

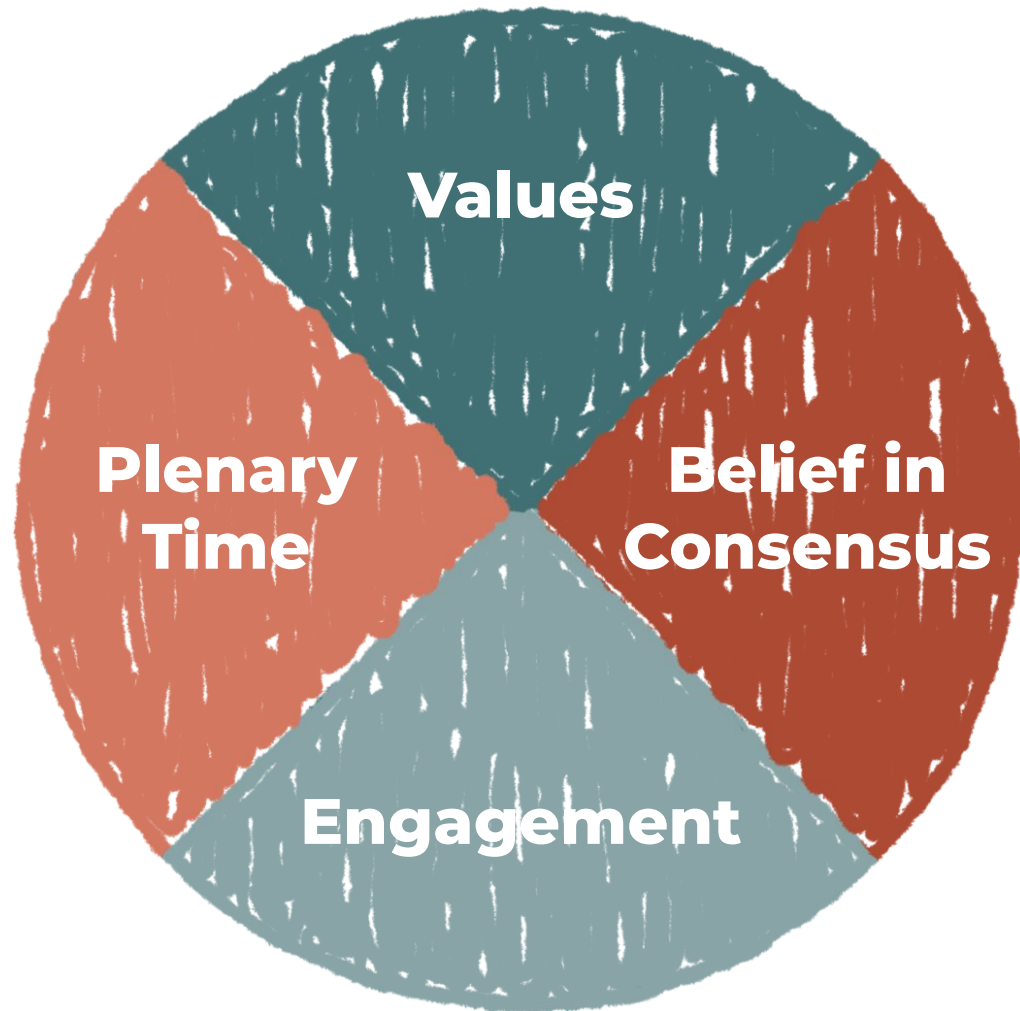
# **Introduction to Consensus Basics**





# Agenda

1. Why consensus and what is it
2. What is needed in a cohousing community to use consensus
3. Liberty Village Pathway to Consensus
4. Q&A
5. Options with Dissenting
6. Pitfalls of consensus
7. Skills that a community needs to build
8. Q&A









# AGENDA

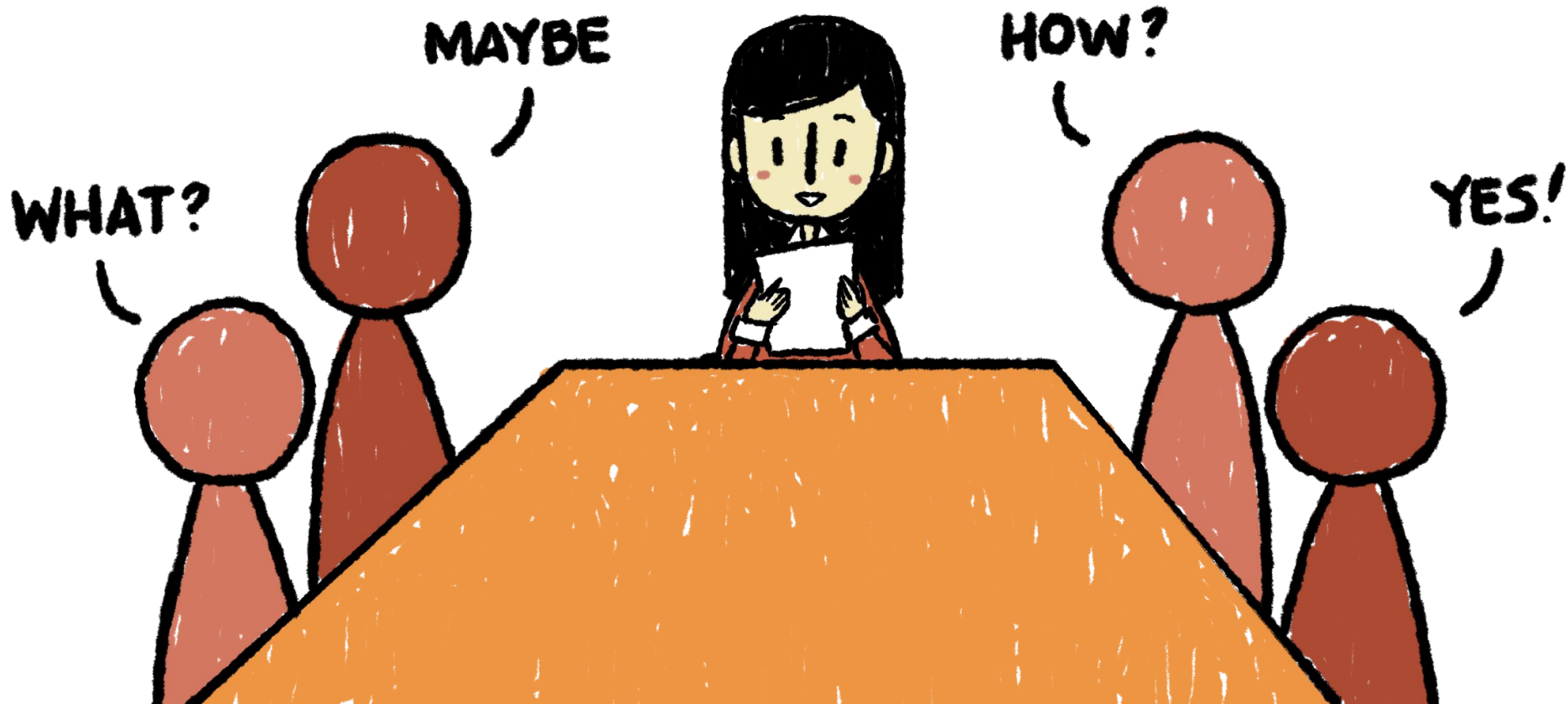
☐ Your idea





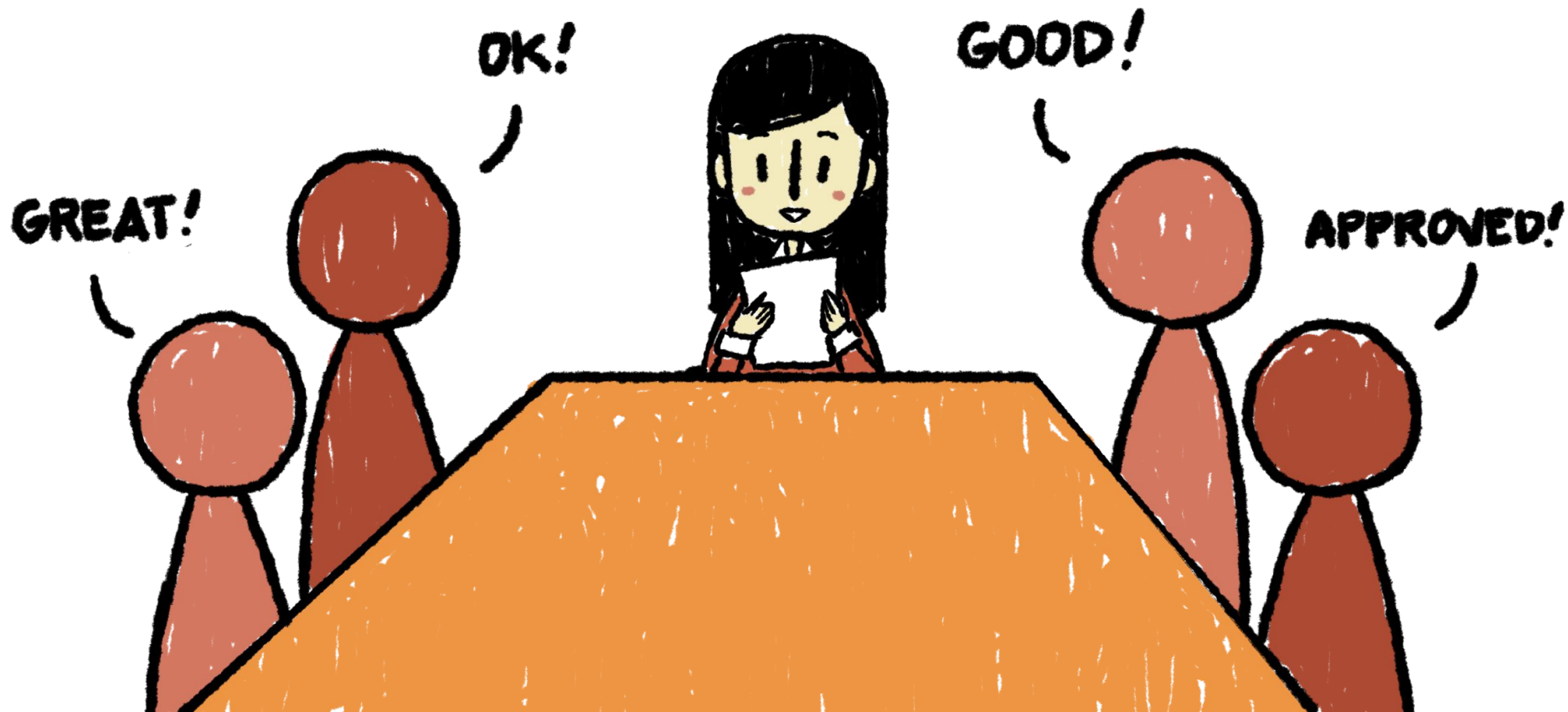






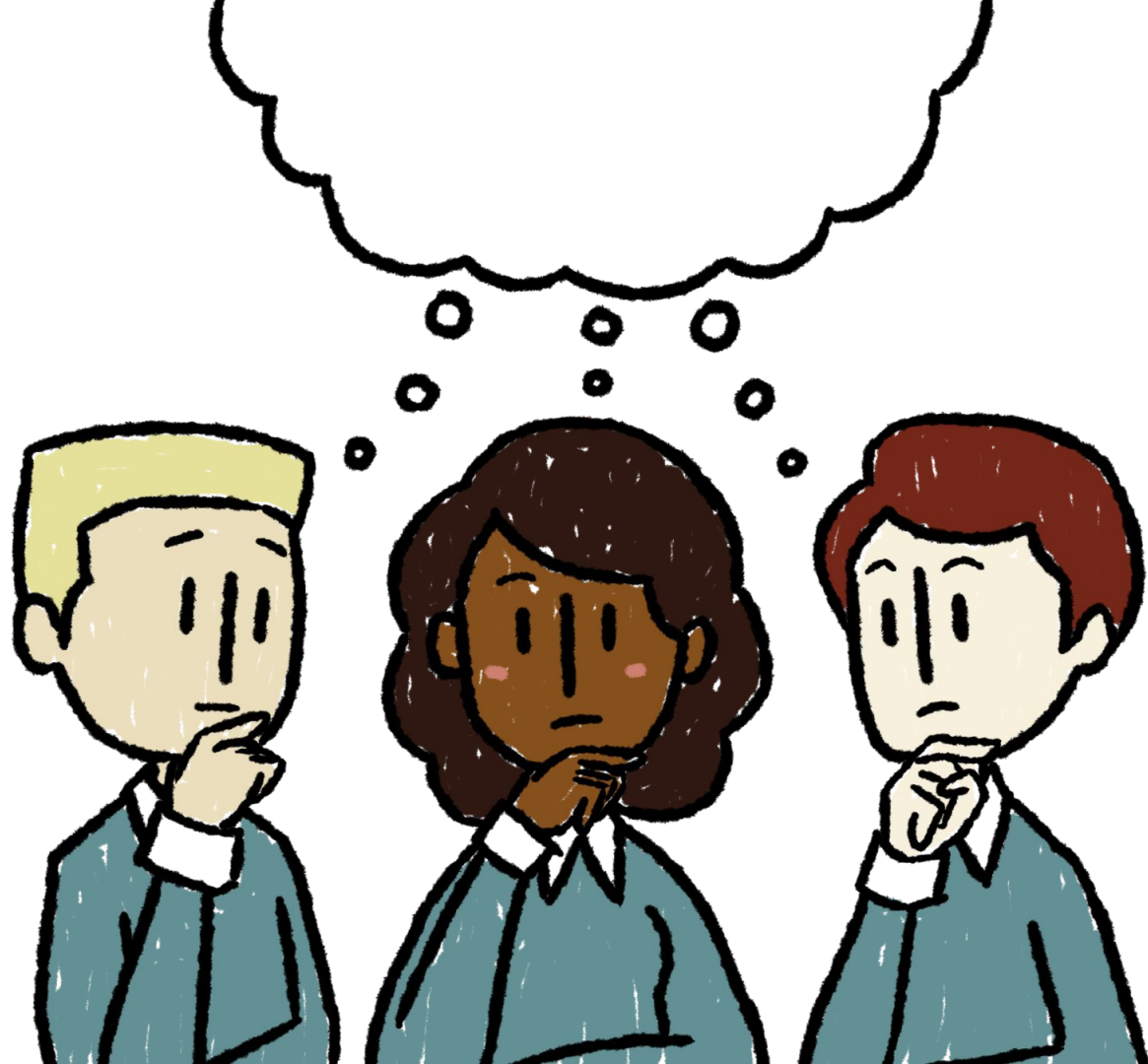












# Choices you have in consensus

## 1. Support

## 2. Align

## 3. Stand Aside

- Does not align with the idea
- Allows decision to go ahead
- Concern noted in minutes

## 4. Dissent

- Decision will harm group
- Based on community value
- May be set aside by the group using a consensed process.
- Take care of the dissenter & group

# **Skills** needed by the group



1. **Facilitation training for leaders and community**
2. **Delegation to teams**
3. **Conflict resolution**
4. **Communication**
5. **Process**
6. **Teams makeup and governance**
7. **Meeting hygiene**

# Resources for consensus

**On Conflict and Consensus: a  
Handbook on Formal Consensus  
Decision-making** by C.T. Butler

**Consensus and Conversation: How to  
Achieve High-Commitment Decisions**  
by Larry Dressler

**The Cooperative Culture Handbook: a  
Social Change Manual to Dismantle  
Toxic Culture & Build Connection** by  
Yana Ludwig and Karen Gimnig