

STRETE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk; Mrs Helen Darch, Homer Park,
Strete, Dartmouth, Devon, TQ6 0SJ
Tel; 01803 770018 e-mail; streteclerk@gmail.com

An open letter to villagers concerning renewal of the Asset of Community Value (ACV) Order for the Kings Arms Public House

Dear Villagers,

I am sure that you will have breathed a sigh of relief when it became known that a new tenant had been found for the pub and that it is likely that it will shortly reopen as a pub and restaurant under new management.

You may or may not be aware that five years ago, after another rocky patch of trading and abrupt closure, the Kings Arms was registered as an Asset of Community Value with South Hams District Council (SHDC). This essentially gave the community first refusal to bid to buy the premises in the event that it was put on the open market, and prevented the owners from applying for change of use and converting the premises into a house. The intention was to ensure that the village continued to have a pub which would provide the social heart of the village, something which the members of the Parish Council unanimously believe to be essential to keep the village vibrant and alive.

The time has come for the ACV order to be renewed. Whilst the recent news concerning the lease has been very welcome, we are mindful that the village still needs to have the protection that an ACV order provides going forward. We need to demonstrate to SHDC that the pub really is the main social hub of the village and that if it came onto the market the village community would come together to organise community purchase and operation of the pub for the continued benefit of everyone, residents and visitors alike. It is entirely possible to do this as a community project and there are specialist organisations and help available to raise funds using a number of different means. Some of you may be familiar with The Tally Ho at Littlehempston, which is being successfully owned and operated by the community. If it became necessary to purchase the Kings Arms in this way, the Parish Council will act as the co-ordinating body.

This is where we need your help. On the reverse of this letter is a form setting out the various types of support that we need to demonstrate to SHDC. Please read it through, tick the boxes which you feel you can support and add your name, contact details and signature. Please return it by 27th March to the address at the top, the Village Shop, or to any Parish Councillor.

The future of the village pub may lie entirely in the hands of village residents – I appeal to you all to please come forward and support this important issue.

Cordially yours



Kate Gill,
Chairperson, Strete Parish Council

9th March 2020

To the Clerk to the Parish Council
Homer Park,
Strete,
Dartmouth TQ6 0SJ
streteclerk@gmail.com

From:- (please supply a name and address)

Dear Mrs Darch

Strete Parish Council

Renewal of the Asset of Community Value Order for the Kings Arms Public House

I understand that the Parish Council is to apply to renew the registration of the pub in the village of Strete, The Kings Arms, as an Asset of Community Value.

I am also aware that under the Localism Act 2011, the Community Right to Bid came into force from September 2012. The Community Right to Bid permits communities to nominate buildings and land that they consider to be of value to their community. These then appear on the district council's List of Assets of Community Value. If any asset on the list is put up for sale, the relevant community is given a window of opportunity to express an interest in purchasing the asset and another window of opportunity to bid. I offer my support in the areas ticked below.

Support for nomination

I support this reapplication for the nomination of the Kings Arms Strete as an Asset of Community Value.

Offer to invest or provide financial assistance

If the Kings Arms Strete were to be acquired on behalf of the community of Strete, I would be prepared to contribute financially by buying shares in the new venture.

Offer of help and assistance

In the event that the Kings Arms Strete is purchased by the community of Strete, I am available and willing to help in the operation and management of the pub.

Yours sincerely

(Please sign and date)