Lynne Baldwin

From:	dc.support@cherwell-dc.gov.uk
Sent:	05 March 2021 11:17
То:	DC Support
Subject:	New comments for application 21/00369/F

New comments have been received for application 21/00369/F at site address: Kirtlington Post Office Stores 1 Troy Lane Kirtlington

OX5 3HA

from Peter shaw

Address:

The Granary, Heyford Road, Kirtlington, Kidlington, OX5 3HS

Comment type: Support

Comments:

Dear Sir/Madam

It has come to our attention that planning permission for Rachel and Amier to turn their former village shop into a home is not progressing as planned, so I am writing this letter to support their application.

We have been village residents for 18 years and have appreciated the efforts and hard work that have gone into keeping the shop going for so long. It has been central to the community and has been a convenience that so many of us have I think taken for granted.

A year and a half ago I spent many hours there along with others painting the doors and windows and refurbishing the sign above the shop in an effort to support them and keep them going.

As if the position wasn't difficult enough for Rachel and Amier it was made near impossible by Amier's hospitalisation and slow recovery over the last two years.

Brave efforts by the village to resurrect the shop in various guises have followed since the closure last year but the conclusion is always the same. There are just not enough people in this village to support a small enterprise where the turnover and profits would barely cover the overheads, let alone provide a decent living wage to support a young family.

We ourselves have been questioned by volunteers looking to resurrect the shop and wishing to determine what we would be buying. Apart from going into a friendly environment for a chat we find ourselves only buying the odd milk or bread if we found ourselves short that week and we are a family of 4.

As you know the coop has opened in the neighbouring village of Blecthingdon which provides an extensive range of products, far more inline with what the modern generation has come to expect and at a price which would always be keener than a village shop.

This more than anything in our opinion, has provided the final nail in the coffin, drawing us to the conclusion that our small village can no longer support such a small undertaking.

Given Rachel and Amiers' past efforts in supporting this village and the very unfortunate luck with ill health, we would urge you to reconsider their application to turn their premises into a family home which we think they very much deserve.

Yours faithfully

Pete and Tracey.

Case Officer:

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