**Your community, your choice**

Like so many local villages, we face some stark challenges, especially about access to affordable homes and shared amenities that are vital to a vibrant and sustainable community. That’s why Stretham & Wilburton Community Land Trust (SWCLT) was set up in 2012 by residents who wanted to give local people like you more say over how local land could be developed to benefit the whole community.

**What is a Community Land Trust?**

Across the UK, Community Land Trusts (CLTs) like SWCLT are being set up as non-profit organisations run by local volunteers to develop housing, workspaces or other assets that meet the socio-economic needs of communities. Typically they enable people to live closer to work, schools, shops, clubs, friends and families.

**Why get involved as a community member?**

For a membership cost of only £1, you can have a significant influence over how your village could be improved, decide what kind of development is needed and make informed choices about the future. Most importantly, the more members we have, the more we can do to benefit everyone.

**Will it take up much time?**

No, there are no obligations whatsoever. However, you’ll find us a warm, friendly group and, if you are interested, there will be plenty of chances to get more involved.

**Do I need any experience?**

No. Whether you have lived here for years or are new to the village, everyone aged over 18 can apply to join.\*

**What do I need do now?**

Have a read of our aims and objectives then simply fill in the short application form and send it to our office with your £1 payment.

**Aims & objectives**

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Stretham & Wilburton Community Land Trust’s objectives (objects)are to carry out the following for the benefit of the people who live and / or work in the two parishes:

* Provide and manage housing (especially affordable housing) and assistance to help house those in need
* Provide workspace buildings and / or land for employment opportunities
* Promote community development
* Promote community-based resources and / or facilities
* Provide, promote and advance renewable and sustainable forms of energy and development.

Ways that SWCLT could carry out these objects might include:

* Asking residents what they like about their village, their key concerns and hopes for the future
* Building quality new properties that combine energy efficiency, good design and value for money
* Ensuring that local people can afford SWCLT homes, with priority given to those with a strong local connection and working locally.
* Building small start-up offices and / or workshops to rent to local businesses on a flexible basis

**Membership policy**

Application for community membership is open to:

* Anyone over 18 who lives in, works in or owns land in Stretham or Wilburton parishes1
* Any organisation active in Stretham or Wilburton parishes (represented by a nominated individual) that supports SWCLT’s objects and agrees to be bound by its Rules2

To join you now need to fill in the application form and buy a share valued at £1 (one pound).

**Application form**

Please fill in your details below and overleaf, detach the form and return it to the SWCLT.

Yes, I would like to join Stretham and Wilburton Community Land Trust as (please tick one):

☐ An individual (I am over 18 and live, work and / or own land in Stretham or Wilburton)

☐ The nominated representative of an organisation that is active in Stretham or Wilburton

I fully support the objects of SWCLT and understand that:

* Members each have one vote at general meetings regardless of how many £1 (one pound) shares they hold
* Shares will never be worth more than I pay for them, could reduce in value and there will be no dividend payable to subscribers
* This is not a savings scheme and I may not get any or all of my money back should I ever ask for this in the future
* If I wish to leave the SWCLT, the Board will consider whether my share money can be returned. SWCLT cannot guarantee it will have sufficient funds
* The shares are not backed by any compensation scheme or ombudsman.

**Payment**

☐ Yes, I’d like to join and have paid £1

☐ Yes, I wish to join and enclose a cheque for £1\*

☐ No, I do not wish to join but am enclosing a donation.

Please sign here: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\* Please make cheques payable to:Stretham and Wilburton Community Land Trust Ltd

**About you**

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|  |
| --- |
| Name |
| Organisation |
| Address |
| Postcode |
| Email |
| Home tel |
| Mobile |

**How do you want to stay in touch?**

☐ Email

☐ Post (please tick only if you don’t have email access)

Please note, SWCLT will not pass your details to any other organisation

**Your interests**

If you have relevant interests or skills, please provide details below or on a separate sheet. Also, feel free to add a note of any specific issues that you’d like to raise.

|  |
| --- |
|  |

Now please detach the form and send with your

£1 payment (cash or cheque) to:

**Clerk to SWCLT, 32 Top Street, Stretham, Ely, Cambs CB6 3JL**

**How you can make a difference**

By joining the SWCLT today, you’ll become part of an organisation committed to:

* Community ownership of land and property assets
* Respect for local needs and opinions
* Care for the physical and natural environment
* Enhancing a sense of community spirit
* Nurturing skills, social links and economic opportunity
* Transparency, accountability and integrity
* Local democracy, self-reliance and social responsibility
* Consideration for future generations.

**Will you please sign up today?**

To be truly representative, we need as many members as possible. Ultimately, it’s all about making your community a better place to live, work and play for generations to come.

**For more information contact**

**Clerk on 07762 040800**

U**seful links**

### East Cambs Community Led Development Advisor: [emily.howard@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:emily.howard@eastcambs.gov.uk)

National Community Land Trust website: [www.communitylandtrusts.org.uk](http://www.communitylandtrusts.org.uk/)

**The small print**

Stretham & Wilburton Community Land Trust (SWCLT) is registered (No. 31823R) with the Financial Services Authority as a Community Benefit Society with charitable rules under the Industrial and Provident Society Act 1965.

1. Full membership will cease if a member no longer lives, works or owns land in Stretham or Wilburton parishes.

2. A full version of SWCLT objects is available from our registered office at Orchard House, High Street, Stretham, Cambs CB6 3JQ.

**Stretham and Wilburton**

**Community Land Trust**

**Membership policy & application form**

Your invitation to help shape

the future of Stretham & Wilburton



**We are a local community charity working together to promote**

* Affordable housing for local people
* Community buildings & play areas
* Thriving local amenities
* Workspaces for local businesses
* Green spaces for food-growing or recreation
* Renewable energy supplies
* A sustainable future for local people.

**Please will you join us?**

**Get involved. Have your say.**

**Make a difference.**

**Version 09/22**