

THE TREE, STAPLEFORD

Newsletter. Issue 1

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Thank you to all those that attended the public meeting held on 26th April.

Support

If you'd like to support the campaign by purchasing shares, (not a binding commitment but a serious indication of intent), message us for a form.

If you would like a copy of the business plan, please send us a message.

Summary of public meeting

Councillor Wright from SCDC spoke and said that, in his opinion, it is clear that The Tree is a community asset. The decision regarding a compulsory purchase order takes place in October.

83 pledges have been received totalling £130,500 as at 22 April 2017. £150,000 is the total amount we can obtain in pledges.

We have successfully applied to the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) for incorporation as 'The Tree Community Limited', the Plunkett Foundation has accepted our application for grant funding and we have, in principal, agreement to take out a bank mortgage.

The business plan was outlined including start-up costs and sources of initial funding. This clearly demonstrates the financial viability of a re-opened public house including accommodation and catering facilities. An important note raised was that we have applied to HMRC for Advanced Certification for the Seed Capital Enterprise Investment Scheme (SEIS) - this allows investors to claim back 50% of contributions from their personal income tax paid (2nd tranche EIS should attract 30%). Note - care if purchase does not go ahead, tax benefits lost.

We have received a grant of £1,000 from the Parish Council and a bursary of £2,500 from the Plunkett Foundation to assist with initial costs. We are very grateful for this support. Pub is The Hub and the Plunkett Foundation spoke about the work they do and how they support this campaign to save The Tree. They were both very upbeat about our campaign, emphasising that The Tree really is worth 'fighting' for and could be a great community asset.

The Action Group has contacted leisure and sports groups in Stapleford for their opinions. We have received 14 positive responses to date, indicating they would use the venue for their committee meetings, social events and for the accommodation.

"Community owned pubs allow local people to run and grow a business which meets the need of individual communities."

CAMRA



What next?

We are working with a Cambridge designer on a logo that can be used across lots of media for future promotion, leaflets, menus etc. A new website is also being professionally developed.

We have set up Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts to keep everyone up to date with progress, and to garner more support.

The Action Group will continue to speak to community organisations to establish their level of support, we are strengthening our communications and publicity strategy and we are trying to increase the number of financial pledges from individuals.

Follow us on social media:



How do you or your club envisage using The Tree?

Let us know by email or on social media. We'd love to hear from you!

Best wishes from the Save The Tree Action Group.

Unsubscribe

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