

## **Save the Drovers Update – 07-09-15**

At an open meeting held in G.A.S village hall on 4<sup>th</sup> Sept the Save the Drovers Campaigners were pleased to announce that they have tabled an acceptable offer to purchase The Drovers Inn subject to survey and contract.

The project team are now working through the due diligence process necessary to buy the freehold, including structural survey, mortgage valuation, and a range of searches and legal processes to satisfy commercial and insurance requirements of the premises and to meet statutory obligations prior to exchange.

The full report on the Structural Survey will outline work needed to complete the refurbishment and enable the committee to set agreed timescales and obtain quotes from service providers pending completion.

The Community Share Investment continues to grow, currently at £148k with 130 investors, and this money will be drawn down prior to the exchange. Notice of the drawdown will be given 7 days before the actual draw down with the provision of share certificates following shortly afterwards. Share applications are still being received and anticipated to reach £150k very soon. As we are so close to securing the pub it is important to continue the forward momentum in fund raising efforts so that we can crack on with the refurbishment work and get the pub open for business to the right standard and in a timely manner. Every extra pound generated through the share offer or through grant funding brings us closer to achieving our goal of a thriving Drovers Inn at the heart of our community.

In preparation of the refurbishment work at The Drovers the Management Committee has outlined a set of principles and a process to guide the procurement and management of the work to be undertaken. Local companies wishing to tender should review the refurbishment section of the website at [www.droversinn.gussage.com](http://www.droversinn.gussage.com). Please submit an initial expression of interest to bid by email, with full details and references. As a Community Benefit Society we would welcome any offer of assistance to the Community Enterprise through subsidised materials or discounts or possibly some form of sponsorship.

As well as the share issue our Fighting Fund, established with generous donations right from the outset of the Save the Drovers campaign, is essential. These donated funds are used towards professional fees and costs incurred prior to accessing the share investment, not available until the point of draw down. Any donations to this fund can be made to Treasurer Mal Madell, email [malgcbs@gmail.com](mailto:malgcbs@gmail.com)

A special Fund Raising event in Gussage All Saints village hall on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Sept, 7:30 pm will feature favourite folk, easy listening, and ceilidh music provided by two great bands, '5<sup>th</sup> Monday' and 'No Strings Attached'. Priced at £10 to include a hot supper you'll have a great night, and there will be a cash bar. For tickets call 01258 840687.