After Beowulf's death, Wiglaf addresses the tribe in lines 2910 and following. He and his people clearly assume that they are doomed without Beowulf. Why is that? You can see the answer by looking at the tribal genealogies and noting who killed whom when. How many tribes are there with a reason to kill the Danes and Waegmundings?

Hygelac was a real historical figure. He raided the Franks in 522 AD, which the poem mentions in line 2913. The Franks have powerful allies like the Hetware tribe and the Frisians or Jutes. The poem also mentions a war with the Frisians in lines 2354+ and 2503+. By the end of the poem, the only thing preventing these tribes from seeking vengeance is Beowulf's fearsome reputation.

Beowulf is introduced early in the poem as a Geat. However, as he is dying, he reveals that he is actually a Waegmunding as well in lines 2813-16. That is the same tribe as Wiglaf. He then decides to leave the throne to Wiglaf. However, his absence is no longer a deterrent to other tribes, and the blood-feud against Wiglaf's father will now fall upon the Danes, since they are led by a Waegmunding.

Wiglaf inherits Beowulf's throne, and thus the Geats will inherit the Waegmunding/Swede bloodfeud. To rub the point home, the poet has Wiglaf use the same sword to kill the dragon that Weohstan used to kill Eanmund.