



info@blackhorsecommunitygroup.com
<https://blackhorsecommunitygroup.com/>

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Dear Village Life Readers

Thank you for all your support, the task of repairing and getting the Black Horse open continues.

The cracked ceiling has been removed and replaced and various other building works carried out. Cowls have been put on the chimneys, rebedding of the roof ridges is completed and the new porch slates and lead flashing look fantastic; just the extension ridges still to do. The front guttering has been repaired and the RHS downpipe rerouted around the side. We also now have new boilers which means we now have hot water!

The pub is a very old building based around lime mortar and lime plaster and the inappropriate use of modern renders, modern plasters and the wrong type of paint has resulted in a lot of damp. Our surveyor and historic building experts have visited and advised on solutions to ensure the pub is more fit for the future.

Volunteers have removed the leylandii and overgrown shrubs in the garden, removed the rotting smoking shelter and power washed the patio area. Volunteers have also tackled the hedges (more to do in the autumn); are painting the garage door; cleaning down, repairing and painting the side gates; renovating the patio furniture and looking to get the water feature working again.

We are now ready for cleaning and painting parties to start on the upstairs flat and other areas of the pub – please contact us if you can help. An email will be sent out to members.

An architect has produced plans to allow us to provide an accessible/disabled toilet as well as separate ladies and gents toilets. We will need planning permission to progress this and, as the government's Community Ownership Fund (COF) will not help fund this, we are exploring other funding streams for support.

We have had 3 tenancy applications and we are preparing for formal interviews.

As we are sure you are all well aware, since putting the budgets and COF application together in early 2022, costs have significantly risen with no increase in our revenue. Therefore, we are having to very carefully manage the funds we have, prioritise what we can do now and make a number of difficult decisions.

Kind regards
Becky, Ben, Carol, Jane, Martin, Mike, Simon, Tony
The Black Horse Community Group committee