



Homes for Hooky

Hook Norton Community Land Trust Membership Policy

Introduction

Hook Norton Community Land Trust (HNCLT) is a not-for-profit Community Benefit Society that was set up in June 2019 and registered with the Financial Conduct Authority and is part of the National Community Land Trust Network. It was formed to enable the community to develop a small group of 12 affordable, sustainable homes and a communal building that will help local people in need of housing to afford to live in the community of Hook Norton.

What is a Community Land Trust (CLT)?

CLTs are non-profit, community-based organisations run by volunteers to address the housing needs of their local area. The key criteria for CLTs are defined by statute in Section 79 of the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 which states that:

- A CLT must be established as a not-for-profit organisation with a membership that is open to all who live and work in a community. The members must also own and control the organisation;
- A CLT must be established for the express purpose of furthering the social, economic and environmental interests of a local community;
- The land and property assets of a CLT must be used to provide a benefit to a local community and must be protected in the long-term by a legal asset-lock.

The purpose and benefits of membership:

- To support and be involved in the decision-making process of HNCLT;
- To contribute towards making the vision of HNCLT a reality;
- To build support for HNCLT so that it can demonstrate that the community supports the CLT and its initiatives;
- To demonstrate the democratic nature of HNCLT;
- To ensure HNCLT reflects the views of the community through 1 vote per member;
- To be able to attend and vote at the AGM;
- To be able to stand for election to the Board;
- To be able to elect a Board or a Management Committee to be the governing body;
- To receive regular newsletters;
- To get involved by volunteering to do a variety of jobs needed from time to time;
- To act as guardians of the objectives of HNCLT and promote its interests;
- To uphold the vision, values and principles of HNCLT.

Who can become a member of HNCLT?

Membership is open to anyone aged 18 or over, including residents, prospective residents, people who live or work in the local community, and people or organisations who support the aims and ethos of HNCLT as laid down in the rules of HNCLT.

The membership process:

- Becoming a member of HNCLT is simple, affordable and directly contributes to making our vision a reality.
- The share costs £1 and members will be issued with a share certificate.
- The £1 share is the limit of each member's personal liability.
- Each member buys an equal share of £1 and has an equal vote at general meetings.
- Corporate bodies are asked to nominate one person to represent their organisation.
- Shares are not transferable or refundable, and carry no right to any interest, dividends or bonus.
- Membership will be decided by the HNCLT Board of Directors in accordance with this policy and the HNCLT rules.
- Membership implies no preferential access to any potential housing.

The Membership Application Form can be found on the website here.

Obligations of HNCLT members

- All members agree to be bound by the rules of HNCLT.
- Members need to act in the interests of HNCLT and for the benefit of the community.

Termination of membership

- Membership can be terminated by notifying HNCLT by email to :
admin@hooknortonclt.org.uk
- On termination, membership share fees will become the property of HNCLT.
- Membership will automatically end in the following circumstances:
 - death of the member;
 - they are expelled from membership under the rules of HNCLT;
 - they do not participate in 2 consecutive annual general meetings or give their apologies;
 - in the case of corporate membership, the share is transferred to another nominated individual;
 - other reasons as laid down in rules of HNCLT.

Data Protection

We are committed to protecting the privacy and security of the personal data of those people with which we engage. Our privacy notice (for contacts) describes how, in accordance with data protection law, we collect and use the personal data of those people. Our privacy notice for contacts can be found here.

Members should be aware of the Rules of the Society, which can be found here, paying particular attention to Part C, which clarifies the formal aspects of membership.

Date of policy: 01/03/2021

Proposed Policy review date: 01/03/2024