

## Pitton Community Shop Update – June 2026



### Progress

I am sure that the majority of you have seen the progress on the shop build as you walk or drive past. It's looking good!

RV Dart the Builders are handing over the keys to us on the 29<sup>th</sup> June (you may spot us at the shop taking photos for the Salisbury Journal). We are delighted to have reached this major milestone.

### Internal work

Over the past few days the flooring has been laid (see picture above). Once we have the key we can begin fitting out the shop and office. Some of the fixtures are being built onsite and others are purchased and ready to be installed. Broadband and EPOS systems are selected and ready to be implemented.

There is still rather a lot to do before we open, but it does feel as though we are on the home straight towards opening. We will let you know about our launch events nearer the time.

### We've got lots to share

We are holding two information sessions in Pitton Village Hall on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 7 p.m. and 26<sup>th</sup> July at 2 p.m. We have lots of information we would like to share with you about everything from opening hours, to staffing, services and volunteering.

Over the last few months we've been planning how the shop will operate on a day-to-day basis. We know that we will have to make some educated guesses on customer demand and produce over the first six months and we would welcome your comments and suggestions if you can attend one of the above dates. We would also love some help planning our launch events!

We especially welcome anyone who would like find out more about volunteering in the shop. No experience is necessary, just a wish to help make our new shop a welcoming and friendly place for shopping and catching up with neighbours over a cup of tea.

Please contact me on [lornatayloruk@icloud.com](mailto:lornatayloruk@icloud.com) if you cannot attend one of our information events but would like to find out more or volunteer some time.

### Staffing

We are pleased to announce that we have recruited Jonathan Gee as manager for the shop. Jonathan has a huge amount of retail experience with companies such as Majestic and Waitrose as well as long-standing links to the local community. Jonathan will start his role on 1<sup>st</sup> July and we look forward to getting him involved in all of the pre-opening tasks such as

working with local suppliers, stocking the shop, getting the IT systems up and running and ensuring that all the daily processes are in order.

We have also recently advertised for an Assistant Manager and we are particularly interested in applications from local people. You can find out more from our web site. <https://pittoncommunitystore.org/job-opportunities/>. The closing date is the end of June.

### **Post Office and Licensing**

We are in the process of completing all the detailed checks that the Post Office require. The business case, vetting of Board members and general paperwork has been completed and the next stage is a 'suitability' interview for two Board members next week. Brian Cudby will be our Postmaster and will, along with our managers and selected volunteers, complete the official Post Office training courses.

And as if we hadn't completed enough paperwork to last a lifetime, we are also in the process of gaining the licence needed to sell alcohol on the premises.

### **Additional info for Members**

If you are a taxpayer and you purchased community shares in the shop, you may be eligible for up to 50% tax relief on your share purchase via the government's Seed Enterprise Investment Scheme (SEIS). The certificate and claim forms have been received from HMRC and issued to those who have requested them so far. If you would like a claim form, please send an email to [lornatayloruk@icloud.com](mailto:lornatayloruk@icloud.com).

Thankyou so much for your continued support.

Best wishes  
Lorna Taylor  
(on behalf of Pitton Community Shop)