

## Ibstock Library Petition Summary

A survey was undertaken around Ibstock community/commercial venues (for paper base survey) and on Ibstock Spotted Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/share/p/rSNaRYGr9bwFRKrX/](https://www.facebook.com/share/p/rSNaRYGr9bwFRKrX/)) to test the view of the community to assess the viability of making representation to the County Council to continue the Ibstock Community Library in some form in the future. There is a team of would-be trustees with a broad range of expertise ready to work with the County Council Library Services to resurrect Ibstock Community Library should the Cabinet Meeting decide not to permanently close Ibstock Community Library. The team comprises two parish councillors, a library services officer from Leicester Unitary Authority (**with particular expertise in fund raising**) and a volunteer from the existing Ibstock Community Library team. Necessary funding streams (including Community Lottery) have been researched and are ready to be approached once a CIO is set up and policies have been written.

**It is considered that this is an overwhelming call to retain a library resource in Ibstock, which is backed by a team with the skill, determination and expertise to successfully address previous cash flow shortfalls.**

The survey had a total of 158 responses, 29 on Ibstock Spotted and 129 from community/commercial venues. This was supported by 81 comments (2 comments rather off subject!), 6 on Ibstock Spotted and 75 community/commercial venues. Copies of the responses are attached for reference.

A general flavour of the comments left by respondents are:

- Library needed for children
- Need to keep open
- Never should happen [closing]
- Valuable asset/resource
- Social meeting place
- Good for/part of community
- Books should be available for all
- Need more youth services
- Central place for learning is vital for local people
- Books are important from a young age
- Needed by all

We hope you find this survey helpful and informative and look forward to the Cabinet decision

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