

Ilsington Community Shop Newsletter No.1 - December 2009

As I am sure some of you will know, the Community Shop Project, in conjunction with the Village Hall, reached an exciting moment in its fledgling career when Dartmoor National Park finally granted permission for construction of a new annexe to house the shop and a meeting room.

With this all-important permission in place, we are now ready to get on with the next phase - raising funds.

There are several different possible sources of grants and loans aimed at just such a project as ours and, working closely with the Village Hall Committee, we will be applying for as many of them as we can. This is where your help and support becomes even more important - many of the institutions we will be applying to will be looking very closely at the strength of local support when making their decisions. Evidence of a united and supportive community is (rightly) considered crucial to the viability of the whole scheme. If we can show that the community is strongly in favour of the shop, it makes for a considerably better case. With this in mind we are aiming to raise in the region of £20,000, which will then be matched and supplemented by further grants.

Here is how you can get involved;

Become a Shareholder

All Community Shops must have "shareholders" - namely anyone wishing to buy a share in the shop. Share sales, whilst not a major fundraiser, provide the first all-important bedrock of local involvement. The shares cost £5 each and can be bought by as many members of the household as would like them. Even if a recent win on the Euro Lottery means you generously choose to buy several thousand shares, each individual is still only entitled to one vote. Being a shareholder gives you a stake in your local shop and the right to attend the Annual General Meeting and have a say in how the shop is run. You can print a Share Application Form by [clicking here](#) or obtain one from the post office.

Fund Raising Events

We are planning to organise some fund raising events over the next several months and would appreciate as much support as possible - if anyone has any ideas for a good fund raising function, please let us know! Details of the forthcoming events will be posted on the Ilsington Parish website: -

www.ilsingtonparish.co.uk, advertised locally and in the Parish Magazine, and on the Village Hall website: - www.ilsingtonvillagehall.co.uk.

Donations

We now have a dedicated bank account for the scheme and have already been fortunate enough to raise nearly £1000 Still a long way to go but a very promising start and if anyone wishes to make it even more with an individual donation, please contact either Sue Norris on 01364-661128 or send a cheque made out to Ilsington Village Shop to Sue at 17 Town Meadow, Ilsington, Newton Abbot TQ13 9RY.

Slate the New Roof

The new roof will need somewhere in the region of 2,500 slates and we are offering the unique opportunity to buy one (or several!) for £2 each, which will then have your name and the date written on the back before being used on the roof.

Shop Staff

The shop will be staffed by a volunteer crew plus a salaried part time manager to oversee the day to day running and provide some organisational continuity. We do have a list of those of you who expressed an interest at our first meeting last year but would welcome any new interest as the bigger the workforce, the less onerous each member's commitment need be.

The Committee will continue updating the Parish website with regard to the progress of the project. The Community Shop and the meeting room will be a huge benefit both for individuals and the village as a whole so I do hope you feel you can help make this happen.

If you would like to buy shares, tiles or make a donation, please print a form by clicking [here](#).

If you would like more information, please contact Alan Hobbs on 01364 661576.