



# Stow Community Land Trust

## News

## Autumn 2022



## Stow Community Land Trust

Stow CLT is a charitable organisation - set up and run by volunteers - with the aim of providing truly affordable housing for local people. Stow CLT is a member of the Community Land Trust Network.

### The latest from Stow Community Land Trust

This is the first of quarterly newsletters from Stow CLT.

We hope to include updates on progress and other relevant items dedicated to the principle of developing truly affordable housing for local people and key workers.

We now have Facebook and Twitter accounts:

Facebook: Stow Community Land Trust

Twitter: @StowCLT

Twitter has proven to be a valuable source of information on the activities of CLTs nationwide.

If you are on Twitter, please follow @StowCLT; you will see Tweets as they are published.

### About our Board

We thought it was important that our members and the public could see something about the people involved on the Board of Stow CLT. So, we now have a page on our website about the Stow CLT Board members. Go to our website ([www.stowclt.org.uk](http://www.stowclt.org.uk)) and click on the *People* tab. For more information on our objectives, go to *Documentation* for our brochure, which tells you all about our work and aims.

### Stow CLT AGM 2022

The next AGM will be held at 7pm on Thursday, 22 September at Stow Youth Centre (Town Council Building) Fosse Way, Stow-on-the-Wold GL54 1DW. All members and the public are welcome.

*cont. overleaf*

## Stow CLT

### Chairman

Ben Eddolls

### Deputy Chairman

Moyra McGhie

### Secretary and Treasurer

David Germaney

### Board Members

Peter Minty (former Chairman and co-founder)

John Holmes

Nigel Surman

Liam Ratcliffe

Helen Middleton-Price

### Consultant Architect

Tim Carter

### Technical Adviser

Steve Watson

Stow CLT website:  
[www.stowclt.org.uk](http://www.stowclt.org.uk)

## A newcomer's view of Stow Community Land Trust

At our Formal Board Meeting on 23 June 2022, a new member – Ruth Cole – joined us and made a dynamic contribution to the meeting. She and our Deputy Chairman, Moyra McGhie, have since spent an exhilarating afternoon looking at potential sites around Stow. Ruth has written a lovely article on her personal reasons for joining Stow CLT; it is an insight into one member's personal motivation:

I came to Stow in April 2022 and heard about Stow Community Land Trust at the annual Town Council meeting; I could relate to the values of equal access to housing in a beautiful area like Stow, so I joined up.

I can see that although Stow appears to be thriving in many ways, if the people who work here can't afford to live here, it creates two particular stresses on the environment for everyone:

**1. Traffic bottle necks** at the two main sets of lights filtering cars into Stow. Crossing the Fosse Way for pedestrians is difficult, and as a grandmother myself I would not want to push my grandchild past the queue of cars pumping

out fumes at pushchair height. As a car driver, I have waited 20 minutes to get into Stow from these lights which seems so strange in the middle of beautiful countryside. Key workers have to live elsewhere and drive into Stow every day; more people living closer to their work would relieve the pressure on the major roads.

**2. The workers feel excluded** or not welcome because their incomes do not match the residents who do own houses in Stow. I know of a hairdresser in Stow who lives 30 miles away, commuting most days, occasionally staying with her mother in Stow. My uncle had a carer, driving for 30 minutes to do one and a half hours caring.

My view is that Stow Community Land Trust should pursue the idea of houses for *rent* in perpetuity when purchasing and developing land for truly affordable housing. Rental properties give a flexibility that privately owned houses do not allow. People can move into Stow and out again as their circumstances require and the maximum number of people will benefit.

People on low incomes still want to live in beautiful places like Stow. Why should it be the preserve of the rich? To me, that is not a just situation and I admire the CLT for trying to

change this.

At the most recent meeting of Stow CLT, we heard about 4 flats for sale in a block for £500,000 and wondered whether we could get together 500 people to put in £1,000 to purchase them? Although this sounds a very small project, it could be a model for the future. Many people say in consultations that they want a more balanced community, let us see if they will put their money where their mouths are.

**Ruth Cole**

## Peter and Agnes Minty

Many of you will know Peter Minty, our co-founder and former Chairman of Stow CLT. We have just received the lovely pictures below from John Holmes, who with his wife and a 'good contingent from Stow', were guests at Peter and Agnes' wedding on 29 July 2022 in Manaurie in the Dordogne, France.

