



**Long Sutton House
Long Sutton-Somerset-TA10 9LZ**

8th September 2015

IMPORTANT SHOP ANNOUNCEMENT

Most of you are aware, Michael, Louise and their family have now moved from the shop accommodation and have relocated their family home. This decision was taken for family reasons and many of you will be aware of the circumstances surrounding this.

There has been much speculation within the village as to whether the shop will change hands as a consequence of their move, or indeed if the shop will close permanently. In order to provide some clarity to you we would like to detail as follows:-

Long Sutton House has supported the shop for many years with bulk purchasing, the provision of staff and van during the floods and of late, administrative assistance. We are now in a position to inform you that we are purchasing the village shop and the Caulfield family will move on to pastures new. The shop, and of course the valued staff of Long Sutton Stores will remain. There has been additional recruitment of staff and both the Shop and the House will be creating many more new employment opportunities within the Parish. The Stores and Post Office are essential and valuable assets to our local community. It is part of the fabric that makes our community and must be retained. For the moment it is important that the staff and the business stabilise during this period of change. The Stores and Post Office will be provided in time with the investment and resources that is needed to ensure its long term future. During this period there will be community engagement to ensure that the business meets the needs of its client groups. All of this will take time and so please be supportive of the staff as they work towards these objectives. The main point to stress is that the shop is not closing.

We must look at this as an opportunity rather than anything negative. We can build on the great work of the past and look to ensure that our village shop and Post Office continues to serve the community and remains a location we can all be very proud of.

NA Gould
Long Sutton House