

Hi All,

You'll be pleased to hear the cold weather hasn't slowed us down (although we'd rather be doing all this work in the pub with a drink and a roaring fire) so we've got lots to update you on this month!

Community Share Offer – window extended

As you know, our community share offer was due to close on 6 November. Thanks to you we raised an amazing £195,000 in the initial share offer period. However, as our target remains £400,000, we wrote to you earlier this month to share the news that we would extend the share offer until 31 January 2025 in order to give us the best possible opportunity to achieve this.

To date, we have raised £199,000 in community shares, with over 300 of you investing in the future of the Rose & Crown Inn.

Although the community share offer has been extended, we urge anyone still considering investing to do so as soon as possible, as this will help to unlock further investment. If you have already purchased shares, you can add to these by submitting an additional application form and cheque/BACS transfer.

Please do share our social media posts and help spread the word about our community share offer as far as possible!

The share offer prospectus, business plan and share application forms are available on our <u>website</u>. If you, or anyone you know, would like a paper copy of the prospectus and application form, please contact <u>nympsfield.community.pub@gmail.com</u>

Fundraising Events

St Joseph's Primary School Fireworks

On Saturday 2nd November, we were invited by St Joseph's Primary School PTA to run the bar and host a stall promoting our community share offer at their firework display.

We raised £172 with 20% of profits donated to St Joseph's PTA.

Thanks to all who came along to have a drink and chat with us, and to St Joseph's PTA for inviting us!

Promises Auction

Our Promises Auction took place on Saturday 9th November at Nympsfield Village Hall and raised an incredible £7,500!

Thank you so much to everyone who came along, everyone who bid (whether in the room or not), all the businesses and individuals who donated items and experiences for the auction, and to our fundraising volunteers for organising and running such a fantastic event. Not forgetting Paul Beeston too, who worked tirelessly before, during and after the event.

This latest event brings the total amount raised since our first fundraising event in May to a staggering £13,500!

Upcoming events

Our friends at the Nympsfield Village Hall are hosting their Christmas Fair on Saturday 30 November. After meeting the children in his Winterland Grotto from 4-5pm, Father Christmas will be leading a procession up to the Rose & Crown Inn at 6:15 to light the village Christmas tree, which will be located in the front garden of the pub.

Providing the weather isn't too bad, we'll also have chestnuts and marshmallows available for toasting at the pub!

Purchase of the Rose & Crown Inn

We continue to work with the owner exploring proposals to bring forward the purchase of the pub whilst we continue raising funds from the share offer. This work is in its early stages and, subject to agreeing heads of terms, we will publish an addendum to the business plan detailing our proposal. Our exclusivity agreement remains in place until 31 January.

We are also in close contact with the owner regarding the pub's boundary and rights of way due to the sale of the stables building, which is being sold separately for conversion into residential use.

Grant Applications

Regrettably, our application for a £150,000 grant from the Clothworkers' Foundation was unsuccessful. The limited feedback we received is that we were unable to clearly demonstrate that 50% or more of our beneficiaries fall into one or more of their programme areas, which for us was older people facing disadvantage. We were also unsuccessful with our application for £1,000 from the Cooperative Bank Customer Donation Fund.

On a positive note, following our interview with the School for Social Entrepreneurs in October we have just received confirmation that our application for a £4,000 grant and support package was successful! This will be provided through SSE's Trading for Good: Community Business programme.

The grants team are also preparing an application for a £20,000 grant from the Rural England Prosperity Fund administered by Stroud District Council. Our application will be submitted in early January and we expect to know the outcome in February.

Frustratingly there was no update on the Community Ownership Fund (COF) in the recent budget. The future (or fate) of COF may become apparent when the spending review concludes next spring.

If you are aware of grant funding opportunities, particular ones that fund capital projects, then please contact the grants team at: nympsfield.community.pub.grants@gmail.com

Keeping in touch

We will be sharing further updates about all these topics through our various communications channels as they progress. If you haven't already done so, please:

- Join our Facebook page: Nympsfield Community Pub
- Follow us on Instagram: @the_nympsfield_community_pub_
- Visit our website: <u>nympsfieldcommunitypub.co.uk</u> and <u>check out our press</u> coverage.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch via email, social media or by speaking to one of the team in person!

Kind Regards,

The Nympsfield Community Pub Group