBL

Community Land Trust

## A Message from the Chair

Waqas Arshad

Welcome to Bradley Big Local Community Land Trust, the not-for-profit company owned and run by the communities of Bradley and Hodge House in Nelson.

Our goal is to secure investment and long term improvements locally, raising aspirations and '*making Bradley a place to call home*'. We can only do this with YOUR help. People who live, work or just have an interest in Bradley and Hodge House will shape the development of the Trust and guide us to projects and services YOU want to see in the area.

This is your first step: invest in YOUR company today by becoming a member. Your lifetime membership share costs only £1.

There is only one condition you need to meet to become a member and that is, you must be aged 16 or above. There are, however, responsibilities associated with membership of a community company and these are outlined here. Please read through this leaflet before filling out your membership application form. If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch with us at [membership@bbl-clt.org](mailto:membership@bbl-clt.org).

Welcome to BBL Community Land Trust!

## Categories of membership

There are three categories of membership, all with equal weight:

- **Resident** – people who live in Bradley ward
- **Community** – people who work in Bradley and other individuals who want to support BBL Community Land Trust and its work
- **Stakeholder** – companies, agencies or organisations who are based in Bradley or who want to contribute to the aims and objectives of the Trust.

All applications for membership will be considered by the Board of BBL Community Land Trust and may not be accepted.

## Member responsibilities

By signing the membership form, all members agree to:

- Support the aims of BBL Community Land Trust
- Tell us in which category they wish their membership to be registered
- provide their name and address and, where available, email and telephone contact details
- pay a minimum of £1 for a share
- **USE YOUR VOTE!** Members each have one vote at general meetings, regardless of how many £1 they own. Make sure your voice is heard by casting your vote whenever the opportunity arises.
- Notify BBL Community Land Trust of any change in address or contact details

All members can stand to be a director of BBL Community Land Trust's Board. However, stakeholder members need to nominate a specific, named individual and it will be the individual, not the organisation, who stands for election as a director.

The Trust has a minimum of five directors. Directors will be appointed at the AGM, when at least a third of the posts will be available for election. Co-optees may be invited to make sure the Board has the skills, local knowledge and experience required to deliver BBL Community Land Trust's objectives. Vacancies for director may be advertised at any time.

## Meetings and other events

BBL Community Land Trust will hold an annual general meeting in January each year. All members will receive notification, agenda and copies of relevant papers. Other general meetings may be held to share information with members and receive feedback or majority decisions on Trust business.

The Trust may also arrange events such as 'open days' or 'clean up' events to which all members are invited.

## Information about the Trust's work

BBL Community Land Trust maintains a website ([www.bbl-clt.org](http://www.bbl-clt.org)) and Facebook page (@BblCommunityLandTrust) where the latest news and information about the Trust, its schemes and projects can be found. In future, the Trust may set up a members' newsletter or 'members only' page on the website. We may ask members to pay a subscription to cover the costs of these.

## Future share offers and increasing the number of shares held

We ask that you buy one share in BBL Community Land Trust at a cost of £1 to become a member of the company, but you can invest in further shares if you wish (at any time). Buying more shares will not give you a greater say in the running of the company (see above) but it does give the Trust more money to invest in community projects.

BBL Community Land Trust may also advertise 'share offers', encouraging individuals and businesses to invest in a specific scheme or project. This allows the community to contribute directly to physical improvements and/or facilities they want to see in the neighbourhood and reduces the need to pay interest on borrowed money.

## Important notes about shares

Buying shares in BBL Community Land Trust is not about making money for an individual or a company. **This is about investing in your community.**

- Your £1 initial share buys you membership of BBL Community Land Trust for life
- Your share(s) will never be worth more than you paid
- Shares may reduce in value
- The Trust cannot pay a dividend to members/shareholders
- Becoming a member of BBL Community Land Trust means that you sign up to the governing documents
- Shares in BBL Community Land Trust are not backed by any compensation scheme or ombudsman.

## Privacy notice

A copy of BBL Community Land Trust's Privacy Notice is available on our website. This tells you about the type of information the Trust may ask of you, how it will be used and how you can access or change the information we have about you. A paper copy can be supplied on request.

## Cancelling membership

If you wish to cancel your membership of the company, you need to write to the Secretary at our registered office. The Board will consider whether or not your share money can be returned. The Trust cannot guarantee it will have sufficient funds available.

## Contact details

You can contact us at any time about your membership of BBL Community Land Trust:

- By email at [membership@bbl-clt.org](mailto:membership@bbl-clt.org)
- Through the contact form available on our website: [www.bbl-clt.org](http://www.bbl-clt.org)
- In writing to Bradley Big Local Community Land Trust, Hodge House Community Centre, Regent Street, Nelson, BB9 8LJ.

**Now that you have read the 'small print', all you need to do is complete your membership application form and submit it to us. Forms are available on our website but if you would like one emailed or posted to you, please let us know. Contact details are as above. Once your application has been approved by the Board, we'll be in touch as soon as we can to collect your £1 membership share fee.**