

A community owned pub for Yarpole, Lucton, Bicton, Bircher and Croft?

For most villages a pub is an important lynchpin of village life. Much of the appeal of our village rests on its sense of community, and the presence of a great pub can significantly enhance that spirit and maintain house prices. The Bell is currently for sale, freehold. The Parish Council, having registered it as an Asset of Community Value in 2016, has triggered a delay in the sale so that our community can consider buying it. By owning the building we intend to retain a good, well used pub in Yarpole.

The proposal is to:

1. Demonstrate community support
2. Form a steering group and establish a Community Benefit Society with strong legal safeguards for investors
3. Raise funds through community shares, grants and loans
4. Buy the pub building and put it in good order
5. Attract a community minded publican to take on the lease.

The charity Plunkett Foundation (www.plunkett.co.uk) will provide financial support and advice to this project but has asked that local people complete this questionnaire to give their views on what might be provided and what would receive their support. Please be as honest and realistic as possible in your answers! Your response will be treated in confidence and can be entirely anonymous, unless you wish to add your name at the end. We also need to know who might be interested in buying shares, to judge whether the project is financially viable; so if you might buy shares, **we need you to complete the Pledge in Principle (PiP)** form too.

Please return to the marked collection box at St. Leonard's church. We will collect directly distributed questionnaires and PiP forms by 30th May.

The anonymised results will be published in The Parishioner and feed into the future direction of this initiative.

We would particularly like to hear from you if you feel you could help in any way with the initiative: If there is strong support for the purchase of The Bell, there will be a lot to do leading up to a bid. A successful bid will mean planning refurbishment and finding a tenant.

This kind of venture has been successfully achieved in other communities. There are currently 140+ co-operative pubs across the UK; most have been set up with the support of the Plunkett Foundation. Will our community be next? If you wish to speak directly to someone about this project please contact one of the following:

Alex Jenkins, a.jenkins@btinternet.com, 01568 780536
Kate Darby, kate@katedarby.com, 01568 780475
Marianne Taylor, mariannebtaylor@btinternet.com, 01568 780365

1. If our local pub was **saved and bought by the community** would you, or any member of your household, use it?

- Daily
- 2-3 times a week
- Once a week
- Once a fortnight
- Occasionally
- Not at all

2. What additional services would you most like to see the pub offer?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family friendly area | <input type="checkbox"/> Catering (dinners and lunches) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Function room | <input type="checkbox"/> Live music |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Games room | <input type="checkbox"/> Big-screen sports |

3. What kind of catering would you like to see from the pub?

- Serving food isn't important to me
- Weekday lunch
- Weekday dinner
- Saturday lunch
- Saturday dinner
- Sunday lunch
- Other (please list as many as you like below)

4. Are there any other services not listed above that you would like to see on offer?

5. On a scale of 1 – 5 (where 1 is not important and 5 is very important), how important do you think it is to keep a local pub in our community? Please circle your answer.

NOT IMPORTANT <<< 1 2 3 4 5 >>> VERY IMPORTANT

6. Please state how many people in each age range there are in your household:

- 0 – 16
- 17 – 25
- 26 – 45
- 46 – 65
- over 65

7. Would you or anyone in your household be interested in supporting a community pub project by:

- Joining the steering group
- Helping with fundraising
- Making a donation
- Buying a share (**please complete the Pledge in Principle form**)
- Making a loan
- Providing professional advice/practical skills/services, and my professional experience/skills are:

If you have ticked any of the above boxes, or you would like us to contact you, please write your name, address, email and phone number below.

8. Do you support the idea of the community buying The Bell? Yes/No/Unsure

Contact details (optional)

Name _____ Email _____ Telephone _____
Address: _____

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this questionnaire