

Manager for a Community Pub in Somerset

This is a unique opportunity for a pub manager to be involved with an exciting village community project in the growing and vibrant village of Stoke St Gregory in Somerset.

Back Story

Two years ago, both the pubs and the shop in Stoke St Gregory were going to close. A plan was conceived to buy The Royal Oak, the pub in the village square, and move the shop in along with a new café, thereby creating a pub, shop, café, community hub and much more, all under the same roof.

A Community Benefit Society, Heart of the Village (HOTV) has raised over £500,000 in community shares, grants and loans, enabling us to complete the purchase of the pub in August this year. Radical sympathetic building refurbishment is under way. The Community Shop reopened in November and has been a spectacular success. Refurbishment of the pub is progressing towards completion in the coming weeks in anticipation of a relaxation of current covid restrictions in Q2.

We are now looking to recruit an experienced pub management couple/manager, to take the reins and help us make a success of the pub and restaurant. We are aiming for a pub that combines traditional values with friendly informality and something unique, imaginative and a little different.

The creation of HOTV has injected new energy into the village and the surrounding area. The manager will be answerable to HOTV but can also expect to receive enthusiastic support from its 250 Members.

Live-in accommodation is available.

The Salary

Salary and benefits package (including a performance related bonus and/or profit share) will be negotiated commensurate with skills, experience and industry norms, and subject to follow-up of references. The covid pandemic may limit initial trading and potential revenue, so the start date and the salary that we are able to pay in the short term will also be a matter of discussion. However the anticipated potential revenue is at minimum £250K, starting with a wet led pub transitioning to a broader wet dry balance.

The Responsibilities

The pub management couple/manager will take on the following responsibilities and have the attributes, skills and experience to meet the challenge.

- Take over total financial and operational management of the pub bar and restaurant.
- Liaise closely with HOTV to agree business and community goals and regularly report on all aspects of the operation. Co-operative liaison with the shop manager/s will also be essential.
- Deliver good customer service in all areas. Invite, welcome and respond effectively to customer/community feedback.
- Estimate consumption, forecast requirements and maintain inventory. Monitor and ensure compliance with food hygiene, HSE and Fire Safety Regulations, sanitation and safety rules and other applicable regulations.
- Oversee the daily management and upkeep of the property for safety, cleanliness and regulatory hygiene.

- Nurture a positive working environment lead by example and build a friendly team of staff and volunteers.
- You will be part of an inclusive community project which has to respond primarily to the needs and wishes of local residents as well as attracting customers from further afield in order to remain profitable.

If you would like an informal chat over the phone/Skype/Zoom in the first instance, given the current difficult circumstances, please contact us at contact@hotvssg.org or send in a comprehensive CV to this e-mail address.

For more background information please visit www.hotvssg.org.