

Mark Partington  
National Consultation Team,  
Post Office Limited,  
FREEPOST  
CONSULTATION TEAM

October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008

**Re: Proposed Post Office closure – Poolbrook, Worcestershire**

Dear Mr. Partington

I am writing to you about the proposed closure of Poolbrook Post Office in Malvern.

I object to the closure of Poolbrook Post Office because of the following serious consequences for this part of Malvern.

I enclose a map which shows that the areas served by this Post Office lies within the area to the East and South of the Post Office. This is relevant because customers have already had to walk several hundred metres to the Post Office.

The alternative Post Office in Barnard's Green is 0.7 miles away. There is no bus service. For the many frail, disabled and elderly people in this part of Malvern, this closure would effectively end their access to Post Office services. Given that the government requires you to allow 95% of urban residents to be within 1 mile of a Post Office, this will cause a breach of these criteria.

If residents do have a car, then parking in Barnard's Green is difficult. There is no access for wheelchair users. There is no disabled parking bay. The Barnard's Green Post Office is already very busy.

Cllr Joe Smith and Cllr Richard Simmonds arranged a public meeting in Malvern on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. At this meeting, which I attended, it was clear that this closure will cause real hardship. Given the dedication of Ali Pooler, the subpostmistress, to serving the elderly and disabled in her community, I urge you in the strongest terms to review provision for Poolbrook. Although it is not a preferred solution, some form of ongoing outreach service would be better than nothing at all.

Yours sincerely,

Harriett Baldwin, Conservative Parliamentary Candidate