

Tuesday 17th December 2019 (from Oxford Mail)



The ground floor of a village pub in Wheatley is on fire, with six fire engines at the scene.

Surrounded by thick smoke, fire fighters can be seen outside of the King's Arms pub on Church Road.

A spokesperson for Hawthorn Leisure, the company that operates the pub, said: "We'd like to thank the fire service for their swift response to the fire at the Kings Arms. Fortunately all staff are safe, and as the fire started before the pub had opened, no customers were affected. We are working with the fire service to identify the cause of the fire."

Emergency services from Wheatley, Rewley Road, Slade and Thame arrived at the pub after an emergency call to Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service at 11:55am today.

A rescue tender and a hydraulic platform also arrived from Kidlington.

Later news was that the pub will remain closed for several months due to a ground floor fire last week. No one was injured during the incident at The King's Arms, Wheatley on December 17 but a spokesperson for Hawthorn Leisure, the company that manages the pub, said the fire caused structural damage to the building. He confirmed the pub will remain closed while it undergoes repairs.

He added: "Throughout that time we'll continue to work with our pub partner to provide her with all the support she needs, and we will carry out a full refurbishment to make sure that when it reopens, The King's Arms is once again a thriving community hub for the village of Wheatley."

Hawthorn Leisure were unable to give an exact date for the re-opening.