

Derry Hill Post Office

1. Background

A post office has been part of Derry Hill Stores on Church Road for decades and provides an important local service for Derry Hill and Studley and many nearby villages.

The Post Office closed temporarily in March 2020, when the previous postmaster decided to retire. It re-opened again in March 2022, under the current postmaster, Mr Rahn Heer. A new, purpose-built shop is currently being constructed alongside the present building.

The Post Office currently has the status of being a “partner site”, subordinate to the “local branch” post office in Christian Malford.

2. Proposal

The current postmaster is seeking to make to get the Derry Hill Post Office made into a local branch and is confident that it has the customers and turnover to support this.

Gaining “local branch” status would enable a greater range of services to be provided. It would also make the post office more sustainable in the long term. (Should the current postmaster retire in the future, a local branch would be a more attractive proposition to a new postmaster than a partner branch would be.)

The Parish Council has been asked to support the request for local branch status and, if necessary, to help mobilise wider community support.

3. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council supports the request for the Derry Hill Post Office to be granted local branch status, by writing to the regional Post Office management, and, if necessary, seeking further support from our elected representatives and/or raising a community petition.

Cllr John Barnes