



Auchencairn Shop / Café: Our options

JANUARY 2022

Where we are now?

Our village store and café is thriving!

- ▶ It is a social hub for the village
- ▶ It provides paid employment for local people
- ▶ It gives work experience to volunteers
- ▶ It supports the community with essential services
- ▶ It goes the extra mile, providing take-away meals and deliveries
- ▶ It hosts the Post Office

Why change?

- ▶ Our innovative, successful and much appreciated leaseholders are moving on
- ▶ As a community we need to decide the way forward
- ▶ Do we want a shop and cafe?
- ▶ Do we seek new leaseholders?
- ▶ Do we want to maintain the current shop and café as a community led business?

Where do you fit in?

We are looking to YOU to help by:-

- ▶ Reading the following information
- ▶ Deciding which way forward you think would provide most benefit to the village
- ▶ Giving us your decision to guide our next steps

Option 1- No shop and cafe

- ▶ The shop space in Heughan House, which is owned by the village, will need to be refitted at our expense for a different purpose and then re-let
- ▶ Income will be lost if the premises are not leased out in a timely way
- ▶ Residents and visitors will need to travel for all essential shopping
- ▶ Alternative premises will have to be found for the Post Office, café and informal meeting space
- ▶ Job opportunities will depend on the new leaseholders

Option 2 - Seek new leaseholders

- ▶ This process will involve a specification, advertising, shortlisting, interviewing and references
- ▶ Interest will be limited because of the location and space we can offer
- ▶ The leaseholders will control
 - ▶ Range of services
 - ▶ Choice of stock
 - ▶ Employment conditions
 - ▶ Interest in the Post Office

Option 3 - Community shop/cafe

- ▶ Will be managed by a Community Benefit Society (CBS), with local members who elect a Board of Directors.
- ▶ Staff will be employed by the CBS on agreed terms and conditions
- ▶ Continuity of paid and voluntary staff can be achieved
- ▶ Profits are distributed to community projects through an agreement with the Auchencairn Initiative
- ▶ The Post Office service will depend on need and negotiation
- ▶ The village will retain the community asset managed by the Initiative

Moving forward

- ▶ As well as this web-based consultation, two public meetings will be held on Saturday 15th January to share information.
 - ▶ Community garden 11:30am
 - ▶ Murray Hall 1pm
 - ▶ Lunch will be served in the Murray Hall from 12:30pm
- ▶ Once we have your decision on the way forward, by 22nd January we will
 - ▶ Communicate the village preference
 - ▶ Develop an action plan to support the decision
 - ▶ Identify any required funding
 - ▶ Identify support needed from the community

Please tell us your preferred option:

1. **No shop / café / PO in Heughan House**
2. **Seek new leaseholders**
3. **Establish a community store**

By email - info@auchencairninitiative.org.uk

By attending one of the meetings and completing a form at the event

By picking up a form from the shop and posting it back in the green Initiative mailbox outside