

We now come onto an award for a group of people who run what is so much more than just a local business

During the many lockdowns and the isolation of covid 19, Minesh Patel and his family and all of the team at Mendlesham Bakery have literally kept our community going, and all of this with a smile and good cheer.

I personally met Minesh & family when they took on Old Newton Shop, at that time that shop was at a crucial turn, the previous owners needed to move on and the post office had taken the opportunity to cut the service to Old Newton, I was amazed at how dedicated Minesh was to making this business a success, despite the challenges, so when I heard that the family were also going to invest in Mendlesham I frankly did a little dance on the spot. Apologies if any one witnessed that. Mendlesham Bakery was In desperate need of significant investment to bring it into the 21st century, and Minesh and family did this, we now have a very efficient well stocked shop, that I hope is financially repaying the Patels for their investing in our community, but financial investment and stock are only two ingredients of a well run community shop, add to this a dedicated team of cheerful, helpful brilliant staff we have a proper recipe for success. So thank you for investing in Mendlesham, thank you being there through the worse of what Covid 19 had to throw at us. But the biggest thanks are from this community, for being cheerful when the world looked a cheerless place, and the smiles underneath the masks, and the patience you have shown this community, Minesh Patel and to all of your staff, it is my privilege to be able to give you this small token of thanks.

SCC/MSDC Cllr Andrew Stringer