

## Clerk

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**From:** Standlake News <standlakeneews@gmail.com>  
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**To:** clerk@standlakepc.org.uk  
**Subject:** Update from the Village Shop Project Management Committee



**Standlake**  
**ShopTALK**

Creating a community shop for Standlake

# **Update from the Village Shop Project Management Committee**

Despite many months of discussions on either buying or leasing Standlake's current village shop with a view to creating a community shop, we have failed to reach agreement with the owner, Nadeem Ahmed. With great reluctance and regret, we have finally arrived at the conclusion that we now have no option but to withdraw from further negotiations with him.

sustain. We have a big responsibility to the village and have not wanted to set up a community shop that was doomed to fail from the outset. In addition, Nadeem's circumstances changed during 2019 and he does not now want to proceed with either selling or leasing the premises and business at this time.

The Village Shop Committee is extremely disappointed to have reached this point. Since the day the project began in February 2019, the enthusiasm and interest from the community has been brilliant and you have offered your time and your money generously and willingly. We have been inspired and encouraged by you at every step of the way – thank you for all of it.

**So what happens now?**

We're not giving up yet! We're still committed to carrying on with the shop project as far as we can and are busy actively investigating other options. Local knowledge about land and buildings is invaluable, so if anyone out there has any ideas about anywhere else in the village that could lend itself to use as a shop, or anywhere a temporary building could be sited, please get in touch via [standlakeshop@gmail.com](mailto:standlakeshop@gmail.com).

Meanwhile, we are pleased to tell you that the legal creation of our Community Benefit Society – the organisation that would set up and run our shop – has just been finalised so we are now ready to swing swiftly into action when we find a way forward.

You may also remember that we've been awarded £14,500 of government funds to help us with specialist advice to develop our community project. If we don't spend it we will need to hand it back, but we are at present keeping in touch with the Bright Ideas Fund as there may be other uses we can put the money to, such as helping us to investigate the feasibility of any alternative proposals.

We will, of course, keep you posted.





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