



BRANTHAM Parish Council

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CO11 1TL

Sarah Keys
Clerk to the Council

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Post Office Ltd

21 September 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Closure of Brantham Post Office

It has come to the attention of Brantham Parish Council that the Brantham Co-operative is proposing to close its branch of the Post Office, despite the significant investment that has been made in this branch over recent years.

The Parish Council have received many queries from local residents via email, social media and at our Parish Council meeting highlighting how concerned residents are about the loss of this service in our village, particularly for the elderly and/or infirm who may not otherwise be able to travel to access a Post Office branch.

As you may know Brantham is a thriving, and potentially growing village with a diverse population. There has been a Post Office in Brantham for many years and it has been a service that is well-used by many members of the community.

We have contacted the East of England Co-operative about this closure who have informed us that they have been working with yourselves to try to find a sustainable solution going forward, but that at this time this has not been possible.

To date (despite being closed for some weeks now) the Post Office counter in Brantham is usually open from 7am until 10pm. Although welcome, these opening hours are by no means necessary, and the Parish Council believes that Brantham residents would rather have limited Post Office opening hours, instead of having no Post Office at all, perhaps 9am – 5pm, or even mornings only? Perhaps by reducing the opening hours concerns about sustainability could be resolved - it seems ludicrous that the Post Office Counter should close completely because its current opening hours cannot be sustained. By reducing opening hours the needs of all those involved could surely be met?

I am therefore writing to you to urge you to re-open your negotiations with the East Of England Co-op to try to find a solution to this issue so that residents in Brantham can continue to utilise a service that has been in our village for many years.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you further, and if you would like to contact me you can telephone me on the number at the top of this letter.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Yours Sincerely,

Sarah Keys

Parish Clerk (Brantham)

cc. Babergh District Councillors Alastair McCraw & Harriet Steer
Suffolk County Councillor Dave Wood
MP James Cartlidge