



July 2010

Give us back our Post Office!

Since our Post Office closed at the end of April strenuous efforts have been made to try to secure a reinstatement of the lost service. Discussions with Post Office Ltd – the responsible organisation – have revealed that, although Prestbury’s Post Office met the criteria for continued operation set down in the recent regional review, Post Office management have determined that a Post Office service in Prestbury will only be offered on a reduced scale – in terms both of the range of services available and the level of remuneration for the operator. This in itself seems to us to be grossly unfair to the residents of Prestbury.

The revised model envisaged by Post office Limited – called “Post Office Essentials” - provides only a basic level of service and, most importantly, provides the operator with an income entirely based upon turnover which, on PO Ltd’s own estimates, will provide less than half of the remuneration that was paid to previous sub-post-masters. Although a number of individuals have expressed an interest in running a service, none is able to make a viable business case based upon these numbers.

It is our belief that there is a strong desire among residents for a Post office in Prestbury and that a successful business can be re-established in the village. The intransigent position of Post office Ltd makes it most unlikely that this will be possible. Yet if Post Office Ltd were willing to enter into a proper dialogue aimed at returning the full range of Post Office services that Prestbury used to enjoy or to agreeing a package that is realistic for the particular business circumstances of our community would surely result in a successful business both for the residents of Prestbury and Post office Ltd.

We need to be sure of your support. Please fill in the details below to register the support of those in your household and drop it off at either the Village Pharmacy or the Co-op. Alternatively, you can reply on-line at www.prestburyvillage.com. Please act now – before it is too late.

Richard Comber, Chairman
Prestbury Parish Council

David Rutley, MP
Member of Parliament for Macclesfield

I/we urge Post Office Ltd to return the full Post Office service to Prestbury or to enter into serious negotiations aimed at providing a reduced service that will be viable within the business environment of Prestbury.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Address</u>