

The Friends of Briantspuddle Post Office and Shop Association Ltd

Notes of Committee meeting held on 8 December 2025 at Cruck Cottage

Present: Peter Head, Richard Killer, Peter Martin, Chris Miller, Jo Neudegg and Lesley Wilcox (Secretary).

- 1. Apologies for absence:** none required.
- 2. Notes of last meeting on 27.10.25:** approved.
- 3. Treasurer's report**

Peter M had already circulated the draft accounts for the year ending 31.10.25. These showed a small increase in the value of sales, an increase in gross profit but a reduction in net profit to £440, an increase in the cash in bank and an increase in overheads. A few queries on the accounts were raised; Peter will look into these. The accounts had been produced using FreeAgent; this had been easier and quicker than last year.

The November accounts were still being produced but showed sales in November of £5,200 with £19,500 in the bank.

4. Replacement Treasurer

The FCA rules have no restriction on who can file accounts, ie that person does not have to be formally qualified.

Jo is confident that she will be able to produce the monthly accounts but would like another person to have access to the bank account and take a second look at the accounts. Some outside help will be required to produce the end of year accounts and their interpretation.

5. Newspaper sales

It had recently been found that Spar had withdrawn the 10% discount that they used to give us. This means a significant loss in income for the shop, ie in 2023/24 we received £1,800 discount. The various options were discussed.

Peter H had spoken to the Co-op at Crossways. Whilst they would supply papers to us they would not accept newspaper vouchers. Nisa at Bere Regis had previously supplied papers to us for a period when Spar were closed; they would accept the vouchers but not give us a discount.

It was agreed that, although providing newspapers produced a significant amount of work for

volunteers, there would be a considerable loss of goodwill should we stop with the associated risk of a fall in sales of other items.

After considerable discussion it was agreed to introduce a subscription charge on 1.1.26 of £10 pa regardless of the number of newspapers bought. All customers will be advised shortly.

6. Maintenance Plan

Chris had met with David Neudegg, Chair of the Parish Council. No maintenance work for the coming year was identified.

7. Working group with other parish organisations: A further meeting had been held. No action specifically for the Shop & PO. There is a report in the December issue of the Parish magazine.

8. Volunteers and Operations

No problems to report.

9. AGM 2026

To be held on 13.3.26 (subject to hall availability).

10. Any Other Business

None.

11. Dates of next meetings

12.1.26 and 2.3.26.

Lesley Wilcox

Secretary