



## **Braunton Post Office** by *Cllr Graham Bell*

Over the last few months a number of people have approached me regarding banking services in the village. The Lloyds banking service has been slashed to a morning every fortnight from a twice weekly service leaving the village that once had several banks to one that has almost none.



Many of the banking services people are now trekking into Barnstaple for are actually available at our local post offices in Knowle, Braunton and Chivenor. I spoke with Carol recently with regards to what is available in Braunton Post Office.

Everyday personal and business banking services available in the village include paying in cash and cheques. Whether you need to pay in the proceeds of a coffee morning, a birthday gift or something larger then all you need is the cash/cheque and your bank details (preferably a card) and it can be added to your bank account. Cheques can be paid into virtually any account (with Nationwide being the only significant exception as it is a building society). Cheques might take a day longer to process, but avoids a long traipse into town.

As well as banking, it's easy to pay any bill that has a barcode in at the post office. Electricity smart/keymeter cards can also be topped up as well as mobile phones. The Post Office is one of the places in the village where it is possible to withdraw cash and obtain change without paying a transaction charge.

In addition to everyday banking services the village Post Offices will send parcels upto "surf board" size and act as a drop-off point for click-n-collect deliveries. Missed Royal Mail deliveries that are redirected to the Barnstaple sorting office can be collected from the Post Office.

Although Braunton Post Office does not provide passport services, it does do other essential and less essential services from car tax to fishing licenses and the "dog friendly" post office are always willing to ensure customers get the help they need. Oh, I'm told you can buy stamps too.

**Braunton Post Office Services:** \* Pay in cash and cheques to virtually any bank \* Transaction-free cash and change withdrawal \* Council Tax and Bill payment \* Electric and Gas meter top-up \* Parcel delivery \* Click-n-collect collection \* Royal Mail redeliver service \* Mobile phone top-up \* Car tax \* Fishing license \* Dog friendly \* Stamps

Since the loss of the Post Office in Exeter Road, Braunton Post Office on Chaloners Road has often been a little difficult to find. Hopefully the additional signage around the village will point people in the right direction and more people can take advantage of this fantastic local resource.

## Braunton Stands with Ukraine

Braunton Parish Council recently supported the Ukraine Braunton Community Response to help those fleeing Ukraine. The Council provided a grant of £1491 to help them on their quest to deliver aid which had been kindly donated by the Braunton Community.

Patrick Farrelly, a Rotarian who 'blogged' about their work said "We are all very grateful for the donation made by the Parish Council. It enabled us to carry out more than we would have been able to, helping us achieve all of our aims."

We are pleased their mission was a success and the volunteers all returned safely.

Devon County Council welcomes refugees seeking a safe home in our communities and are supporting local residents who want to provide sanctuary to people fleeing Ukraine. A new website offering the latest guidance and information has been set up <https://www.devon.gov.uk/supporting-ukraine/>

Locally, the Pickwell Foundation, a charity based in North Devon, have set up a dedicated website to help support the local response to assist the growing refugee crisis. If you are interested in supporting Ukrainian individuals and families to resettle in North Devon and Torridge (even if you are unable to accommodate them but wish to provide support within the community) then please register your interest using the following link [www.northdevonwithukraine.co.uk](http://www.northdevonwithukraine.co.uk)



### Braunton Parish Council



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Facebook.com/BrauntonParishCouncil  
Twitter: @brauntonparish  
Hours: 09:00 - 12:00 Monday - Friday*

Tracey Lovell, Clerk to the Council  
Angela Corner, Senior Council Officer  
Jane Fewings, Admin Assistant

### Meetings Calendar 2022

Full Council meetings are currently being held in the Parish Hall and additional meetings, to primarily consider planning applications, are currently being held virtually. Please note the change of day of the Full Council meetings.

**7pm Tuesday 10 May 2022**

**7pm Monday 23 May 2022**



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