

Neighbourhood Plan Consultation May 2016

We would like to thank everyone who filled in the shop related part of the recent Neighbourhood Plan consultation questionnaire. We much appreciate the overwhelming vote of confidence in the community shop.

The overall picture is that the Shop is doing well in providing a service to the village and it would be much missed if it were lost. So a big thank you to all our customers, the wonderful volunteers who give their time so freely and John, our shop manager, who keeps us ticking along.

It is clear that most people want the Shop to stay where it is or in the same central area. The overall message from the responses rules out a move to the northern end of the village near the school. The allotment site is an area to be considered but there are a number of practical issues to be addressed before any decision can be made. The idea of moving to the grassy area by the pub belonging to Greene King is a good one, but Greene King has previously said it does not wish to sell this area.

Whilst we agree a post office facility would be nice, it would require space that we don't currently have. There would also be staffing and security implications. But should the Shop move to a bigger premises in the future, some sort of post office service might be possible. In the meantime the Shop will continue to sell books of 1st and 2nd class stamps.

Running of a café is a nice idea but again the implications do not make it a viable option at present. Again our current location does not give us the space needed for such a project and the practicalities also present many hurdles. A simpler option, again space permitting, might be some seating for people to sit and enjoy their hot or cold drink or ice-cream bought in the Shop.

There were several comments in the responses about extending our opening hours. As we are staffed by volunteers over four shifts each day, it would be difficult to ask them to cover a further shift in the evening; it would also mean we would need quite a few more. We always welcome new volunteers to our team, so if you are interested please see John in the Shop.

Radley Village Shop – Management Committee
August 2016