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Gerry Stone, one of the founder members of the Seedley and Langworthy Trust (SALT), and chair for the last eight years. Gerry is a life-long resident of Seedley.

“We've seen so many people grow over the years; they come to us as volunteers, eventually they would get what they needed out of SALT and they would move on to something bigger and better. And I think we've invested in a lot of people in our community to make their lives better really.

A lot of people just couldn't believe that we were going. They really thought that it was just one of them funding blips that you go through. You know, we've gone to the wire before; but something's happened and we've been supported by the council or something to stop a real tragedy happening. But at the moment that's where we are.

People trusted SALT. It employed local people, people's families and friends. We changed a lot of people's lives. I think there's a lot of vulnerable people out there, and I don't know where they'll turn too, because people walk through the door and it wouldn't be just about being unemployed. There's a load of other issues that go with that. But we've always seen local people as a whole, and we deal with their issues as a whole. So that we can help them get better. And have more opportunity.

And that won't be there. And I think you can't put a price on that. Because we were changing people's lives for the better. And we won't be there to do it. It made it a decent place to live. It invested in the human capital of the area. It dealt with the social programme of the regeneration. Regeneration's not about bricks and mortar, it's about people feeling safe and happy where they live.

I've seen that; I was born in my house. I've felt like that before about where I lived; I wouldn't want to feel like that again. I don't want not to live there. I want to be where I live. And be happy. It is a real worry that it won't be there. SALT's not going to be there; but it's relying on people, people who are probably stretched anyway to give more.

It is terrible that people that are well off are not paying their taxes. And that Government just turns a blind eye to it. That shouldn't be allowed to happen. It's really wrong. And they've got no idea of the poverty people live in. I feel like the Government is attacking a section of society, yet there's a section of society that it almost seems acceptable to be fraudulent.

Poorer people are easier targets. They shouldn't be paying accountants to make sure they can find every damn loophole possible. It's morally wrong; they think it's alright to do it. We wouldn't have had to implement such austerity measures because our economy would be better.”