



## NEWSLETTER

Clapham and Patching Community Shop Café Project (CPCSCP Ltd)

December 2017

### The Project's Position

As many readers will know, the Society and its predecessor Project Group have been trying to secure a lease to erect a new building on the site of the Junction for almost 4 years. We have obtained Planning Permission for a new building and spoken to all relevant authorities to pave the way for progress.

Unfortunately the Trustees who manage the Recreation Ground 'for the benefit of the Parishioners of Clapham' - have been unable to embrace all our proposals and have at times introduced what we regard as obstacles to progress. Whilst agreement in principle has now been reached in some areas, the Society takes the view that further progress is not possible, particularly with regard to the ground rent the Trustees propose to charge us.



Community Spirit

The Society does of course recognize that the present facility – so ably run by Neil and Mark, cannot generate sufficient surpluses to fund a new building. This is the main reason the Society was formed – to raise funds and erect a new building so that our precious amenity can continue for years to come.

The new operation would in no way be a full commercial operation as it would rely in part on volunteer labour (as is the case now) to man the shop/café. Nevertheless the Trustees intend to charge a ground rent which would rise from £1920 a year to possibly £3000 a year after three years. We do not feel this would be sustainable.

From now for the sake of transparency all relevant documents and correspondence will be available to interested parties at the Junction.

### The Public Meeting

At a packed, felt to be positive, public meeting on 1 December 2017 organized by the Society the present position was explained. Failure to make progress after such a considerable time meant the project would have to be disbanded, unless circumstances changed. We realize that this would be a great disappointment to many local people and have

therefore held back from this course of action for the time being. We will explore some useful suggestions made at the meeting in the hope that we can move forward.

If we fail to reach any sensible progress by 31st March 2018 it has been decided that CPCSCP Ltd will have to disband.

### What you can do

- Contact the Trustees with your views about what changes could be made and let them know how important you feel the shop/café is to the local community
- Use the existing facility—show you care and appreciate the wonderful offer currently there
- Tell your friends and family about the situation and enlist their support also

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A POSITIVE  
HAPPY NEW YEAR