

Policy on How to Become a Member of Bridport Cohousing.

Amended Feb 2022

The aim of this policy: Is to have a clearly described and transparent process by which people become members of Bridport Cohousing (BC).

Step One

People who are interested in Bridport Cohousing contact the group initially by: -

- Website: via the enquiry form on the contact page www.bridportcohousing.org.uk or
- Email: info@bridportcohousing.org.uk or
- Phone: 07907 993 587, giving their email address.
- Microsite contact form.

Bridport Cohousing membership team responds by email, giving initial information about the project, and how to become a Member and sending 2 forms.

1. The introduction and membership joining information form.
2. Personal Information Form (PIF) (which is our membership application form).

Step Two

- The enquirer (including each adult member of a potential household) then attends at least six 'Meet the neighbours' meetings.
The meetings and events are in order for Potential New Members (PNM'S) to meet members of Bridport Cohousing and to demonstrate commitment and willingness to spend time with other members on the project.
- Children and Young adults who will be living in the household to come to at least one event.

Step Three

- The enquirer (including all potential adult members of the household) sends a completed PIF after completing the above steps.
- The Membership sub circle sends the PIF(s) of each adult member of the household out to all current members by email for feedback in line with listed BC listed criteria.
- A sign up meeting is arranged.

Step Four

- At the Joining interview those present-are all adults including adult children (18years +) who are going to living in the household, the sign-up secretary, the PNM buddy.
- There will be a discussion about the implications and commitments of membership, and a chance for PNM/s to ask questions. This works towards confirming that the PNM/s are clear about the benefits and obligations of membership of the project before signing a written commitment to this effect.

- Members will be asked to sign the agreement, pay their Joining fees £35, (£10 of which buys shares in Bridport Cohousing Ltd) as well as to set up a monthly standing order for their membership fee.
- The member is allocated a Buddy for the first 3 months after joining.

N.B. Membership does not guarantee allocation of a home.