



MEMBERS' UPDATE

APRIL 2022

Spaxton Community Land Trust is now at a point in its planning that I thought it is time to give you an update. The first phase of the project is to all intents and purposes complete. We focused on selection of the site and bringing on board the partners we need to be able to move to the second phase which is preparation of the planning proposition. We have:

- put in place grant funding to enable us to commit to site surveys and appointment of partners; that funding currently stands at circa £40K.
- partnered with Aster as our Housing Association. They have lots of experience of working with CLTs and have the financial stability and breadth to be able to provide the funding, in excess of £2,500 per square metre, that will be required to build to the quality to which we aspire.
- confirmed Aster's recommendation that the builder will be E.G Carter, a fourth-generation family owned construction company that operates across South West England. They have successfully worked before both with Aster and our architect on affordable housing projects in the South West.
- advanced site surveys (topographical, ecological, environmental and ground) needed for the planning requirements.
- appointed the architect for the project. We interviewed three architect companies and the successful bidder was Reed Watts, London based but familiar with working with both Aster and E.G Carter on affordable housing projects in the South West.

Your CLT Board gave particular importance to the selection of the architects as they had to be able to meet the detailed specification we gave them prior to their bid. Because the quality of the homes and their placement in the village is so important I reproduce below the brief that we gave: