Annual Report of Framsden Social Enterprises CBS Itd.

Introduction

Framsden Social Enterprises Ltd is a Community Benefit Society formed in January 2020 to pursue the purchase of the Dobermann Inn and the creation of a community hub for the social and economic sustainability of the Framsden and surrounding villages.

Membership is open to all who buy shares.

The Past Year

It is just a year since the CBS bought the pub with the award of £273k from the Community Ownership Fund and increased investment from the shareholders. The Board decided to change the name back to its traditional name of the Greyhound and this has been well received.

The past year has seen the renovation of the pub, the kitchen, cellar and toilets and internal decorating completed. A new sewage treatment plant has been installed and the pub has been rewired and has new plumbing and heating. Furniture has been largely donated from local people and grants have been obtained to support the purchase of equipment, crockery etc. As the building is listed a planning application has been submitted for the restoration of the building and the installation of a gas tank in the western car park.

A time limited share offer operated from July 2024 which raised more than the minimum target and this investment has contributed to the renovation and renewal expenditure.

The pub began operating part time from December 2024 with full time opening commencing 4th April 2025.

Current Situation and the Year Ahead.

There is some outstanding work to be completed which includes the installation of a working chimney. The next phase of the development will focus on improving and extending the garden and car parks, moving the stream away from the building and finishing the exterior.

The pub is now operating full time under the direction of the manager and will extend its offer over the coming months to include community focussed activity, the attraction of walkers, cyclists and holiday makers and occasional special events.

Membership of the CBS continues to grow. It has approximately 180 shareholders mostly from the locality although there are some from further afield and from overseas. Membership remains open to new investors.

Framsden Social Enterprises CBS Ltd 31/3/2025.