



New outlet welcomed by your Lib Dem Focus Team

Post Office returns to Whickham



●Cllr Jonathan Mohammed outside the Morrisons shop on Oakfield Road, after it closed. Your Lib Dem Focus Team have welcomed the re-opening of the store which will also include Post Office services.

The good news

A new shop - Whickham Local - has opened on Oakfield Road in the former Morrisons store. And we are very pleased to announce it will contain a Post Office.

The reopening of the shop unit has been welcomed by your local Lib Dem Focus Team - **Jonathan Mohammed, Marilynn Ord and Jonathan Wallace.**

"We feared the shop unit would be shut for a significant period of time. Jonathan, Marilynn and I are therefore pleased to see it back in business," said **Jonathan Mohammed.**

"We are also delighted that Post Office services will be available from the shop.

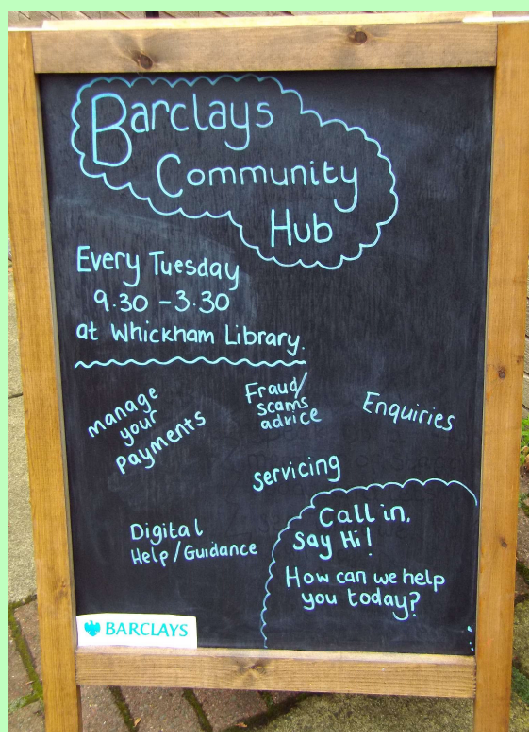
"This will go some way to restoring at least some financial services in Whickham."

The not so good news

Barclays Bank have been in touch with their local customers to advise that they will close their Barclays Local advice session at Whickham Library in November.

This will effectively remove the last of the face-to-face services from banks in Whickham. Many residents have been in touch with the Focus Team to say how deeply this will affect them.

Lib Dem councillors have written on behalf of residents to ask Barclays to reconsider, but they have not changed their minds and the service will cease on 1st November 2025.



Only the Lib Dem Focus Team campaign all year round:
Jonathan Mohammed, Marilynn Ord and Jonathan Wallace

A boost to village vitality

Lib Dem Councillors in Whickham have been working with Council officers to do everything possible to bring empty shops in the village centre back into use. We can now share good news with residents.

"We are delighted to see that Greggs have extended into the adjacent shop, which was formerly occupied by Oxfam," said Cllr **Marilynn Ord**. "The new eating area is proving to be very popular with local residents".

"We are also extremely pleased to see a planning application for new signage for a Savers branch in Whickham, in the site of the former NISA store. This is indeed another boost to our own high street in Whickham."



●Your Lib Dem Focus Team - Jonathan Mohammed, Marilynn Ord (pictured) and Jonathan Wallace - have welcomed the expansion of Greggs in St Mary's Green in Whickham.

Advice surgeries



Your Lib Dem Focus Team hold a monthly surgery at Whickham Library on the 4th Saturday of the month from 10am to 11am. We also hold street surgeries on an ad hoc basis throughout the ward. Street surgeries will be advertised via social media. All welcome.

Rectory Lane traffic lights

Residents have reported problems with the traffic light sequencing at the bottom of Rectory Lane.

This occurred after the lights had been replaced (twice!) following a road traffic collision.

"It has been reported to the Council's Highways team who arranged for this to be altered by the Newcastle Council team that look after this," said Cllr Jonathan Wallace. "Now a further request has been made to Council officers, because the situation is still not back to normal."

Christmas tree switch on

A huge thank you to the Lighting Up Whickham team, who work continuously to raise the funds needed for our Christmas tree.

The switch on event this year will take place on Tuesday 25th November at 3:30 for 3:45 on Church Green, Whickham. It will be hosted by Dame Bella Bluebell and the pantomime cast of Goldilocks and the 3 Bears from the Little Theatre.

Also, if you are able to contribute to the cost of the tree, please donate via the JustGiving link found on the Lighting Up Whickham FaceBook page.



●Councillors Jonathan Wallace, Marilynn Ord, Peter Craig and Susan Craig at the Whickham Christmas Tree switch on in November last year.

Your Lib Dem Focus Team in Whickham South and Sunniside



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