

The Martyrs Inn

Puddletown Area Parish Council has received notification from Dorset Council that, sadly, new owner Nick Cornwall and his wife have decided to put the Martyrs Inn up for sale due to a change in their personal circumstances. The intention is that works currently taking place at the pub will be completed.

The Parish Council has listed the Inn as a Community Asset and, as a result, there is now an interim 6-week to give eligible community groups (including the Parish Council) the opportunity to notify Dorset Council that they wish to be considered as a potential bidder for the pub. If that happens, then a full 6-month moratorium is invoked. This is to enable money to be raised and a bid made to buy the asset by any qualifying community interest group. This does not, however, mean that the community interest group gets a right of first refusal or has the opportunity to buy the asset at below market value.

The deadline for receiving written notification of an intention to bid is the end of 28th September 2021. The Parish Council will discuss the matter at its next meeting on the evening of the 14th September.

The last time this issue was discussed, the Parish Council opted not to trigger the moratorium as it was hoped that the pub would be purchased and run privately. There would need to be a significant local interest and commitment to the long-term running of the public house for the Parish Council to consider the potential for a community bid.

Local residents are welcome to either attend the Parish Council meeting in September or write to the Clerk in advance if they wish to make a representation prior to the Parish Council's decision.

Emails can be sent to puddletown@dorset-aptc.gov.uk