



SAVE OUR SWAN

Enquiries/Information:
SOS
48 Northgate
Hunmanby, YO14 0NT

email: saveourswan@yahoo.com
www.saveourswan@yolasite.com
Twitter: [follow@SaveOurSwan](https://twitter.com/saveourswan)

SAVE OUR SWAN – Progress Update (June 2013)

We have been working hard to ensure the White Swan is not sold for housing by Enterprise Inns (EI) but continues to be run as a Public House.

Following The Public Meeting at the end of March it was clear that there was strong opposition in the village to EI's plan. The SOS Group came into being as a direct result of the Public Meeting and, although not elected, its sole aim is to ensure the Swan is saved for the village community. The Group is not a 'closed shop'; we both welcome and **NEED** your input if the campaign is to be successful in delivering what its supporters want. Feedback from the Expression of Interest Leaflets provided good ideas and advice which we will incorporate into the plans – keep the ideas coming please!

To help achieve this, we thought it would be a good idea if we had a short, informal pre-Group open meeting in the Restaurant at the Swan which anyone could attend. We think this direct input will help keep us on track with what the village wants, and expects, the Group to do on its behalf. Times and dates of the meetings will be posted at the Swan, on Facebook and on the notice board at Bayley Gardens.

PROGRESS TO DATE

1. We have been in touch with Pub Is The Hub, Seachange and Scarborough Borough Council for advice on assistance on how to establish a professional Community Group.

2. Enterprise Inns - Planning applications

So far, thanks to many objections raised by supporters and outside bodies, EI have felt it necessary to submit revised plans. These are, in our opinion, worse than the originals. It is vital that objections are once again raised on the SBC Portal to ensure they are unsuccessful.

It seems likely that the Planning Applications will be heard on **11th July**, it is vitally important that Hunmanby Community is represented at this meeting therefore we urge anyone, who can, to attend the meeting. Most of the SOS Group will be there and it is hoped that help with transport for other supporters wishing to attend can be arranged, eg by sharing vehicles. We **MUST** impress upon the Planning Committee the strength of feeling against these Plans so please try to get there!!

3. Business Plan & Prospectus

We need a good and viable business plan in order to convince investors that the Swan, can be as profitable as it used to be. We are working hard on producing this plan and would welcome any assistance/advice from you. This is a mammoth task and the producing and printing of a Prospectus detailing future plans for the Swan, how it can become profitable, what return investors can expect etc will be costly. We hope that funding and, if necessary, small donations will help meet these

essential costs. An outline business plan, will be made available to ensure everyone can give feedback to the Group before a final version is submitted for inclusion in the Prospectus. We will keep you informed on progress with this.

4. Hunmanby Gala

We intend to use the Hunmanby Gala day to publicise our intentions for the Swan and encourage further investment to, hopefully, purchase and refurbish the pub.

5. Support

As you have probably read in the Press, support is growing to end the PubCo's (eg EI's) power over Pub Tenants by curbing rents and allowing them more freedom to source beer, wine, etc independently. Such bad publicity for the likes of EI can only be good for our campaign. We have the support of Anne MackIntosh, MP Thirsk, Malton and Filey, Pub Is The Hub (Camra) and many pubs in the same position as ourselves. A network is to be set up whereby groups trying to save local pubs can exchange ideas and information. There is huge support out there for us and other villages faced with the same problem.

6. Expression of Interest – Investment NOT Donation

Feedback from the above brought up the issue of the initial cost of investment ie £500. Although this amount is above the means of many, including some members of the SOS Group themselves, we did think long and hard about it before issuing the leaflet.

If we had put a minimum of £100 for example and 500 or more people were willing to invest this amount, although the result would be £50,000+ towards the purchase, it would be extremely difficult and costly to administer. However, it may be acceptable for say, a family group to invest £500 between them as one shareholder under a single family member name; we are looking into the legality of this option at the moment.

The word Donation has also cropped up on several occasions. This is an INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY not a donation. Shareholders would receive a level of return on their investment at least as good as they might expect from a building society or bank and hopefully significantly more.

7. Asset of Community Value

Hunmanby Parish Council's application to have the White Swan listed as an Asset of Community Value has yet to be heard. The decision is now several weeks overdue. Linda Tindall has been in contact with SBC and has been told that letters have now gone out to 'Interested Parties' informing them of the application – however we STILL do not know when a decision will be made.

This decision is important because if it is granted, the Community will have the right to bid for the pub. The owners (EI) cannot then sell the pub for six months – this is to allow the Community to raise funds, etc in order to purchase the pub. However, after the six months EI can still sell to anyone they wish – but at least we would be in with a chance!

We hope you have found this update helpful and informative. We welcome your comments and suggestions which can be passed on to Linda Tindall at 48 Northgate YO14 0NT or emailed to saveourswan@yahoo.com

Thank you

SOS