

CORNISH JOINERY FIRM RE-OPENS HAVING BEEN SUPPORTED BY COVID-19 FUNDING FROM BARCLAYS

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A Cornish joinery firm which has been in business for more than five decades has re-opened having gained access to the Government-backed Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme [CBILS] and Job Retention Scheme in order to pay suppliers, furlough staff and keep the firm afloat during the pandemic.

Established in 1968, DJ Newman Joinery started as a small joinery shop operating out of Charlestown. It amalgamated in October 2012 with another business in Roche, and later moved to the company's current buildings in Victoria Business Park. As lockdown restrictions have eased, the business is now starting to return to normal and the workshop has re-opened.

Carl Lee, Company Secretary at DJ Newman Joinery, said: "The CBILS loan has been essential in helping us mitigate the impact of the pandemic. The year started extremely well for the business, but in the interest of everyone's safety and to comply with government guidelines, we were forced to close in March – leaving us in unknown territory. Joel Double, our relationship manager at Barclays, acted swif

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assisting us and with the money secured, we were able to look forward as a company. After paying suppliers, which was of huge importance to us, we have now started to bring the business out of hibernation, and are beginning to fulfil our orders once again. We look forward to being at full capacity in the near future and have a strong end to 2020.”

The company specialises in conservation and restoration projects from small cottages to country houses to shop fronts. Their experienced team work closely with conservation officers, architects right through to installation.

Joel Double, Barclays Business Manager, St Austell, added: “Our relationship with D.J Newman Joinery goes back over 30 years, but never before have we experienced times like these. After exploring all options, we worked quickly to secure the business a CBILS loan which allowed them to settle outstanding payments, steady the company and put them in a position to plan the re-opening of their business, rather than worry about the worst case scenarios. D.J Newman Joinery are one of many SMEs that represent the backbone of Britain and are a great example of how the CBILS loan can assist businesses up and down the country.”

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