Full Council 30th October 2006

Motion selected for debate by Councillor Bob Blackman, Leader of the Conservative Group.

Our valuable Post Offices

This Council reiterates its commitment to putting pressure on the Government to support the post-office network and its long term sustainability.

This Council believes that thousands of post-offices could be forced to close without decisive Government action as reported by Postcomm. Already Brent has suffered unacceptable closures on Post Offices. The Department of Trade and Industry has refused to say whether official contracts such as payment of pensions and the renewal of TV licences will continue after March 2008.

This Council places on record its support for pensioners and all local residents who rely on a local post-office for their pension and benefit payments and recognises the social impact of closures on the community.

The Council also recognises the social and economic role that post-offices play and calls on the Government to make a decision on payments that will be made via Post Offices so that a plan can be developed to enable Post Offices to continue their work.