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# Village Shop Campaign News

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Newsletter for the local community campaign to keep a shop in Rushlake Green

Issue 2

## The race is on

The meeting and the survey (see issue 1) gave the campaign strong support for the creation of a community owned village shop. But with less than seven weeks before a possible auction of Daws Stores, the campaign group is now working flat out to put things in place. Work has already started on plans for how the funding could be achieved and on a business case for a sustainable going concern - a successful shop that can provide a valued service for Rushlake Green and the surrounding areas.

## Dates for your diary

We plan to launch our fund-raising activity at one or more meetings in the week of the 8<sup>th</sup> September. We are looking at **a possible meeting on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> with the potential for an additional meeting or meetings the following weekend**. These meetings will explain our proposed plan for taking on the shop, the costs, the funds to be raised, and the case for creating a lasting business. The meetings will then explain how local residents can contribute financially. Precise times and dates will be communicated soon.

## We need your help now

We have been overwhelmed by the support offered by so many people and we can now begin to focus that energy on making our campaign a success. We are beginning to identify specific areas where people can offer assistance – and we've got individuals in place to lead that effort. The following is a list of some of the areas where we need assistance and the people to contact if you think you can help.

Jamie Fairbairn and Ian Collett are leading the charge in developing business plans. Please contact us at our dedicated email address [rushlakegreenvillageshop@googlemail.com](mailto:rushlakegreenvillageshop@googlemail.com) if you have (or know someone who has) the following expertise to offer - **accountancy, retail management, shop management, interior/shop design, shop fitting** – or can help in other ways shown below:

As outlined in the meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> August, the likelihood is that we will be offering shares at an affordable level so that everyone in the community can co-own the shop. And whilst we'll be exploring a combination of loans, grants and charitable aid to help purchase the shop, we know that we'll still be depending partly on local people contributing whatever additional funds they can, through gifts or loans.

### **Wanted: Volunteers to help with door to door fund-raising**

The task will involve helping to get our message across to as many people as possible – particularly those not able to make the village meetings in person. If you'd like to help please contact: **Clyde Young. 01435 830 059 / or email [rushlakegreenvillageshop@googlemail.com](mailto:rushlakegreenvillageshop@googlemail.com), subject: "Fund-raising"**

We need to put a big effort into contacting charities for funding.

### **Wanted: Volunteers to help with finding and contacting charities**

Ideally volunteers will have some experience with charities or other agencies but we also need people with good general negotiating skills to help research, make contact and identify potential donor organizations. If you'd like to help please email [rushlakegreenvillageshop@googlemail.com](mailto:rushlakegreenvillageshop@googlemail.com), subject: "Charities"

### **Wanted: Volunteers to help update our contacts list**

We're looking for people with skills in word, excel and general web-based work to help us to keep our contact lists up to date. You'll need to work with us through base-camp, our online project centre.

If you'd like to help please contact: **Nigel McKeeman. 01435 830 574 / or email us, subject: "Admin"**

### **Wanted: Volunteers to help distribute newsletters and fund raising material**

We're looking for people with email and a printer, willing to print-out a handful of newsletters and distribute each issue to local houses. If you think you can help, please send an email listing the people / addresses you could deliver to locally (ideally 5 – 10) and we'll get back with confirmation, having checked for overlaps. If you'd like to help, contact: **Nigel McKeeman. 01435 830 574 / or email us, subject: "Local distribution"**

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[www.rushlakegreenvillageshop.co.uk](http://www.rushlakegreenvillageshop.co.uk) email [rushlakegreenvillageshop@googlemail.com](mailto:rushlakegreenvillageshop@googlemail.com)

You can also contact a member of the campaign group: Jamie & Catherine Fairbairn 830 502; Ian Collett 830 263; Jonathan Austin 830 280; Clyde Young 830 059; Nigel & Farideh McKeeman 830 574; Andy Long 830 164 :

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