

Clapham Community Shop Limited

March 2018



Dear All,

I couldn't find a picture of the shop in the snow but did find one of some local residents to illustrate how picturesque Clapham can be in the winter. Picturesque it may have looked this week but it has been a bit of a struggle managing the usual activities of daily living. Earlier in the week the schools were closed as well as a number of local businesses because of the severe weather. However, our Community Shop has managed to stay open despite the snow, ice, gale force winds and deliveries that did not arrive or were delayed. Added to all this was dealing with the year end when every item in the shop needs to be counted (including the contents of the freezer – well done Tara!). This is all thanks to the excellent team of staff and volunteers who support us. It really has been a true community effort.

2018 has had an interesting start. Frustrations first. As you know the shop has developed a very successful takeaway food offer. When our original member of staff left, the post was advertised. We interviewed twice and appointed twice. In both cases the person appointed had to give backward for perfectly good reasons. We have, therefore, decided to try to cover this area with our staff and volunteer team. It has been quite a complex exercise and will entail people undertaking additional shifts and doing extra training. However, we do think that we have something we can run with now and it's a question of 'Watch this Space'.

Having got the frustrations out of the way, I would like to say how delighted we are with the refurbishment work which has taken place in the back room. Although it meant a couple of weeks when we couldn't use the kitchen and stock was in a variety of different places the end result has made it all worthwhile. It looks bright, clean and bigger. If you haven't seen it do call in if you can. Many thanks to Helen who 'master-minded' the strategic plan and everyone who moved things out and then moved them all back again! Once again, our landlord, the Ingleborough Estate, has been very generous with us and their project management of the building work was a great help.

As a result of the refurbishment we now have some of the original vintage items bought to bring character to the room which are surplus to requirements. They are listed at the end of this newsletter. If you are interested in any of them, please let me know.

Our next project will be the work to improve the space behind the counter. This will happen towards the end of March and I think it promises to be a great improvement in terms of both appearance and efficiency.

All of this has been made possible by the award we received from the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust which I mentioned in the last newsletter. I hope that you will agree that we are putting it to good use.

Another exciting thing which the Management Committee has been discussing is the establishment of our Community Fund. As you may remember, when the shop was set up it was agreed it should be run for the community and that once we had any surplus profits these would be used for the benefit of the people of Clapham cum Newby and Keasden. Over the last few months, the Management Committee has discussed how we can best deliver on that original promise and, we are pleased to say, that we think the shop is now sufficiently financially secure to launch a Community Fund to support people living in the parish.

We don't want to constrain ideas about the sort of thing the shop should support. We think a local need can be any problem or situation where something needs to change to make things better for a group of people, the environment or an organisation within our community.

Members will be able to apply to the Management Committee for funds to support their proposals which will benefit our whole community. In outline, we are proposing:

- 10% of the shop annual surplus will be set aside for the Community Fund;
- Applicants will have to show they are meeting a 'need' within the community and provide supporting information;
- There will be a standard application form, supported by at least two members;
- Applicants may be asked to identify an equivalent sum in cash or kind to match the shop contribution.

The Management Committee will then review and approve projects on behalf of the members, probably on a quarterly basis, taking into account the funds available. We will report on the projects funded and rejected at the AGM, so everyone can see and comment on what is being achieved.

At this stage, as the shop has limited funds, we think we should start slowly with some modest ideas. We will be publicising this in the Clapham Newsletter in due course but, before we do that, we would welcome your thoughts and ideas.

Finally, an administrative matter. Most of you have given us permission to contact you by email. This does make communication a lot easier as we do have almost 200 shareholders. However, changes to the General Data Protection Regulations mean that we will need to seek that permission again. At the moment we are not sure what form that will take but we will be in touch in due course.

In conclusion, thank you once again for supporting us. If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Sue Mann

Management Committee Chair

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Sale of 'Kitchenalia'

The items listed below are no longer needed since the refurbishment of the back room. We would like to sell them, if possible. The prices listed are what was paid originally.

If you are interested, please get in touch with Sue Mann (suemann.wyvern51@gmail.com) to view and/or make an offer.

Description	Price (£)	Description	Price (£)
19 milk bottles	57.00	Rectangular pine table	120.00
French wine carrier	33.00	8 misc tins including box of brick dust	10.00
Toffee tin	4.00	Glass flower vase	5.00
2 egg baskets	20.00	Tea caddy	5.00
Gondola basket	14.00	Enamel pan	3.00
Coffee maker	8.00	Scoop	5.00
Shopping basket	8.00	Misc box including scales, grater, etc.	10.00
Mincer	16.00	Wooden spoon	3.00
Whisk	5.00	Kitchen utensils plus holder	10.00
Hovis tray	29.00	Batterie de cuisine	10.00
Colander	5.00	Lyon sign	5.00
Pyrex rolling pin	7.00	Milk pan	2.00
Sugar shaker	4.00	Tea strainer	6.00
Horlicks jar	4.00	Flour sifter	5.00
Tala measure	5.00	Wire cooler	5.00
Cream bottle	4.00	Meat mallet	6.00
Milk ladle	7.00	Flour measure/sifter	6.00
Enamel mug	4.00	Pastry blender	6.00
6 pie dishes	6.00	Meat roaster/casserole?	18.00
6/7 loaf tins	6.00	Shoe polish (sign?)	44.00