

Maggie Sutton

Since I last stepped down as director and wrote a personal profile, I have become a parish councillor and a member of the recently formed Langton Matravers Community group. I like having the opportunity to contribute to our community. I enjoy meeting people and I hope, making a difference. I belong to the boomer generation for whom a good education made a huge difference to their life opportunities. Being involved with the CLT is a way of putting something back.

We bought our home in Acton in 2003. We are very lucky, it is a beautiful place to live and we have made very dear friends here. Acton and Langton Matravers are both communities of older people living in a mixture of permanent homes, second homes, airbnb, a number of privately rented properties and some with a smaller amount of social housing. We have very few families with children. These families are important if we want our primary school and village to thrive.

The price of property in Purbeck at 11xs the average salary in Dorset is beyond most local peoples means to buy. There are few properties available to rent at affordable levels and airbnb and even the reduced number of winter lets has an impact. It has always been difficult for young people to get on the housing ladder but now it is impossible. The CLT movement provides a route forward for people to rent their own homes providing affordability and permanency and an opportunity to regenerate our village. We have a huge amount of support in the village for the CLT over a ninth of the population are members of the CLT and although our goal building homes is tantalisingly close we have still to cross that threshold with the acquisition of land, hopefully 2023 is the year we will achieve it.