

hidden gems...

Sadly, not the sparkling jewels of a traditional treasure hunt, for Haslemere Community Land Trust is on the lookout for hidden-away plots and places with 24-carat potential. Forgotten sheds and barns, old tennis courts — areas that need some love, possibly with owners who aren't sure what to do with them or who are wary of the profit hungry waters of commercial development.

The gems we seek are sites where we can build genuinely affordable homes for local people, and new community facilities to enhance the quality of life in and around our lovely town. Where the terrain proves unsuitable for housing, re-wilding projects or planting community orchards may also prove, well, fruitful.

Why Haslemere Community Land Trust?



Haslemere is on the sharp end of a housing crisis which is arguably more about affordability than supply. Competition for plots drives land prices up, which pushes up the price of homes. The casualties are local workers who tend to move away when they start families.

Housing insecurity has big effects on the young, who often delay starting families and move away from the area where they grew up. There is a knock-on effect for downsizers too, with no good relocation options in central areas — walking distances being a key factor for those thinking of later life without a car.

Haslemere CLT volunteers want to make dreams come true for those who, despite working hard, do not have the income to achieve home ownership here. We are a completely non-profit society, happy to do the hard work, but we need sites to work with and this is where we hope you, or someone you know, can help. If you know of a parcel of unused land that could be translated into a legacy for the community please talk to us. Owners or their families may even wish to get involved to create something everyone can be truly proud of.

We're looking for plots in or near the town or villages, in line with community desires not to build into the countryside. Such sites are likely to be small, but we have no idea who might come forward and what may be suggested. We appeal to anyone with an idea to bring it to us at info@haslemereclt.org.uk. Our next review is end July, so please get in contact before then if you can.

We're also looking for volunteers with skills in all areas, from project management to admin, so if you have a couple of hours a week to help, please consider supporting us. See www.haslemereclt.org.uk for more details.





