

**The Friends of Briantspuddle Post Office and Village Shop  
Association Ltd.**

**Report to Affpuddle & Turnerspuddle Parish Council  
19 May 2017**

The first and most important item to record is our thanks to all members of the Parish Council for recognising and sponsoring the nomination of the whole team of Post Office and Shop volunteers for the Purbeck Volunteer of the Year Awards.

It has been a steady year in both the Post Office and the Village Shop.

There was a fall of 6% in sales/turnover in our last financial year. This followed two years of good growth and with sales of £35,000 this still compares well with recent years. There are indications of a further fall in the current financial year.

There was less need to spend on renewals and repairs and continued improvements in efficient control reduced our holding stock further. All these factors combined to produce the sort of modest surplus we seek, £305 after allowing for depreciation.

Margins have been maintained, there are no debts and there is an adequate balance in the bank to meet contingencies and to further develop and improve the shop as may be considered appropriate in the future

There were a few weeks of inconvenience when essential repairs to the Village Hall affected access to the shop. The shop stayed open throughout and we are grateful to customers for their support and understanding and to the Hall Committee and Robert, the contactor, for their thoughtfulness.

Our volunteer team naturally changes from time to time but this year saw the loss of some of our longest serving helpers. Sheila Kayll and Mary Sherwood took “early” retirement from counter duties both having served from the very beginning. John Solly, who was one of the group which set up the shop as a community enterprise 15 years ago, also chose to step down from the Committee and his role as income and expenditure controller ahead of his plans to leave the village.

New volunteers have come forward but the changes and other circumstances have meant that the counter team has been stretched on a number of occasions recently. Some have been willing to cover extra shifts and we are seeking more volunteers.

Overall the Post Office and Shop remains viable in all respects and will continue to provide a service for the community by the community.