

SAVE FELPHAM POST OFFICE

BY THE FRIENDS OF FELPHAM

We are all here in Felpham for different reasons. Some of us were born here, some returned after living away and others discovered Felpham and decided this was the place for us. What unites us all is our love of Felpham. Not just the sea, the open sky, its church, cafés, pubs, shops, businesses, societies and, of course, its cheerful dogs!! But us, its community. It's impossible to walk down the street without a cheery hello and friendly wave. We're very proud of our living, caring village. Felpham is a special place.

And at the centre of the village is the Village Post Office. On our doorstep, a convenient, familiar place to bank, mail post, return our Amazon packages, apply for passport and drivers' licences, get our newspapers, buy our cards and sweets, learn about local events, buy tickets ... and so, so much more.

The Village Post Office is the hub of the village. It's where people meet to chat, inside and out. Sit on the bench and watch the world go by. We can nip to the pop-up for a delicious bun or fragrant plants. And even if you don't use the Village Post Office much, we all know that the Post Office, sitting right in the heart of village, is the barometer of the health and vibrancy of our lovely community.

Felpham has had a post office since 1847. It was in Grassmere Cottage where the florist is now, on the modern Grassmere Parade. (A fascinating history of the Post Office has been drawn up by previous Post Master, Keith Hellyer.) Today, the Post Office is up for sale. A big thanks to Mark and all his fabulous helpers for his fantastic time there and for keeping us going through the pandemic and beyond.

We are in serious danger of losing this special asset. But all is not lost yet. We have an opportunity to save the Village Post Office and make it even more special and beneficial to the community. We, the community, purchase it through individual donations as a Community Interest Company.

It sounds daunting. It isn't. There are many thriving examples around Britain. GoFundMe contributions are secure under the GoFundMe guarantee. If we do not reach our target all funds are returned in full to you, the donor. More information and link at:

friendsoffelpham.org

Non-refundable cash payments will also be gratefully accepted. Enquire at the Post Office Counter. All contributions, no matter how much, will make a difference.

Time is of the essence as it always seems to be now. Here we have the opportunity to take charge of our story.

