

The Kings Arms, Strete



The Kings Arms in Strete was closed by Heavitree in 2013 and was left without a tenant for almost two years.

In April 2015 Heavitree erected a fence to the Kings Arms car park restricting access to everyone, leading to speculation that they were planning to close the pub permanently and change the use of the pub to accommodation.

This prompted a mass meeting in the Parish Hall where over 100 residents packed the hall to hear Ian Coates and Malcolm Hollis present the options available to the community to 'Save Our Pub'



It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council should apply for Community Asset Status for the Kings Arms to restrict Heavitree from securing perceived closure. It was confirmed in June 2015 that the Kings Arms was on the approved listing as a Community Asset.

'Save Our Pub' Facebook page was set up which soon gained support worldwide.

On-going correspondence with Nick Tucker and Graham Crocker of Heavitree, in an effort to find a solution through polite persuasion, resulted in the fence at the car park thankfully being removed.

Various members of the community were assured by Heavitree that they were being very pro-active in their efforts to interview and offer the premises to the 'right person'.

In August 2015, Scott and Rebecca Prideaux were successful in securing tenancy of the Kings Arms with Heavitree.

An opening date of Friday 18th September 2015 was set.

Scott and Rebecca met members of the community in the Parish Hall on 12th August 2015 to hear everyone's views, comments and ideas that they gladly welcomed and took on board.



The community rallied support for cleaning the pub and garden along with clearing the car park of rubbish and vegetation whilst Scott & Rebecca had the builders in to carry out improvements and decorate the pub.

ON THE STRETE WHERE YOU LIVE

A super opening night where almost everyone in the village turned up. So many inside and in the garden area followed by live music together with a welcoming speech from the Parish Council Chairman and a special rendition of 'On the Strete Where You Live' from everyone in the bar.



The winter months have seen monthly Quiz Nights that have been very successful and Strete Lunch Club where 30 to 40 members enjoy lunch together once a month.

Other community events including Halloween, Fireworks in November and Downton Abbey fancy dress to build on the community spirit in the village.

Scott and Rebecca say:

"The Kings Arms is a Victorian Grade II listed pub located in the centre of Strete village in the coastal AONB of South Devon. The Kings Arms features wonderful cascading flowers, a large garden with a play area for children and far-reaching views of country and seaside with ample car parking. Our bar area is both child and dog friendly – the perfect place to relax and enjoy a drink! We offer a long list of options including ale, draught lager, cider, stout and a variety of wines. Our accompanying restaurant offers amazing sea views, a delicious menu and friendly staff.



If you aren't convinced already, The Kings Arms is also home to the newly opened section of the South West Coastal Path, making us an ideal pit stop for walkers, visitors, cyclists and locals.

As a team, we are passionate about creating a warm, friendly atmosphere. We want our customers to be so ecstatic about their experience that they share it with others. At the end of the day, our pub's goal is to bring the traditional village pub back to life. We hope to be a place where people can come to meet friends for a drink, dine with each other or enjoy a visit to our one-of-a-kind vintage tearoom.

Scott, our executive chef, brings a wealth of experience to the table. He has worked for several famous golf courses, the Ministry of Defence at the famous Headley Court and the renowned beach house on South Milton Sands."

Scott & Rebecca have worked hard to establish a good rapport with the community as well as provide good food at sensible prices for visitors and residents alike.

For more information click on the following links:

www.thekingsarmsstrete.co.uk and

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100010287543103&fref=ufi&pnref=story>