

Mr. Pol Exeter
Company Secretary
Aspire (Reading) CIC

By email only to pol.exeter@aspirecic.co.uk

Your contact is: Giorgio Framalico Planning Development and Regulatory Services

Dear Mr. Exeter

**ASSET OF COMMUNITY VALUE - CENTRAL CLUB & MURAL, 36-42 LONDON STREET,
READING, RG1 4SQ
COMMUNITY NOMINATION AS AN ASSET OF COMMUNITY VALUE
DETERMINATION UNDER SECTION 90 OF THE LOCALISM ACT 2011**

I acknowledge receipt of your form dated 18 August 2017 nominating The Central Club & Mural, in London Street, Reading, for inclusion on the Council's List of Assets of Community Value under the Community Right to Bid provisions of Chapter 3 of the Localism Act 2011.

I am responding to you as the officer to whom the Council has delegated authority to consider and determine community nominations under Section 90 of the Localism Act 2011.

In considering and determining your community nomination, the Council is required under Section 89 to consider whether the nomination has been made by a body listed under Section 89(2)(b), i.e a local parish council or a voluntary or community body with a local connection.

The Council is also required under Section 90(3) to consider whether the land nominated (a) is in the authority's area; and (b) is of community value.

I am satisfied that Aspire (Reading) CIC was entitled to make a community nomination because it is a voluntary or community body which is a community interest company. The site you have nominated (The Central Club & Mural) is in the local authority's area.

Section 88 of the Localism Act 2011 defines land of community value. This is land and buildings where, in the opinion of the local authority, its actual current use furthers the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community, and it is realistic to think that the same or another such use will continue; or where there was such a use in the recent past which it was realistic to think could exist within the next five years.

The former Central Club has been closed and has not had an active community use for the past 11 years. This length of time is beyond what could be considered to be within the recent past. The mural however has continued to have a community presence since 2006 and has continued to have a current use which furthers the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community.

Given the above, the Council cannot approve the current application which seeks to nominate both the Central Club and Mural as an Asset of Community Value. I refer to the response given to a

question at Full Council on 17 October 2017 and invite Aspire to submit a new application solely in respect of the mural and the wall on which it is located.

Given the inclusion of the Central Club within the current submission I must confirm that the decision of the Council on your community nomination is that it is unsuccessful.

Under Section 93(1) of the Localism Act 2011 the Council is required to maintain a separate list of unsuccessful community nominations, and the reasons for not including the land in the authorities list of assets of community value. This entry will appear on the Council's website, with this letter attached to the entry for The Central Club and mural.

Yours sincerely



Giorgio Framalicco
Head of Planning Development and Regulatory Services.