



DECEMBER 2020

In light of the Government announcement, today 26th November 2020, that Herefordshire will be placed in Tier 2 from December 2 2020. Jed and I have taken the tough decision to only continue with Friday Night Takeaways for the foreseeable future.

Whilst we are allowed to open, the restrictions mean that it is economically unviable to do so. Households are not allowed to mix indoors and alcohol can only be served with a substantial meal. We have been and continue to be a pub that serves food rather than a restaurant that serves beer. The majority of our clientele are locals that meet up with other locals over a drink. Whilst there are a number of regulars that do have meals with us, it is not enough to warrant restocking the cellar and all the costs associated with it.

These Government restrictions mean that we cannot offer the experience of a social hub that people expect from a rural pub, with folk at its heart. Opening for a couple of tables of diners, who cannot mix with one another, doesn't give a very nice atmosphere, both for the diners and the landlords. The atmosphere comes from the social hub-bub going on around, and the ability for individuals, couples or families to come in and meet with others (sometimes the only social interaction some people have with others outside of their home), within a Covid secure location. We have done all that has been asked of us in this pandemic and are constantly being penalised for it, both as a business and a community.

Rest assured, at the present time we are not going anywhere and not planning to shut permanently. As we say, takeaways will still be offered on a Friday night and as and when circumstances allow us to open again, we will.

In addition, we will be opening our Emporium. All our current stock is available to view online under 'Emporium Gallery' but our physical shop (the building in the car park) will be open for physical viewing, in line with Covid restrictions. Please do give us a call, or message, to ensure that we are around before you pop up. This is stocking a range of locally made arts and crafts, produce, etc. We have a number of great Christmas decorations, present ideas, crackers and gin.....

Keep safe and keep well.

Allie and Jed
(26th November 2020)