

# Aston Community Shop

## Progress update

Following the 'Stop press' insert in the last issue of Voices, work behind the scenes has continued and we are inching ever closer towards realising the vision of a new Community Shop in Aston, in the premises of the former Aston Stores.

A member of the village community is in the process of buying the building, with the purpose of renting it to the new Aston Community Shop, which will be registered as a Community Interest Company. It is hoped that the sale will be completed by the end of March.

There are still hurdles to overcome, but we have been greatly encouraged by the support we have received so far and promises of future help. We aim to open the shop after all the legal requirements have been fulfilled, the premises have been re-fitted and ample stock has been purchased.

As a venture aimed at enhancing village life for the whole community, we welcome all kinds of support. Using the contact details below, please continue to send in your pledges, financial or otherwise.

**We aim to open the new shop in early April**

To have a chance of achieving this, we need your...

...time

...skills

...support

...goodwill

If you can offer any help, please get in touch without delay. Contact details below.

**Thank you** if you have already offered your support as a volunteer.

However, if the shop has a chance of being open for the hours we would like, the stark fact is we will need more volunteers. Do you have a few spare hours weekly, fortnightly or monthly? Please let us know.

If you have pledged your time verbally, please can you put it in writing in a short note or email, including your contact details. Thank you!

## A note on share purchases

A share purchase is an investment in your community and not initially for financial gain. The primary aim is to develop the shop to make it a viable and valued amenity for the village. However, dividends to shareholders may be payable after the first year of trading, depending on profitability.

## Could you be one of our LOCAL suppliers?

We would love to hear from you if you have a product or service that would be appropriate for the new ACS.

Current progress can be monitored via social media and on our temporary website:  
[www.link-onweb.co.uk](http://www.link-onweb.co.uk)

## ACS Steering Group:

Judy Eames  
Richard Lincoln  
Paul Read  
Martin Smith  
Liz Wilson

**80% of our £15,000 target has been pledged so far. Please continue to send in your pledges of ALL KINDS of support, using the contact details below.**

We are very aware that not everyone has access to email or the internet. We have a dedicated phone number and, as soon as we can, we will post regular updates in the shop window.

## CONTACT US

Phone 0330 509 051

Facebook @astoncommunityshop

Email [acs@astoncommunityshop.co.uk](mailto:acs@astoncommunityshop.co.uk)

Website [www.astoncommunityshop.co.uk](http://www.astoncommunityshop.co.uk) (currently under construction)