



MEMBERSHIP POLICY

Approved by the board of directors on 1st May 2019
To be reviewed by 1 May 2020

A. Introduction

In order to make sure that it is truly meeting the needs of the local community, START's ambition is that every adult in all three civil parishes (Rogate, Stedham with Iping, and Trotton with Chithurst) should join as a voting member.

Anyone at all can join our mailing list to be kept informed but benefits of full membership include:

- Share in the ownership and management of our assets
- Help us ensure we genuinely meet community needs in housing or other facilities
- Get a vote on our policies and board membership - help shape the future of our community
- Have the chance to stand for election to the board
- Get involved by volunteering to join a task group or our housing need panel to help design the housing required
- Receive our newsletters and other information

B. Voting membership

1. Voting membership is open to anyone:
 - a. over the age of 18 and . . .
 - b. on the electoral register in one of the three civil parishes (Rogate, Stedham with Iping, and Trotton with Chithurst). Long-term residents of one of the parishes and their family members over the age of 18 can also be accepted for voting membership at the discretion of the board.
2. Voting members must purchase at least one share in START for £1. They are welcome to buy as many shares as they like, in order to support our work, but they will only have one vote per member. We will also welcome donations as well as seeking government and other outside funding for our work.
3. Cancellation of membership
4. Membership can be cancelled by the board for any member who fails to attend our AGM or respond to communications for 2 years. In this case, the member's voting share will be cancelled without refund.

C. Detailed rules

5. Membership is subject to the governing documents and other policies of the community trust. In particular, the 'Society rules' of the trust, as approved by the Financial Conduct Authority on 5th April, include legal conditions and other rules affecting membership. These are available on demand or via our website.

Please note:

- Shares in a community land trust are not for savings or investment— they are to support, and vote in, our work.
- Our initial funding will mostly come from grants but, when we start investing in properties, we plan to introduce schemes which offer interest on investment.
- Until then any investment or donation may be non-refundable, unless the board rejects the application.