

KCS NEWS

Newsletter. Issue 3. 2022

Save the date:

- Carols & Santa
@ The Shrew 22 Dec
- Christmas Quiz
@ The Shrew 27 Dec
- Community Breakfast
Feb 23
- AGM March 23
- Working Weekend
April 23
- Afternoon tea
May 23

Introduction from our Chairman

Alisdair Cummings

Welcome to our last KCS newsletter of 2022. Dear shareholders

So we come to the end of another year and unbelievably it's over 3 1/2 years since we bought the Shrewsbury Arms. What a time this has been, nobody in their wildest nightmares could have imagined what has happened over these years. What is so remarkable though is how, as a community society we have been able to work with our fantastic tenants to deliver a pub and experience that is the envy of the county.

What is so great now is that we are able to start putting on events to bring the community closer together. Some of the more notable events were the singers Victoria Luce and Tim Hoad in April to celebrate 3 years of owning the pub, we organised the team "it's a knock out" to celebrate the Jubilee.

The pub put on the fantastic Shrew Fest, beer festival on the august bank holiday and then a quiz night at Halloween. We're hoping to put on more events in 2023 and we'd love to hear your ideas on what we could put on. There's a lot more information below on what we have done or have planned and I look forward to seeing you all in the pub soon

What's on?

Events the pub

Carols & Santa—Thursday 22nd December

Our Tenants are running this festive evening at the pub. Santa 5-7pm. Carols and festive sing along from 8pm. There is even free mulled wine and mince pies on offer!

CHRISTMAS CAROLS



Christmas Quiz—Tuesday 27th December

These quizzes are always a great evening, come and join us from 7pm!

Other KCS events

We are still planning these and will let you know the dates soon.

Community Breakfast—Feb 23. We'd love to get the community together for a morning of socialising. We're thinking we will hold a 'KCS Surgery' there too—where members of the committee will be on hand to answer any of your questions about all things KCS!

AGM—March 23. Our third AGM, what an achievement! Come and join us in the Kingstone village hall for an evening of information—get to know the finer details of the KCS. There may even be tea and coffee!

Working Weekend—April 23. You are invited to come and give us a hand one Saturday morning to carry out some TLC on our pub. Like all things it needs constant love and attention—there will be plenty of painting, sweeping and weeding to do!



Afternoon tea—May 23. We'd like to invite the older generation from our community for an afternoon tea. The one we held for the Queens Jubilee was a hit—with over 70 attendees! More details to follow soon

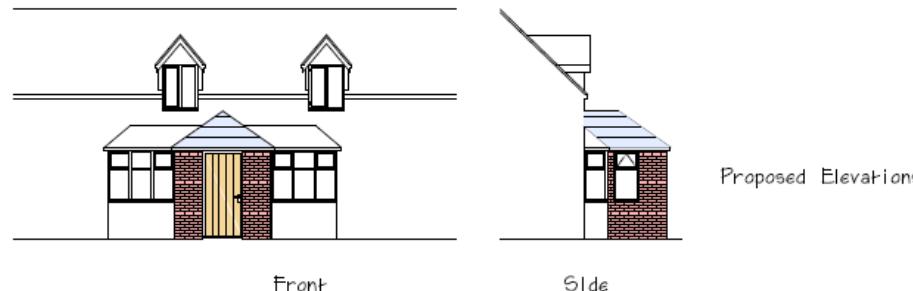


The Porch

Grant funding—we are pleased to inform you all that ESBC have awarded us in-principle funding of £15,000 for the installation of our new front porch! This capital project will enhance the aspect of our much-loved village asset. It will offer an improved (warm and draft free space), reduce energy costs and allow more funds to be diverted towards community benefits. This is the only step-free access for all users.

One cold October evening, on behalf of the committee, Siobain Mathie (a shareholder) presented our project to a panel of judges from the ESBC Community Regeneration Fund. Following our previous track record and the collective continuing efforts of the tenants, committee and all shareholders, the council awarded the Regeneration Grant. They noted the importance of community hubs, particularly in rural areas.

The next stage of the process is to get full planning permission granted, then the funds will be released to us. The Planning application has been submitted to ESBC, its currently undergoing the standard validation procedure. Once validated we'll be notified of the likely determination date. Then the next job will be to find a suitable builder to commence the work—We welcome your recommendations of suitable builders. Here is the plan below - we are going to have it rendered the same colour as the pub



We also think we'll need some additional funding (porches aren't cheap!). So if you have any ideas please let us know. We were thinking some sort of Crowd Funding campaign?

Pub Parking

Some of you may have noticed some small changes to the front of the pub—we now have parking spaces! This is down to the hard work of local Kingstone resident Dave Parker; who painstakingly painted each line by hand. Dave is a real embodiment of what the KCS stands for, he works so hard to make the pub the best it can be—from making the planters outside the front to maintain the gardens. Thank you Dave.



The Matrix

When we formed the KCS (Kingstone Community Society), we received a grant from the Plunket Foundation towards the purchase of the pub. The building facilitates the delivery of the principle aims of the society for:

- Greater community pride and empowerment
- Rural employment
- Social isolation
- Improved health and wellbeing.

To achieve the above, we have the tenants and their professional team who work in this rural village. To address some of the community aspects we have installed a second defibrillator, have the Garden Cub, Walking Group, and other social events. We have offered Breakfast Club and Crafty Coffee mornings; however, these were latterly not supported. So maybe there are other activities you think are more appropriate. We would love to hear your suggestions. Please raise these with the committee, via the KSC email (kingstonecommunitysociety@gmail.com), or at our AGM. Collectively together we want to make the KCS successful.

End

Next year is going to be a good one, we've got loads planned and our community and pub is going from strength to strength.

Wishing you and your families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year—see you in the pub!