

Meeting	Decision Session - Leader (incorporating Finance and Performance)
Date	22 February 2016
Present	Councillor Steward

16. Declarations of Interest

The Executive Leader was asked to declare any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, any prejudicial interests or any disclosable pecuniary interests that he may have in the business on the agenda. None were declared.

17. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Decision Session held on 20 October 2015 be approved and signed as a correct record.

Matter Arising

The Executive Member stated that, due to an administrative error, the Derwent Arms Public House had not yet been listed as an Asset of Community Value (minute 13 refers). This was a regrettable situation and the issue was due to be given further consideration at a forthcoming decision session.

18. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been one registration to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Matthew Bloch, representative of the Friends of the Bay Horse group, spoke in support of the application for the Bay Horse to be designated as an Asset of Community Value. He stated that he believed that the pub would be profitable as a standalone asset and that it was the cost of the lease that had been the

issue. If the Bay Horse were to be listed as an Asset of Community Value there would be a good chance of raising the required funding. It was Murton's only public house and was therefore unique.

19. Application for Community Right to Bid under the Localism Act 2011 - The Bay Horse, Murton

The Executive Leader considered a report that presented an application from The Friends of the Bay Horse, to list the Bay Horse, Murton Way, Murton as an Asset of Community Value (ACV).

Referring to Annex 2 of the report, the Executive Member stated that he had contacted the Asset Director at Enterprise Inns plc to clarify some of the points that had been raised in the letter.

The Executive Member stated that he understood that the Bay Horse was currently on the market and sought clarification from the representative of the Friends of the Bay Horse as to the measures they were taking to raise the necessary funding. The representative stated that a fundraising campaign was planned, some pledges of funding had already been received and the possibility of obtaining a mortgage had not been ruled out.

The Executive Member stated that he believed that the criteria to list the Bay Horse Public House as an Asset of Community Value had been met, as it was clearly adding value to the community and was the only public house in the village. Whilst he was keen to protect public houses for the benefit of the community wherever possible, he was also mindful of the need to ensure that the listing of such assets was not seen as a way of making it difficult for the companies who owned them. He was therefore pleased to note the efforts that were being made by the community to raise the necessary funding and hoped that the designation of the Bay Horse as an Asset of Community Value would assist them in this process.

The representative of the Friends of the Bay Horse stated that, if it became evident that it would not be possible to raise the necessary funding, the Group would make this clear in order not to prevent a sale being made to another party.

Resolved: That the application to list The Bay Horse Public House as an Asset of Community Value be approved.

- Reasons: (i) The criteria had been met for the reasons set out in the report.
- (ii) To ensure the Council meets its legislative requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and promotes community access to community facilities.

Action Required

1. Make necessary arrangements to progress the listing as an ACV TB

Councillor Steward- Executive Leader

[The meeting started at 4.45 pm and finished at 5.00 pm].