

## **Economic Focus Group - Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> July 2005**

**Present – IB, RESB, KH, IT, JW**

**Material for Church Fete – July 16<sup>th</sup> 2005**

### **Key Facts**

**65% of Adults and 85% of the 11-16 year olds thought there was a need for a shopping facility and 98 people mentioned lack of a shop as one of their three dislikes about living in Rainow.**

**81% of Adults were happy with the control of building development in the village but 38 people expressed concern at the shortage of affordable housing for both young and old.**

### **Key Issues**

**Provision of some kind of shopping facility and/or tea-shop or café**

**Lack of affordable housing**

**Over development of existing houses by extension/enlargement**

**Inconsistency on planning approval decisions and feeling that Peak Park and Macclesfield Council work to different standards on planning decisions**

**Concern for clear strong control on all building development in the village to avoid over-development**

### **Possible Questions**

**If a community shop were set up would you do some of your shopping there?**

**Would you be prepared to work as a volunteer in a community shop?**

**The shop did not survive before –do you think one could be successful now?**

**Would you shop at or supply a Farmers' Market if one could be established in Rainow?**

**Would you support the building of a mobile phone receiver mast even if it were near your house?**

### **Additional points discussed**

- 1) Need to get the contact man from VIRSA (Village Retail Services Association) to talk to Economic FG members after seeing village and its proximity to Macc. Shops.**
- 2) The main market for a shop would be children and young people**
- 3) We should find out if some kinds of arrangement with Tesco or a similar retailer could be viable**
- 4) We could consider a trial (3 months?) with a Portakabin type of facility, perhaps on the car-park near school**
- 5) Another possibility might be to try a shop in a pub – provided use by children could be made acceptable (pub chain unlikely to provide any funds)**
- 6) Would some kind of tea-shop/café be viable? Could Rhona Cooper provide advice as Common Barn is providing a facility? There used to be a cyclists' tea room on Sugar Lane.**
- 7) For any shop/café a key requirement would be a competent person to run it/manage the volunteers**
- 8) IB should talk to relevant members of the Parish Council to establish their role in the planning process and find out their overall strategy on housing development. If appropriate he would then talk to Cedric Knype about the Macc.Council's strategy and Rainow's place in it (especially in respect of Affordable Housing).**

**IB 4/07/05**