

Notes from Post Office possibilities Meeting 2

1. Present there were 10 people present including the Sub Postmistress, Cllrs Coldrick and Hather and the Council Clerk

2. There were five apologies (all people willing to support any action but not able to form the CIC* necessary)

(Names are not given here for residents as that would be against GDPR).

-There was nothing new to report on potential sale of the Post Office and Shop.

-The query was raised whether we need a Post Office, but banks are closing, so cash services are vital for some people. At present the Post Office has cash delivered once a fortnight.

Query - a visiting van cannot take over the current business. Business is not transferable. At present the business is open 26.5 hours a week. Vans can't do car tax or have travel facilities. A van could possibly come twice a week.

-The Post Office is sending someone in the next few weeks to look at other premises.

-Since the last meeting no-one has come forward to take on setting up a *Community Interest Company (CIC) to buy and run the Post Office. It takes 6 months to be trained.

-A CIC needs at least 4 committed people to function. Without a core group that can set up a company, manage and operate the Post Office, the project is not practical. A proper business plan would be needed for both the CIC and the Post Office authorities.

Query – separating the shop from the Post Office – always a possibility but would still need a small group of committed people. The shop is important to the community too.

-There is the potential for the shop part of the building to be leased and then the house part rented out. Building works would be needed and fire and security reviewed.

-It was suggested that a blunt message on a poster is needed, asking people to step forward to create a CIC. The people present confirmed that no-one in the room could take this on due to existing commitments or age.

The *meeting closed at 6.50pm*