

Impact of Bank Closures

Colinton Community Council

The Colinton branch of the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) closed in November 2016. At the time, there were some complaints from local residents and businesses about losing the local convenience of traditional face-to-face banking -particularly significant in a community with many older residents. We were relieved that RBS agreed to continue to operate its Auto Teller in Bridge Road, and so we have retained basic banking services in that way but they also promised that we would continue to have a local service at their Juniper Green branch. That has now also been closed without any alternative banking service in Juniper Green and so we very much support Juniper Green and Baberton Mains Community Council and other local communities in their campaigns to re-establish some form of local bank. In Colinton, we are fortunate in having an excellent village Post Office which offers a range of banking services, including pay-in to RBS and other banks. We also have the prospect of a second Auto Teller when the Co-op opens in the village in May 2018. So while we are very aware of the difficulties faced by other communities around Colinton which have lost all banking facilities, we believe the impact of bank closures in Colinton has been less severe.

Note: It should be emphasised that the above statement is the shared view of Colinton Community councillors only: we have not undertaken a detailed survey to gauge the full view of our local residents and businesses on this issue.

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