



www.spaxtonstores.com

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 Spaxton Community Stores

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The AGM of Spaxton Community Shop Society was held in April. Nearly 50 shareholders turned up to support the work of the committee. Peter Harvey stepped down as a committee member and 2 shareholders, Melanie Hall and Sally Foxhall joined.

The monthly takings continue to grow and are well above our initial forecast. This makes it more likely that we will be able to employ a part-time manager in the near future.

If you haven't noticed yet, we are trying out a **coffee machine**. It makes a really good cup which goes well with the cakes and sandwiches (other drinks are available). So now you can sit on the veranda on a warm summer afternoon with a drink and a snack!

Best sellers continue to be wine, Pullin's bread, Hill's sausages, cakes and sweets, not necessarily in that order.

**Post Office:** Before the Community Shop project started a questionnaire was circulated to gauge support and find out what people wanted. It seemed that the post office at Four Forks could close at any time and there was a great demand that we should include a replacement in our plans. As this is written in mid-May the imminent closure of the old post office seems inevitable.

Spaxton Community Shop Society is now negotiating with Post Office Ltd with the intention of setting up a PO in the new shop. It's not as simple as taking over the current arrangement. With the closure of the Four Forks PO Spaxton will lose its fixed "small office payment". Although this is not large it has sustained our post office over the last few years. In future we will have to run a Post Office Local. The income will be substantially less and will depend completely on the number and type of transactions. It is to our advantage that Post Office Ltd now realises that in order to maintain a service in rural areas it will have to adapt to setting up in Community Shops run by volunteers.

The committee has decided that as well as having a shop manager we will need someone, preferably the same person, to manage the post office. This will be widely advertised at the appropriate time.

Even if all goes well it is very likely that Spaxton will be without a post office service for a few months. The Community Stores will try to keep this period as short as possible.

### Would You Like To Volunteer?

All our volunteers say they enjoy it! Come and meet new people whilst supporting our community stores.

Once a week, once a fortnight, even once a month or on a casual basis – "call me if you need me."

All would help!

Interested? Please contact: Mandy Deeks 671682 or Gilly Lee 671276

Or call in to the shop for a volunteers form.

### VERY CHEAP BEER AND CIDER

Occasionally our drinks supplier offers us a consignment of very cheap beer or cider that is about to reach its Best Before date.

We like to make these bargains available when they come up. But they take up a fair bit of space, and we don't want them hanging around. So if you think you might like to buy half a dozen or more bottles in the future, please leave a message for Richard Lee in the shop with a name, phone number and email address. We can't predict what will be offered to us, so there's no obligation to buy. If you tell us you're interested, we'll let you know as soon as it comes in.

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