

Community Right to Bid

As part of the Localism Act (2011) the government introduced new rights and powers for communities, including the Community Right to Bid. The aim is to help communities to keep valued buildings and land used by local people, such as recreation grounds, local pubs, shops or libraries, in community use.

In essence this means that local communities can nominate buildings or land that they think are vital to the well-being of the local area or its residents and have these added to a list of Assets of Community Value held by South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC). Once added to the list, a charge is placed against the building or land and the owner must inform SCDC when they intend to sell it so the community can be informed and given six months to put together a bid to purchase it and keep it in community use. The community bid must compete on the open market and the owner doesn't have to accept this bid. The aim is to give time for the business plan and financing to be organised to support a community bid.

Details and an 'intention to bid' form can be found at <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/community-right-bid>

The Ancient Shepherds Public House, Fen Ditton was nominated by Fen Ditton Parish Council and accepted onto the list of Assets of Community Value held by SCDC on 18 November 2015. The owner has since notified us of their intention to enter into a relevant disposal of the property. This means the six week interim moratorium period has been triggered and will remain open until 5pm Tuesday 5 January 2016. During this period any constituted local community organisation can put forward a written expression of interest to South Cambridgeshire District Council if they wish to be considered as a potential bidder for the property. If an expression of interest is received the full moratorium period ending 24 May 2016 will be triggered, giving the community time to complete the business planning and finances to support their bid. Any bid put forward will have to compete on the open market.

To put forward an expression of interest please email: kathryn.hawkes@scambs.gov.uk or send your 'intention to bid' form to:

Kathryn Hawkes - Community Right to Bid
Planning & New Communities
South Cambridgeshire District Council
South Cambridgeshire Hall
Cambourne Business Park
Cambourne
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For more information call 03450 450 500