

**SCANNED**

**ASHDON  
VILLAGE MUSEUM  
CHURCH HILL, ASHDON  
Nr SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX  
CB10 2HF. Tel. 01799 584253**

19 January 2013

Andrew Taylor  
Uttlesford District Council  
London Road  
Saffron Walden. CB11 4ER

Dear Sir,

Re: Localism Act 2011 and Assets of Community Regulations

Further to your letter dated 9th January, we would like to draw your attention to the following.

Ashdon Village Museum is a registered charity and as such, is governed by a Trust Deed. This document contains specific directions regarding the disposal of the museum's assets including property.

In March 1999, the then trustees proposed and passed a motion indicating that it was their desire, in the event of the museum's closure, that the property and other assets be offered first to Ashdon Parish Council, but were instructed by our solicitors (Allen & Overy of London) to add the acknowledgement that this 'could in no way legally fetter the discretion of future trustees'.

We conclude that if Uttlesford District Council implements the request to designate Ashdon Village Museum as an 'Asset of Community Value', this will severely compromise our Trust Deed requiring its rewriting with legal advice. This would in turn result in renegotiation with the Charity Commissioners.

We need hardly add that the cost would be considerable and detrimental in the extreme to a small, volunteer run charity. We therefore ask that the designation be declined.

Yours sincerely

The Trustees of  
Ashdon Village Museum

P. Bidwell. (Chairman)