

ALDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Council Document	AGENDA item 9
To comment on the Hertsmere Borough Council consultation regarding an application to list the Three Horseshoes Public House in Letchmore Heath as an Asset of Community Value.	Full Council meeting 24th June 2024.

Background

In 2013, Aldenham Parish Council (APC) were approached by local residents of Letchmore Heath who were concerned at that time that the only public house in the village might be sold and disappear.

They asked APC to consider registering a 'Community Right to Bid' application with Hertsmere Borough Council (HBC) who, if approved would include the 'Three Horseshoes' Public House on the List of Assets of Community Value. This process was completed in May 2013 and the 'Three Horseshoes' was registered, and then renewed in 2018.

In 2020 the LHVT asked APC to ask HBC to remove the Three Horseshoes from the list of Community Assets, as this was impeding the sale to a local resident, which was successful.

Current situation.

In May 2023 APC received a letter from HBC informing them that LHVT had approached them direct to register again the 'Three Horseshoes' as a Asset of Community Value. HBC asked if APC had any comments.

LHVT comments

The LHVT have written to the APC chairman as follows;

The Trust has applied to the Council to register the Three Horseshoes pub as an Asset of Community Value(ACV). The Trust agreed to the removal of the previous AVC on being informed that would facilitate the sale to the current owner.

We know that an ACV has no effect if the pub was to be sold as a going concern. However, it is of importance in circumstances where a disposal for an alternative use is proposed. This is because an ACV would allow the community to make a bid and, more generally, to be made aware of the situation regarding this facility which of importance to the village, as illustrated by the following extract from our application:

"The Three Horseshoes pub provides an important local social benefit which would no longer be available if its current use ceased. Those social benefits derive from frequent use of the pub by large number of villagers for gathering whilst dining and drinking, open social evenings, weekly card evenings, New Year's celebration events, special events such as the Jubilee celebrations, refreshment for fairs held on the village green and Morris dancing events."

Councillors are asked to consider this report and decide whether they wished to make any comments to HBC regarding the application.

Peter Evans (Council Manager)