



Share Prospectus

Sharing in the Future of Hawkesbury

Community Share Offer

To support the development of Hawkesbury Stores

Share Launch: 15th November 2017

Closing date: 15th January 2018

Target: £15,000 You can invest: from £50 to £2,500

Individual shares cost £50

The Story

Hawkesbury Community Shop Ltd (trading as Hawkesbury Stores) has been running successfully since June 2016. In that time the shop has been refurbished, equipment has been updated, sales have grown, new products have been brought in and an Electronic Point of Sale system is in the process of being installed. The success is due in part to grants and also the generosity of our early Members. Our shareholder base is sound and enabled us to buy the property as well as run it successfully. To further develop the shop – a second share offer is being launched. The aim is to refurbish the front of the shop, enable disabled access, and consolidate our membership numbers.

The Offer

Hawkesbury Stores runs as a Community Benefit Society in the name of Hawkesbury Community Shop Ltd and is registered with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) registration number 7296. The offer is open to new investors and those who wish to top up their investment to a maximum of £2,500.

The Process

Please read the share offer details thoroughly and ensure that you wish to support this amazing enterprise. Sure that you do? Contact our Secretary, Pauline Dixon who will be delighted to help. Tel: 01454 299236 Email: pcdixon@waitrose.com

The Management Committee of Hawkesbury Community Shop Ltd invites you to invest, or reinvest, in this community enterprise to help us further develop the village shop. The shop trades for the benefit of the community. It retains profits and uses these to advance our main aim of providing the village with the products and services that our community want and need.

This document describes a further opportunity to join the community shop project, by subscribing for shares in Hawkesbury Community Shop Ltd (The Society), which is a Society for the Benefit of the Community. Purchasing shares automatically confers membership, and you can purchase up to £2,500 worth of shares per individual. Existing Members can top up their shareholding to this level.

Please read this document carefully before deciding whether you wish to invest in shares.

Community shops have to date had a 96% success rate, far better than the commercial sector has achieved. Experience has shown that when people sign up to become members with a personal interest they are more likely to do everything they can to ensure the success of the business by becoming loyal customers, volunteers and supporters of the enterprise. This is certainly true in Hawkesbury. Average weekly sales already top £4,500 and our aim is £5,500.

The importance of this sale of shares is twofold; it generates money directly but is also evidence of continued local support. It has been designed to provide local people with the chance to contribute financially to our community shop business and to receive a social rather than a financial return. The social dividend means different things to different people. For some it is a convenience store – somewhere to go when they run out of coffee, milk or chocolate biscuits. For others it may be the only accessible place to do their shopping, or may be the most convenient place to pop into before or after school or work.

It is also much more than that; a place to advertise services or items, to bump into friends, and a place to work or volunteer in the heart of the community.

Our goal is to raise at least £15,000 by 15th January 2018 when this share offer closes.

SHARE OFFER

15th November 2017-15th January 2018

Shares are allocated in units of £50 and anyone over the age of 18 may purchase up to a total of 50 shares. This is a long-term investment for the benefit of the community and should be viewed as an investment with social rather than financial return.

By buying a share you automatically become a member of The Society and will be eligible to vote at its Annual General Meeting. The constitution enshrines the principle of one member, one vote, i.e. you have only one vote no matter how many shares you have bought.

The shares will not increase in price beyond their original value, and could reduce in value if the business fails; however it is generally recognised that having a village shop adds value to your home, and 96% of all community shops are still in existence.

We hope to pay a 2% rate of interest on shares, subject to achieving cash surplus in the shop. Any interest paid in any one year is to be approved by the Members at the AGM.

Shares cannot be sold but can be transferred on death or bankruptcy.

You may withdraw your shares after 3 years at the discretion of the Management Committee (*see the legal statements*).

The legal structure confers limited liability i.e. if the business fails the most you stand to lose is the value of your shares.

SOCIAL INVESTMENT TAX RELIEF (SITR)

As a Community Benefit Society we qualify for Investment Scheme status for tax relief of 30%.

To qualify, you must be a UK income tax payer and hold the shares for 3 years.

If you are a tax-payer tick the box on the application form, as you may be able to reclaim 30% of the value of your investment from HMRC.

It is the responsibility of each individual investor to make their own enquiries and to satisfy themselves as to their eligibility for such tax relief.

More information about this scheme can be found by searching for Social Investment Tax Relief on www.hmrc.gov.uk/

LEGAL STATEMENTS OF THE SOCIETY'S RULES REGARDING SHARE CAPITAL

- 1) The shares have of a value of £50 each.
- 2) Application for shares shall be made to the Management Committee and is subject to any maximum permitted by law. Shares shall be paid for in full on application.
- 3) The minimum shareholding shall be one share. The Society may from time to time make a public share offer and any such share offer may specify the minimum number of shares.
- 4) Shares are not transferable except on death or bankruptcy and may be withdrawn in accordance with the following rules:
 - 4.1) Shares may be withdrawn by members who have held them for a minimum of three years or such other period as the Management Committee decides;
 - 4.2) Application for withdrawal shall be made on not less than three months' notice on a form approved by the Management Committee;
 - 4.3) The Management Committee may specify a maximum total withdrawal for each financial year;
 - 4.4) All withdrawals must be funded from trading surpluses or new share capital raised from members and are at the discretion of the Management Committee having regard to the long-term interests of the Society, the need to maintain prudent reserves, and the Society's commitment to community benefit.
 - 4.5) All withdrawals shall be paid in the order in which the notices were received up to any maximum total withdrawal specified for the financial year, following which no further withdrawals may be made;
 - 4.6) Except where a member intends to terminate their membership, they shall not be permitted to withdraw shares leaving them with less than the minimum required by the rules;
 - 4.7) The Management Committee may waive the notice required for a withdrawal and may make a direct payment to be made without notice or on such short notice as it considers appropriate;
 - 4.8) The Management Committee may suspend the right to withdraw either wholly or partially and either indefinitely or for a fixed period. The suspension shall apply to all notices of withdrawal which have been received and remain unpaid at the time. Where suspension is for a fixed period it may be extended from time to time by the Management Committee;

4.9) During any period when the right to withdrawal has been suspended the shares of a deceased member may, if the Management Committee agrees, be withdrawn by their personal representatives on giving such notice as the Management Committee requires;

4.10) The Society may deduct such reasonable sum to cover administration costs of withdrawal from the monies payable to a member on the withdrawal of shares.

5) The Society may (but is under no obligation to) pay interest to holders of shares as compensation for the use of such funds subject to the following:

5.1) Any payment of interest must be from trading surpluses and is at the discretion of the Management Committee having regard to the long term interests of the Society, the need to maintain prudent reserves and the Society's commitment to community benefit;

5.2) The rate of interest to be paid in any year is to be approved by resolution of the members at the Annual Members' Meeting and shall not exceed 2% above the base rate of the Bank of England from time to time;

5.3) The Management Committee may decide that interest shall not be paid in relation to holdings of shares below a minimum level.

6) On the solvent winding up of the Society holders of shares will have no financial entitlement beyond the payment of outstanding interest and repayment of paid up share capital;

7) In the event that a member resigns from membership, is removed from the register of Members, or is expelled in accordance with the rules, shares held by them at the date of resignation, removal or expulsion shall thereupon become a loan, repayable to the former member by the Society. The terms of repayment shall be those applying to the withdrawal of share capital set out in the Rules and notice of withdrawal shall be treated as having been given at the point of resignation, removal or expulsion.

For further information contact the Secretary, Pauline Dixon
Severn View Farm, Inglestone Common, GL9 1BS
Telephone: 01454 299236
Email: pcdixon@waitrose.com

HAWKESBURY COMMUNITY SHOP LTD

(COMMUNITY BENEFIT SOCIETY No 7296)

SHARE APPLICATION FORM

As a resident of the parish of Hawkesbury Upton, or a person who has a connection with the village, you are invited to help us develop a vital asset in Hawkesbury by applying for shares in Hawkesbury Community Shop. We are looking to raise £15,000 to help us refurbish the front and provide disabled access.

The shares are allocated in units of £50 and anyone over the age of 18 may buy up to 50 shares (or top up their existing shareholding to 50). By buying a share you automatically become a member of the Community Benefit Society and you will be eligible to vote at its Annual General Meeting (AGM).

I wish to purchase _____ share(s) of £50 each

Name

Address

Postcode Email Phone

I enclose a cheque for the sum of £ _____ payable to:

‘Hawkesbury Community Shop Ltd’.

I agree to be bound by the Rules of the Society (*see page 3*). I am over 18 years old.

I **am/am not** a tax payer and am interested in reclaiming tax. (*Delete as applicable*)

Signed Date.....

Please note that your contact details will only be used to communicate with you on shop business e.g. to send you notice of our AGM or other shareholder correspondence. **It will not be supplied to third parties. We are asking for email addresses to help reduce our ongoing costs of communication.**

Please return this form by 15th January 2018 with your cheque made payable to Hawkesbury Community Shop Ltd

Either: drop it off in the box in the Shop. (*Additional forms may be copied from this one*); or post to Pauline Dixon, Severn View Farm, Inglestone Common, Hawkesbury Upton, GL9 1BS

Please feel free to contact The Secretary, Pauline Dixon, if you have any questions.

Email: pcdixon@waitrose.com

Tel: 01454 299236