



Secretary's Report 2026

Dobcross Village Society Limited Annual
Members' Meeting 13 September 2026

Reporting period: 14 September 2025 – 13 September 2026

Introduction

DVSL was established in October 2023 as a Community Benefit Society, owned by its members. This report marks the second AMM since individual pledges for the purchase of the store and post office were converted into community shares in June 2024, which conferred ownership rights to the new members.

The purpose and mission of the Society is: 'To be a thriving community asset at the heart of the village by being a successful co-operative enterprise providing retail and postal services.' This report will set out governance, membership and Management Committee activities during this reporting period as well as an update on any significant governance decisions.

It is an opportunity to thank the Management Committee for their effective leadership and oversight of the DVSL as the business continues to grow and flourish. In particular, thanks to those committee members who have stepped down this year (see below) whose commitment, vision and hard work was instrumental in securing the future of the business by turning the idea of community ownership into reality.

Governance & Management Committee activities

Current Management Committee:

Nathan Beckwith – Chair
Rob Wales – Vice-Chair
Jackie Perry – Co-Treasurer
John Warham – Co-Treasurer
Chris Mills – Member Secretary
Penny Sankey – Minutes Secretary
Sam Moran – Communications Lead



Dobcross Village Society Ltd

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Trading as the Dobcross Village Store and Post Office.
A member of The Plunkett Foundation.



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Jim Grady – IT Lead

Cari Ryan – Volunteer / Grants Lead

The following Committee Members resigned:

David Mallalieu

Sharon Musgrove

Louise Stevenson

Kevin Haynes

Stephen Hill

In line with DVSL Model Rules, elected members of the Management Committee hold office for a period commencing immediately after the Members' Meeting at which their election is declared and ending at the conclusion of the third Annual Members' Meeting after that or until they resign or are removed from office.

Number of meetings: 11 - a quorate monthly meeting has taken place each month during this period. Monthly agenda items included: Store and post office financial performance; staff, volunteer and HR issues; governance and communications. The new store manager has attended a committee meeting.

A **retail sub-committee** has been set up to focus on the commercial activities of the shop and post office.

Members' report

Members at 14 September 2025: 124

New members: 12

Total membership: 136

The Committee has not been informed of any member resignations during this reporting period

Member share capital

Total member share capital £35,347.08

Member strategy

The Membership strategy, approved at last year's AMM and discussed at the half-year AMM, sets a target of a 20% increase in the number of new members. To date, we have achieved a 10% increase in new members. There are further plans to



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increase the visibility, awareness and understanding of the DVSL among residents to reach this target. (For instance, explaining the benefits of membership to existing loyalty customers.)

Key achievements

- Secured FCA approval for member-backed rule change on lowering the minimum shareholding to 25 x £1.00 shares.
- New £4,200 grant secured from the Roger Tanner Trust for Health & Safety improvements to the store.
- Volunteer numbers steady at 38 volunteers
- New Business Strategy
- Retail Sub-committee established
- Successful half-yearly AMM, April 2026

Chris Mills

Secretary, Dobcross Village Society Limited

September 2026



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