

Swindon printing company devastated by fire and flood reopens

A Swindon printing company that was forced to close after the business was destroyed by flood and fire has reopened for business.

Minuteman Press, in Old Town, shut its Newport Street premises in 2021 when a flood – and then a fire – ruined the entire contents of its ground-floor offices.

The company has since undergone a complete refurbishment and acquired new equipment to boot.

According to managing director James Beckwith, the business was still able to operate while its offices were shut as it had an online service. Minuteman also launched a new website during the closure, it said.

“Our customers have been really supportive and fortunately, we were able to carry on trading while our premises were closed,” he explained. “We now have totally new kit, and because it is so versatile, we can offer more options than before, with an even faster turnaround.”

Mr Beckwith said the firm had invested in a high-tech Xerox Iridesse printer in the last year and the firm was now able to produce 3,000 booklets in an hour, rather than the several hours it would take previously.

“The new Xerox Iridesse is a full production press allowing us more and faster capabilities as well as improved image quality over our previous presses,” he said.

Minuteman Press is now planning to introduce a self-service print facility, it said, using an extra printer which would

allow customers to walk in and print from a file or by scanning.

“This is really ideal if someone wants a return label printed, for example. We always offered this kind of service for customers, but soon they will be able to do it on a DIY basis,” Mr Beckwith added.

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