



Flitwick Town Council

Press Release

16th November 2022

Flitwick Post Office

Since becoming aware of the proposed intention to close the Post Office on the High Street, the Town Council has spent a considerable amount of time looking at what could be done to retain this service in Flitwick, including discussions with Central Bedfordshire Council, the Post Office Limited and other interested parties.

At the September Town Council meeting, members agreed to continue a dialogue with Post Office Limited to investigate the possibility of the Council taking over the Post Office and moving it to The Rufus Centre.

Having had these discussions and having produced a top-line assessment of the financial implications, a detailed report was presented for consideration at The Town Council meeting last night (15th November).

Without any supporting peripheral retail offer, such as the sale of newspapers and magazines, losses were estimated to be more than £20,000 per year or approximately £1.33 on each transaction, even if all existing customers continued to use the proposed service at the Rufus Centre, which seems highly unlikely.

Another hurdle would be the need for the Town Council to create a separate Community Interest Company to run any such venture, which would require additional funding and staffing.

Members concluded that all proposed options presented would result in the Council making a significant loss in running the service, requiring it to be subsidised by an increase in council tax at a time when household finances are under pressure from the current cost of living crisis.

After discussion and due consideration, Members agreed that it was not financially viable for the Council to run a Post Office service. The Town Council will continue to do whatever else it can to support the retention of a Post Office service in Flitwick for residents and businesses.

Ends.

Further information contact:

Beverley Jones

Tel: 01525 631900

Email: beverleyjones@flitwick.gov.uk