

Volunteer Marie Roach stacking shelves at the new shop. "It's been great so far," she says. "We have been very busy and everyone is mucking in."

New shop is a major boost for Embo folk

EMBO'S new community shop opened on Sunday – and it has been a great success.

Following the closure of the village's Post Office last week, which incorporated a grocers and newsagent, the Embo Trust spearheaded an initiative for the 300-strong community to set up its own convenience store, manned by volunteers.

It is hoped by next year that it will be located in the new community centre.

For the moment, however, Embo FC has allowed the use of the community room in its pavilion to be used as a shop and Post Office. A group of 18 volunteers has come forward and will run the shop seven days a week in two shifts - from 7am to 9.30am and 9.30am to 1pm.

On Thursdays the shop will open until 4pm in order to sell the Northern Times.

However, more volunteers are always needed in case of holidays and illness.

In six weeks' time, once appropriate services have been installed, Dornoch subpostmaster Graham Sawyer has agreed to provide an outreach service at the new shop on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.