

Press Release



29 October 2021

KINGSHURST POST OFFICE RE-OPENS WITH COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

- **Re-opens at previous location 12-14 The Parade, Kingshurst**
- **New operator, Browns Pharmacy, restores service**
- **Part of North Solihull redevelopment**
- **Phase 2 will include Browns Pharmacy opening alongside Post Office**
- **Customers of main UK banks can access accounts at new branch**
- **Services include bill payment, cash withdrawals and foreign currency, Postage, home shopping collections and returns**

The Kingshurst community has been celebrating the official re-opening of Kingshurst Post Office today (29/10).

WM Brown (Kingshurst Limited), which trades as Browns Pharmacy, has taken over operating the Post Office at 12-14 The Parade, Kingshurst, B37 6BA, to restore this vital community service.

Kingshurst Post Office had been temporarily closed in August 2020, when the McColl's store, where the branch had been based, shut.

Phase two of the project is for Browns Pharmacy, currently operating from across the road, will move into the same premises as the Post Office. That date has not yet been finalised, but the top priority was to re-open Kingshurst Post Office.

Two loyal customers of Kingshurst Post Office and Browns Pharmacy in Kingshurst performed the official ribbon cutting. They were David Hinsley, who had been a former Kingshurst Parish councillor and Liz Bache, who had worked in the newsagents where the Post Office was based.

Saqib Bhatti MP for Meriden was in attendance along with Cllr Ian Courts, Leader of Solihull Council, Kingshurst Parish Council Vice Chair, Cllr David Cole, Cllr Jean Hamilton and Cllr Mark Wilson and Cllr Marcus Brain.

Saqib Bhatti MP said: "I want to thank Brown's Pharmacy and Solihull Council for their support in restoring a Post Office to Kingshurst, this new branch, with the pharmacy, will provide essential services to the Kingshurst community."

“Several constituents got in touch with me when the service closed down, so I am pleased that after much hard work, it is up and running once again. I am keen for the area to become a hub for the local community and a post office is an essential part of that”.

Michael O'Donnell, Managing Director of WM Brown (Kingshurst Limited), said: “The re-opening of Kingshurst Post Office and the relocation of Browns Pharmacy into the same premises is part of the Kingshurst redevelopment programme to revitalise The Parade and this local area. We're not quite ready to operate the pharmacy from the new premises, but we didn't want to delay the re-opening of the Post Office, so Browns Pharmacy is still open across the road for the time being as pharmacy services are also very important to this community and especially during a pandemic and the cold and flu season.

“The Post Office and new pharmacy premises looks really good. We hope it won't be too long until everything is conveniently under one roof, right at the heart of this community. Customers are really pleased to have a Post Office in this parade again.”

Tim Rollason, Pharmacist at Browns Pharmacy in Kingshurst, will also be managing Kingshurst Post Office.

Initially Kingshurst Post Office will be open Monday to Friday: 9am – 6pm. When Browns Pharmacy is ready to trade from the same premises then the Post Office will also be open on Saturdays from 9am – 1pm.

Mat Wilkes, Post Office Network Lead, said: “We are delighted to have restored Post Office services to Kingshurst as we know how important a Post Office is to a community. We are very pleased to have achieved this before the busy Christmas period. We are very grateful to Browns Pharmacy that they have re-opened the branch now, ahead of them being able to operate the pharmacy at the same premises.”

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Notes to editors

- With over 11,500 branches, Post Office has the biggest retail network in the UK, with more branches than all the banks and building societies combined.
- Post Office is helping anyone who wants cash to get it whichever way is most convenient. Partnership with over 30 banks, building societies and credit unions means that 99% of UK bank customers can access their accounts at their Post Office.
- Cash withdrawals, deposits and balance enquiries can be made securely and conveniently over the counter at any Post Office; and the biggest investment by any organisation or company in the last decade is being made to safeguard 1,400 free-to-use ATMs across the UK.

- Post Office is simplifying its proposition for Postmasters with a focus on its [cash and banking](#); [mails and parcels](#); [foreign exchange](#); and [bill payments](#) services.
- [Research](#) has found that visits to the Post Office help drive another 400 million visitors to other shops, restaurants and local businesses equating to an estimated £1.1 billion in additional revenue for High Street businesses.
- 99.7% of the population live within three miles of a Post Office; and 4,000 branches are open seven days a week.