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## **EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 6 MAY 2004**

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### **COS.74/04 TALKIN TARN**

(Public and press excluded by virtue of Paragraph 7)

The Executive on 26 April 2004 (Minute Reference EX.094/04) confirmed that it wishes, in principle, to proceed with the transfer of ownership of Talkin Tarn, subject to final terms being negotiated which the Executive are able to approve. The matter was referred to this Committee for consultation and observation. The Head of Culture, Leisure and Sport presented Report PS.2/04 which had been considered by the Executive. The County Council was prepared to dispose of the Talkin Tarn Estate, with the exception of the Hotel, to the City Council and draft terms for the transfer to the City Council were submitted. Negotiations were continuing with the County Council, particularly regarding the hotel.

The report recognised the potential at Talkin Tarn, but also set out the extent of the required investment of capital and revenue resources. The observations of the Head of Finance and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services were also set out in the report.

Councillor Bloxham commented that this is an opportunity which the Council should seriously consider and investigate further and he outlined the potential benefits for the community as a whole.

The Head of Culture, Leisure and Sport then responded to various Members' questions in relation to the boating franchises, fishing in the Tarn and the potential for improvement in this area, blue green algae problems, disabled access and required improvements, car parking, staffing issues, the café, inflationary figures contained within the projected costs, future development possibilities, income from grazing land, negotiations with the County regarding the hotel and a public right of way around the Tarn.

Members commented that this was an opportunity which should be investigated further and that financial issues should be taken into consideration, but that the Council should also consider the potential benefits of Talkin Tarn if it was invested in and well managed.

**RESOLVED – (1)** That the Committee supports the Executive's decision and the continued negotiation with the County Council, particularly in respect of the inclusion of the hotel.

**(2)** The Committee looks forward to further reports on this matter in the future.