

PRESS RELEASE  
08 October 2018

## **FOUNDATION STONE LAID FOR BURTON BRADSTOCK COMMUNITY LAND TRUST**

A community led housing group with the ambition to provide affordable homes for local families has been established as the Burton Bradstock Community Land Trust Limited. News of the incorporation of the new body came through this month and members can now make a start on recruiting members, collecting data on local housing need and beginning to search for housing sites in the parish for a small development of affordable homes for local people.

The new Community Land Trust (CLT) has been established as a Community Benefit Society by a founding board drawn from the parish. The stated objectives of the new Community Land Trust include holding land in trust for the community and providing housing for those in need as well as helping to improve housing standards in the parish.

Founding Chair of the new Burton Bradstock CLT David Dixon has long recognised the problem facing families wanting to stay in or move to the village - "*Successive Parish Plan documents tell us that affordable housing and an ageing demography are the most pressing issues facing our community*". House prices in the Burton Bradstock are well above the average for West Dorset, meaning that families with strong connections to the village find it difficult to afford homes in the parish either to buy or rent. "*It is essential that we do what we can to support families and young people who want to be part of a healthy and balanced village community*".

A public meeting held in the spring of 2018 attended by over 100 local people heard how communities across West Dorset are establishing Community Land Trust, a locally owned solution to the housing crisis where the community take an active role in securing site for affordable housing and through local arrangements ensure that the new homes remain affordable permanently.

A second public meeting is planned for December 2018 to explain how the CLT will go about finding sites for affordable homes and encouraging local people to support the CLT by becoming a member. Membership is open to all and starts at just £1. Membership forms are available from: Burton Bradstock Library, Post Office and online @<http://bbpc.webplus.net>

In April 2019 a formal Special General Meeting will be held for members at which a new Board will be elected.

**If you are interested in affordable housing in Burton Bradstock, know of possible sites for housing in the parish or want to show support by becoming a member contact: Andrew Bailey, Secretary of the BB CLT  
Email: [ab@grastonfarm.co.uk](mailto:ab@grastonfarm.co.uk)**