Branch Draft Motion

‘[insert Co-operative Branch name] notes that in communities across the UK there are venues and assets of community value which are at risk or have been left vacant. Understands that this has the potential to have a detrimental impact on high streets and local economies.

Acknowledges the efforts of communities who have joined together to save local venues, revive local sites and breathe new life into high streets up and down the country.

Understands that local assets such as pubs, football clubs, community centres and shop buildings are all examples of places which have benefited from local ownership.

This Co-operative Branch believes by supporting the growth of local ownership we can give local people the real power and support to take back control of the places and spaces they love whilst transforming high streets across the country through proper investment.

Therefore, this Branch commends the Co-operative Party for the 'Building Local Ownership’ campaign and notes the shared ambition of a future Labour & Co-operative Government that is committed to a Community Right to Buy which would give local groups a right to buy assets of community value and long term vacant high street property without competition and increase the funding available to support them to make this a reality.

In addition, notes the calls of the campaign for a High Street Buyout Fund, which would act to purchase important empty high street spaces and transfer them into community ownership and the continued support for Community Improvement Districts.

This branch resolves to work with local elected politicians as well as interested organisations in the area to promote the benefits of local ownership and work to identify how it could make a difference in [insert local area].