



# BEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

**The Clerk to the Council,**  
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## **COMMUNITY ASSETS (Formally Community Hub)**

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017

Following public consultations, village hall user group meetings, a petition received from 1317 Bembridge residents, the Library group's decision to seek a lease on the library building and numerous individual feedback from members of the public it has been made clear that the majority of the public wish to see the 5/7 High Street building retained. The delivery of a Community Hub within one property is therefore unachievable.

Bembridge Parish Council is calling an extraordinary Council meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March 5.00pm in the Village Hall to rescind the decision to sell 5/7 High Street, Bembridge.

The Parish Council has a responsibility to maintain 5/7 High Street and the Village Hall. Estimated maintenance work costs have been received from a quantity surveyor that amount to over £350,000 in total for both buildings over 10 years (these costs will be scrutinised and reduced where possible). The Parish Council now has to develop a 10 year maintenance programme and ensure the most urgent items are delivered first. The funds have to be found from the sinking fund of £50,000, maximising income, precept and fundraising initiatives.

Feedback will be received from the Village Hall Management Committee and users regarding the possible relocation of an accessible public toilet with external access.

The planning application for 5/7 High Street will continue as elements of it may be implemented to maximise the income to help fund maintenance works required.

Discussions will take place with the current tenants to try and secure their future.

The vision, aims and objectives of the intended community hub project were as follows:-

Vision -To ensure the longevity and sustainability of services in Bembridge

### Aims and Objectives

- ☐ To maximise the use of the community assets
- ☐ To keep the precept as low as realistically possible
- ☐ To reduce the buildings maintenance costs
- ☐ To be realistic about the roles and amount of volunteer support available

We are still mindful that we need to consider these points going forward.

If you have any questions or require further information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely  
Emma Goldring  
Clerk Bembridge Parish Council