

**THE CLAPHAM AND PATCHING COMMUNITY SHOP AND CAFE PROJECT
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2015**

I am pleased to present the first Annual Report following the inauguration of the Project and adoption of a Constitution in March 2014.

The Management Committee has worked steadily through the year and has met on a total of eight occasions. The Committee as elected comprised: Haydn Smith (Chairman), Angela Chapman (Hon. Treasurer), Giles Allen (Hon. Secretary), Edward Chapman, Jeff Kluckers, Yvette Fisher, Max Tooze-Hobson and Mike Cooper. Due to unexpected work commitments Mike resigned early on in the year, but has remained most supportive. The Committee also co-opted Neil Austine, as Neil has expertise in running the existing enterprise - 'The Junction'- and his input has been very useful.

Additional assistance has been forthcoming, particularly from Linda Cooper and Karl Anthony with regard to looking at funding options, and from other members of the local community. Yvette has very kindly produced regular Newsletters to provide information on progress.

A public exhibition was held in July 2014 to present some options for a new building and to obtain feedback. From feedback it was clear that most people preferred the concept of a replacement building within a village environment, and there was a clear preference for either a log-cabin type structure or a converted redundant shipping container. On this basis - and with the help of an Architect, who has agreed to help us without levying a fee - a pre-planning Application has been made to the South Downs National Park and we are awaiting the outcome.

Various fundraising events have been held during the year - a Funday Sunday, Quiz/Curry Night, Grand Christmas Raffle (first prize, a bike worth over £700, donated by Mike Cooper), Skool Days Quiz and Ukulele Night. Thanks to all those involved in the organisation, especially Kerrie and Terry Chinn, Vicki and Marc Pinnell, and Neil and Mark from 'The Junction'. Every single penny raised has gone towards the Project and well over £4000 is now in the coffers.

The next steps will be to obtain Planning Consent, obtain approval from the Trustees who administer the Clapham Recreation Ground and, equally importantly, obtain funding from appropriate grant-giving bodies and others. It is very likely that further fundraising locally will be required. We are exploring whether to form a Community Interest Company, both to attract funds and to enable shares to be issued. We may also promote a 'buy a brick' scheme or similar!

Finally, a big 'Thank You' to everyone who has contributed to the Project, participated in events and expressed their support. Without you the Project cannot succeed.

Haydn Smith, Chairman