

Historic pub and hotel could be revived more than a decade after closing

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It was a much-loved venue that evokes memories aplenty over many decades.

Yet after calling last orders in 2009 a pub and hotel steeped in history has remained boarded up on the High Street in Lowestoft ever since.

But now the spotlight has been shone on The Crown Hotel once more - as urgent calls for action are made over a building that dates back to the 17th Century.

A well-attended meeting in Lowestoft discussed the sorry rundown state that the Grade II listed building has been left in.

Lowestoft MP Jess Asato joined with local historians, numerous community groups, stakeholders as well as officials from East Suffolk Council, Lowestoft Town Council, Lowestoft Vision and Historic England last Friday.

They united outside the Crown Hotel in Lowestoft to highlight the cultural, historical and economic importance of the venue - and collectively agreed on the urgent need to secure its future.

After being extended and altered in the 19th Century, a range of outbuildings - formerly stables -



Lowestoft MP Jess Asato at the meeting to discuss The Crown Hotel in Lowestoft.
Image: JESS ASATO'S OFFICE

feature at the back of the hotel.

Between 1988 and 1999 these outbuildings were used as the former Scotties Brewery - also known as Scott's Brewery Company - but like the hotel they are now also in poor condition.

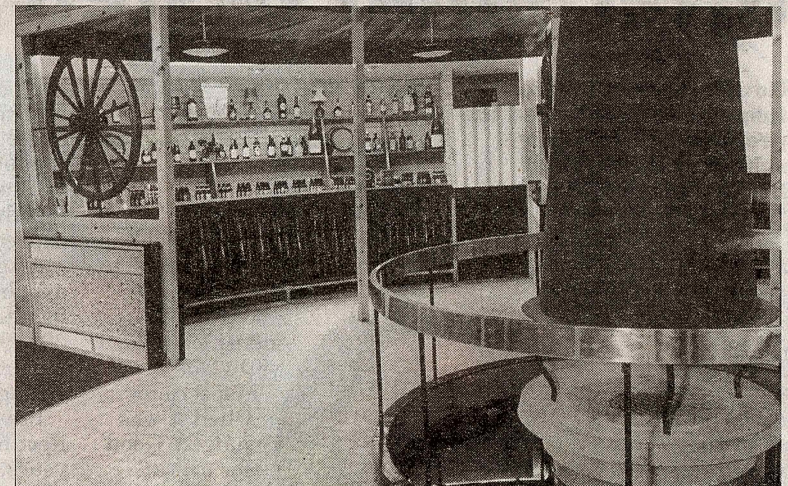
The Crown Hotel was first listed as a Grade II building in October 1977.

After a six-month closure during the second half of 2008, the pub reopened but following a short period of trading it shut its doors for the last time in April 2009.

After a walkabout highlighted the hotel's rich architectural legacy and its prominent role in Lowestoft's past, The Crown Hotel - located at 150 High Street - has been hailed as a landmark building.

Having hosted grand events and celebrations - as it featured dancefloors, function rooms and an ever popular Rotunda Bar - those present discussed the enormous potential that reviving the venue could have alongside the regeneration of the nearby Town Hall.

The meeting then moved to the



The Rotunda Bar at The Crown Hotel in Lowestoft in the 1960s.

Image: NEWSQUEST ARCHIVES

Mayfly Café, with calls being made to act quickly to save the fabric of the building and make sure the site was rescued.

It concluded with a series of agreed actions, as Ms Asato agreed to convene a meeting with the current owner to explore viable options for the building's future, while the current condition of the building will also be assessed.

Admitting it was "great to see so much passion for Lowestoft's heritage", afterwards Ms Asato said: "It was inspiring to see so many

people come together who care deeply about The Crown Hotel.

"It's clear that this building isn't just bricks and mortar—it's a vital part of Lowestoft's heritage and its future.

"I'm committed to working with the owner and local residents to ensure we find a positive way forward.

"The event served as a proactive step toward preserving an iconic building and ensuring it plays a central role in the town's continued revival."