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**From:****Sent:** 13 June 2013 09:34**To:** Pubs Consultation Responses**Cc:****Subject:** My personal experience with Enterprise Inns

Hi,

I just wanted to drop an email to you to describing my experiences with Enterprise Inns so far. It all started back in April 2011 when we took our first look at our current pub. We contacted Enterprise Inns and expressed a little interest. With no added pressure a meeting was arranged for the Area Manager to meet us there and to have a look around. We had a rather informal meeting and were given all the time we needed to see what we needed to. After showing further interest a more formal meeting / interview was arranged where it became clear we had the same view in mind in how we could take this closed pub forward. It needed a rather large investment as it was very tired which Enterprise Inns made and then arranged for the builders and designers to get to work. They also lent us the money for the fixtures and fittings so we could carry out the work to a high standard. We agreed a monthly payback scheme which was very reasonable and affordable over a 3 year time scale which was great as there was no way in the world the banks would lend a publican in the excess of £40,000 to invest in a pub in the current climate. We didn't actually take over our pub and open it until September the same year so we certainly were not rushed or pushed in to anything.

The outcome of all this is we now have a great looking pub in the centre of a popular picturesque village. If it wasn't for Enterprise Inns there is no way we could have afforded a pub like what we have now. My partner and I have been in the pub trade all our working lives and have done nothing else and I think it is fair to say that if Enterprise have the trust in the licensee's to protect their investment and can see a return then they will. I think there are too many Manager's within this trade that go in to it blind, they are fulfilling a life long dream during semi retirement and with all best intentions they actually do not know how to run a pub. By the time they realise this, sadly it is too late and they are buried and find it difficult to get out as not many people want to take over a pub that is loosing money. And finally when this does happen - it is everyone else's fault but their own!

Regards

Manager of The Wheatsheaf in Croston

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