

Debden Village Shop

Report for Annual Village Meeting 2014

Financial

Despite the continuing competition from the Supermarkets in the area, the turnover has been maintained at a reasonable level. The Shop has benefited from a number of grants and donations. The proceeds of the monthly 'Quiz Nights' at the Plough and surplus moneys from the annual Christmas Party in the Village Hall totalled some £300. A grant of £245 was received from Uttlesford District Council. Grants from the Searle Trust are mentioned below.

Opening Hours

Trading hours have been extended to take into account school opening times, and the Shop is now only closed for half an hour on weekday lunchtimes to take advantage of passing trade. Saturday opening has also changed to provide a continuous service through the lunch hour. Opening hours for the Post Office remain unchanged.

Staff

Karen Roper continues as Manager of the Shop. Trudie Taggart has taken on the role of Vice Chairman of the Management Committee. Jacqui Gunn continues to serve as Treasurer. During the year, several long serving volunteers have moved away or retired. New volunteers have come forward to take their place. We continue to value the help of our younger villagers at weekends and in the holiday periods.

Premises

A replacement heat exchanger was installed in April 2013 to provide better temperature control in the Shop. A staff toilet was incorporated into the Stockroom in October and November 2013, which resulted in shelving alterations. Both projects, totalling £5,600, were fully funded by the Searle Trust, to whom we are indebted. The Shop and Stockroom have been internally decorated and some rearrangement of the sales area has taken place.

Nina Manser
Chairman
DVS Management Committee

23rd April 2014