

Bradley Stoke Town Council

Newsletter



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY

Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year from Bradley Stoke Town Council

The Mayor, Town Councillors and staff all join in wishing every resident of Bradley Stoke a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

The past year has been marked with two major events for the town – the formal openings of the extended facilities at Baileys Court Activity Centre and the new Town Centre with a much enlarged Tesco Extra store, both performed by the Town Mayor of the day. The long awaited heart of the town is beginning to pulse and should be fully functioning by the end of 2009. After 21 years since the first turf was dug in 1987, it can be said with some assurance that the building of Bradley Stoke is virtually complete. This is not to say there are not more exciting developments in the pipeline as your Town Council and South Gloucestershire Council continue to work on a variety of community based projects. Watch this space!



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For more news on your community visit www.bradleystoke.gov.uk



Tesco Opening

The opening ceremony of the new Tesco Extra store was performed by the Mayor of Bradley Stoke, Councillor Robert Jones, at 10.00am on Monday 13 October 2008. Its success was toasted with champagne and cutting a cake. Tesco Charity Trust donated a further £1000 to the Mayor's Charity (National Association for Colitis and Crohn's Disease) on this occasion. The store will employ some 600 people. Many of the adjoining retail units were also open for business although further large retail units are still under construction. Work had already begun on emptying the old store prior to its demolition in preparation for completion of the car park. Over 30,000 people visited the store during its first week of operation.



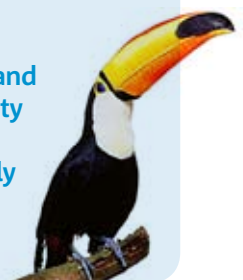
Christmas Hamper Appeal 2008

Would you really like to make a difference to a local family this Christmas? Would you like to give something back to someone in your own Community?

The Southern Brooks Family Support Team is currently working with around 60 families throughout the area, and to some the festive season brings nothing but stress and anxiety. The burden of Christmas on a family already living with financial hardship can be devastating. Once again, we are looking for donations of tinned fish and meats, rice, pasta and other long life foods, as well as a few luxury items such as chocolates, mince pies and non-alcoholic drinks. No fresh goods or alcohol please. Your donations make a real difference and last year we were able to supply more than 15 hampers to local families. All our families are so grateful (and often tearful), and it's the reason why this appeal is so important locally. "This is a Godsend. Before you knocked on the door I had been wondering how I was going to get through Christmas, thank you so much. You really do not know what this means to us." Bradley Stoke Town Council has again kindly allowed us to use the Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre in Savages Wood Road as collection point, and you can donate until Friday 12th December. So please be generous. Corrina Wood, Southern Brooks Family Support Team

Toucan crossing

Council has approved South Glos Councils proposals to upgrade the light controlled crossing on Savages Wood Road to a Toucan as well as the two light controlled crossings on Bradley Stoke Way between the Leisure and Town Centres. The necessity of audible warning signals was stressed for the visually disadvantaged.



Work on the proposed Beacon Play Scheme for installation at the Jubilee Green in Savages Wood Road is well underway. It will be based on a 'natural' landscaped area designed to attract people of all ages in a range of pursuits from just sitting to vigorous activity. Public consultation on the architect's proposals will take place shortly.

BSTC Play Area Improvements

2008 has seen considerable improvements to several of the Bradley Stoke Town Council Play Areas. Upgrades have been carried out to Baileys Court and Paddock Close and the Rosemary Close Play Area has been completely replaced.

During 2007 some upgrading to the Brook Way Play Area took place - a new Car Springer and a four-way see-saw was installed and is proving to be very popular. Baileys Court has had a new gravity rider vortex and a new Springer installed. Due to changing regulations the existing surface was no longer big enough for these items so they were put on the grass with adjacent safety tiles. Paddock Close was painted by two of our staff, and Foxborough Gardens is next on the list, when time and the weather allows. The biggest project was to replace the existing equipment originally commissioned by Barrett Homes and installed by Welsco in 1997 at Rosemary Close, which was subsequently passed over to Bradley Stoke Town Council. A community Consultation was carried out by Southern Brooks Community Partnership in November 2007 to see what should replace the existing play equipment. The popular items were Slides, Climbing, Rocker /see-saw and swings. We were asked for the age range to include upper primary to reflect that the children in the area are older now. The new play equipment items installed are:

- All Steel Venturer Configuration Multiplay unit
- Devils Island Swing which is like a basket and suits all ages and abilities
- Dragonfly reclined See-Saw
- Racing Car Springer
- Elephant Springer which is suitable for less able bodied children
- Post Office Play Panel for the youngest imaginative play
- Plus new litter bin, bench, wet pour surfacing and two new gates.

All Bradley Stoke Town Council controlled Play Areas undergo regular recorded checks for wear & tear and vandalism; of which unfortunately there is quite a bit. This is always reported to the police by BSTC staff that have passed the RoSPA RPII Routine Inspections exam and are now on the National Register of Play Area Inspectors. They are also inspected annually by an outside professional body.

A quantity of beach sand was deposited on the Jubilee green during August as an experiment to see how well it would be received with the view to including a sand feature in the Beacon Play Scheme. It was well used by children for building sand castles and by families for picnics and proved a huge success. It was checked daily to keep it free from all contamination and nothing was found that gave cause for concern.

Photos courtesy of Bradley Stoke Matters



Christmas Coffee Morning and Local Produce Market

Don't forget this will take place on Friday morning 12 December at Brook Way and there will be a visit by Father Christmas, so please come and join in with all the fun and buy some Christmas Fare.





Fireworks 2008

The sixth Bradley Stoke Town Council Annual Fireworks display took place at the Jubilee Centre in Savages Wood Road on Sunday 2 November. Thousands of residents watched as the Kimbolton Fireworks display lit up the sky in a breathtaking fashion. Hot food and drinks were once again provided by the Bristol Aztec Rotary, supported by local traders. Some £2,200 was raised towards the Mayor's Annual Charity National Association for Colitis and Crohn's Disease (NACC).

Among discussions on provision for youth throughout Bradley Stoke over the next two or three years was the hire of a mobile youth facility for two nights each week, initially for a six month period. Known as 'Urbi' it would, in effect, be 'detached youth work' in addition to the two nights already undertaken by Southern Brooks Community Partnership. The cost of the 'Urbi' vehicle, including staffing, would be in the region of £8000 of which Patchway Town Council has agreed to finance a third since it would also benefit Patchway parish.

According to the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South West, some 33,000 new houses are proposed for the area. Whilst none of the new development is planned for Bradley Stoke, the Town Council expressed concerns for such things as increased traffic and increased demands on services such as health and education, libraries and sports facilities. The infrastructure including the motorways is clearly not capable of handling large volumes of traffic. Over 30,000 people visited the new Tesco Extra during its first week of operation, which gives an indication of things to come. Further housing developments in the adjoining districts will lead to an increased traffic flow. The Town Council also takes the view that any incursion into Green Belt land should only be undertaken where special circumstances can be demonstrated.

Postal Scam!

The advice concerning the Postal Scam outlined below has come to us from several sources, including the Police, Royal Mail and Trading Standards who are all keen to make people aware of the following scam:

"A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906 6611911 (a premium rate number). Do NOT call this number, as this is a mail scam originating from Belize. If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message, you will already have been billed £15.00 for the telephone call."

Changes to Sort It!* Centres

This is an update to the article in the September edition of South Gloucestershire News, which provided details of key changes to the Sort It!* Centres to control trader abuse as well as help to reduce cross border tipping by residents outside South Gloucestershire. Automatic Number Plate Recognition Cameras will be installed in early November with an official launch date w/c the 1st of December 2008 and at the same time the following restrictions will also be implemented:

- Asbestos sheets will be limited to a maximum of 12 sheets but all must be double wrapped in sealed plastic for health and safety reasons.
- Households will only be able to dispose of four car and motorcycle tyres a year and will be encouraged to use the tyre fitters' disposal options.
- Disposal of petrol and diesel will not be allowed for site health and safety reasons.
- Fire extinguishers, except household size ones, will not be accepted.
- Gas bottles will not be accepted – residents will be requested to take them back to the original supplier for recycling.
- Only one gallon of used engine oil can be disposed of per visit. Engine oil is also collected at the kerbside.
- Trailers with double axles or with box sizes longer than 2 metres will no longer be allowed onto the sites. Manoeuvring larger trailers, often used by traders, causes disruption and delays for other users
- Construction and demolition waste e.g. rubble and soil will be limited to reasonable amounts relating to small DIY projects and SITA will be monitoring and assessing this.

These restrictions are designed to restrict trade use, deter cross border users and minimise service disruption for local residents. South Glos Council have also adopted a fly tipping strategy, which will be proactively pursued.

Election Result for Bradley Stoke Town Council

The result of the Meadowbank Ward, Bradley Stoke election held on Thursday 2nd October 2008 was that Cllr Jon Williams was duly elected as a replacement for Cllr Caroline Charlton.

Best Buddies Project

The Volunteer Centres in South Gloucestershire have secured funding to help adults with learning difficulties to become involved in community activities, with the assistance of a volunteer 'buddy'.

The aim of the project is to help reduce social isolation amongst adults with learning disabilities, enabling them to enjoy community and voluntary activities, encouraging choice and independence. The Volunteer Centres are looking for people able to give a few hours a week to become a "buddy". The 'buddies' will provide support to a person with learning difficulties when they start volunteering or a community activity. This may involve encouraging independence in the use of public transport, working alongside them when they start volunteering and meeting to talk about interests or joining in activities. Volunteers may be:

- Older people recently retired or with some spare time
- Students wanting to build their portfolio of skills and experience
- People with learning difficulties who are able to share their experiences to support others
- Employees whose organisations encourage them to volunteer
- Anyone over the age of 18 wanting to learn new skills and make a difference in their community

Training and support will be provided free of charge and all out of pocket expenses will be covered. For more information and an application form please contact Yate Volunteer Centre on 01454 324102 or email yatevb@care4free.net

Bradley Stoke United Score with Football Foundation Grant

Footballers in Bradley Stoke have been celebrating a £9,000 grant awarded by the Football Foundation, the UK's largest sports charity. The cash bonanza will allow Bradley Stoke United to provide local boys and girls with the opportunity to develop their footballing abilities, their social skills and general fitness in a fun and structured environment for years to come.

The Football Foundation is dedicated to revitalising the grass roots of the game, constructing modern football facilities, developing football as a force for social cohesion and as a vehicle for education in communities throughout the country. Funded by the Premier League, The Football Association and the Government, the Football Foundation is the nation's largest sports charity with a £45m budget going straight into the heart of football.

Paul Thorogood, Chief Executive of the Football Foundation said: "We warmly congratulate the club and the local FA for their hard work and dedication in securing this award.

"Sport is playing a central role in helping people to stay fit, strengthen communities and promote responsibility amongst young people. I am

delighted that Football Foundation investment is opening up access to sport in Bradley Stoke and encourage other organisations in the region to apply to us."

Andy Hawkins, Chairman of Bradley Stoke United, said: "the funding will be used to start a new Under 7s team as well as an Under 14s girls' team (the first in the club's short history) the players for which will be made up of pupils from a number of local schools in the Bradley Stoke area. Any boys or girls between the ages of 7 and 16 interested in joining our thriving club should contact the Chairman on 01173 771030 for further information."

For more information on the Football Foundation call Rory Carroll on 0845 345 4555 ext 4280 or visit www.footballfoundation.org.uk

The meeting rooms at the Jubilee Centre have recently been enhanced with fresh paint on the walls and new carpet tiles, replacing the rather tired originals that had become stained and worn.

The Town Council opposed suggestions from the Ministry of Justice that voting opportunities might be extended to the weekend. It was observed that if people wanted to vote they would, if not they wouldn't, so tinkering with the days would have no worthwhile effect.

A tarmac surface has replaced the rough car park at Baileys Court Activity Centre and parking spaces have been marked that greatly improve the capacity of the park.

Severn Vale Art Trail 2009

The Severn Vale Art Trail is to go ahead again in 2009 from 2 to 10 May. The trail extends from Almondsbury to Berkeley on either side of the A38 and will be preceded by a "Showcase Exhibition" in Thornbury Town Hall during the Thornbury Arts Festival week 17 – 26 April 2009.

A wide range of Art and Crafts by local Artists (painting, sculpture, batik, textiles, basket weaving, pottery, stained glass and jewellery) will be found on the trail and on display in local shops. A colour brochure will be distributed via Thornbury Town Hall and local shops, pubs and restaurants, and this will show an example of each Artist's work, their venue address and times of opening. From this you will be able to organise your own trail to make an entertaining excursion. A clear map and signs show the location of each venue.

All work is of high quality and Artists are on hand to explain how they go about their work. The Thornbury Arts Festival committee are pleased to add this Visual Arts aspect to its already popular festival week and are keen for local Artists to share and promote their work. It is certainly fascinating to discover the talent and variety of Arts and Crafts on our own doorstep. Any new Artists wishing to take part in the Art Trail will be very welcome. There may be a possibility of sharing a venue if necessary and meetings are arranged during which

you will be able to meet other Artists. The Castle School Visual Arts Department are giving their support and are keen to build contacts with local businesses, which will benefit their students. If you would be able to share your business skills through talks or demonstrations for pupils, please contact the number below for possibilities to be discussed. Local businesses wishing to promote local Art will be very welcome to advertise in the brochure and are also asked to enquire through the number below.

If you have visited the Severn Vale Art Trail in previous years you will know what a pleasant experience it is. Please tell your friends! Remember that in May you have a treat in store when you can savour a variety of Arts and Crafts produced by our local Artists, some of whom have exhibited at the RWA, all of whom show great talent and expertise. Artists and Businesses should contact Jane Parfitt on 01454 414221 by the end of January, while there is still time to subscribe and to find out about the terms and conditions.

Bradley Stoke Safer and Stronger Community Group meeting

The next open residents meeting is on Tuesday 9 December at Brook Way Activity Centre. Over 50 local residents attended the last meeting to have their say about issues that were important to them.

There were interesting presentations on plans for the Jubilee Green, Willow Brook Centre and the work of Southern Brooks Community Partnership. At the next meeting the Willow Brook Centre manager will be present and a member of the Parking Services team as parking issues have been raised frequently. There will be representation from the Police, Town Council, Safer South Gloucestershire, Avon Fire and Rescue Service and South Gloucestershire Council. We also want to celebrate the good things that are going on in Bradley Stoke, so if residents would like items added to the agenda please ring us.



Street Children of Kampala, Uganda

A group from Holy Trinity Church have been fundraising and visiting Uganda to support the Tigers Club Project (part of a charity called Retrak) which provides street children with the basics of life – food, clothes, shelter and education to give them a future.

Sadly as a consequence of the credit crunch Retrak's funding is dropping and the Tigers Club Project is in threat. Holy Trinity is redoubling its efforts in the UK and have recently had a coffee morning and a Quiz night and raised in the region of £500.00. More events will be held in the New Year. As a longer term project the local group are going to run the BATH HALF MARATHON on Sunday 15 March 2009 and are looking for

50x50

THAT'S 50 RUNNERS EACH
PLEDGING TO RAISE A
MINIMUM OF £50.00.

SO, if you feel like joining the Tigers Team then ring 01454 856497 or email htcuganda@googlemail.com

Bradley Stoke Neighbourhood Policing Team

Wpc Claire Fletcher will be leaving the beat at the beginning of December to be replaced by PC Steve Palmer. Steve will be joining PCSO Kirsty Flicker and PCSO Jason GREEN.

We have successfully worked in partnership with the "Safer South Gloucestershire" anti-social behaviour team due to reports of the same youths being involved in minor anti-social behaviour. This has resulted in these young people signing Anti-social Behaviour contracts. The PCSO's are continuing their work within all the local primary schools delivering educational packages, most recently around Halloween. Every relevant retail outlet was visited and advice regarding the sale of "eggs and flour" all this helped us have a relatively quiet evening.

The team have been liaising closely with the new Willow Brook centre establishing good relationships with security and the new outlets to promote partnership working. The PCSO's have held a "Have your say" day within the centre answering shoppers' questions and giving crime prevention advice.

On the subject of crime reduction with Christmas approaching please be extra vigilant, don't leave your Christmas shopping on view in the car, if possible avoid presents being on display underneath your tree and check on elderly and vulnerable neighbours with the weather now getting colder.

The next Safer and Stronger Community Group meeting is being held on Tuesday 9th December at 7pm at the Brook Way community centre. This is your opportunity to meet the team, councillors, community workers and other agencies to raise issues that may be concerning you. The meeting is aimed at listening to local residents and groups saying what they do in the community and looking at fresh ways to tackle new problems. Please come along and "Have your Say"

If you wish to discuss any of these issues or want a member of the team to attend any of your groups or meetings then please feel free to contact us. Non Emergency number:- 0845 4567000 Web-site:- www.avonandsomerset.police.uk

AVON & SOMERSET POLICE - BRADLEY STOKE BEAT PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

Partners and Communities Together gives you a chance to meet the team and influence priorities in your neighbourhood. Current public priorities (30th September 2008)

1. Parking and dangerous driving - roads surrounding Meadowbrook School.
2. Upkeep of the duck pond - Common East.
3. Anti-social behaviour - access and exit points to the Willow Brook Centre, in particular Manor Farm Crescent.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING

9 December 2008 at 7:00 PM at Brook Way Activity Centre. All members of the public are welcome to attend

Community Courses

A five week course starts Tuesday 13 January at Christ the King church hall from 9.30 to 11.30am called "Working With Children". This is an ideal course for anyone thinking of working with children but would like to find out more. Tuesday 17 February is the start of our "Introduction to Youth Work" – an eight week programme from 6.30 to 9.30 pm. We often have vacancies for youth workers and this course will be an opportunity to gain valuable knowledge and experience that may lead to paid work, or to a professional qualification in youth work that starts in September 2009. We are also holding a series of workshops to help people run their groups more effectively. These two-hour courses will be held in Bradley Stoke and cover

- Getting people involved
- Roles and responsibilities
- Effective communication and dealing with problems
- Running effective meetings
- Filling in grant applications

Southern Brooks Community Partnership is here to help any residents of the town who want to start new groups, or find information about activities in the community. You can contact us through the website or at our office in Bradley Stoke Community School on 01454 868570.

Baileys Court Youth Centre

Karen Cheal, a new team leader, has been appointed to run youth work at Baileys Court Activity Centre. Karen starts at the end of November and has lots of new ideas and if you are a young person with ideas as well then, please let us know and we will pass your contact details to Karen.

See www.bradleystokematters.co.uk for an online events diary.

ChildLine

ChildLine is the free 24-hour helpline for children and young people in the UK. Children and young people can call the helpline on **0800 1111** about any problem, at any time day or night.

Further Information

Members Of Parliament

Dr. Doug Naysmith MP (Lab) covers the southern part of Bradley Stoke and may be contacted at Unit 7, Greenway Business Centre, Doncaster Road, Southmead, Bristol BS10 5PY or tel: 0117 950 2385, Fax: 0117 950 5302.

Mr. Steve Webb MP (Lib Dem) covers the northern part of Bradley Stoke and may be contacted at Poole Court, Poole Court Drive, Yate, Bristol BS37 5PP, or tel: 01454 322100.

Bradley Stoke Town Council

Bradley Stoke Town Council came into being on 1 April 1992. There are some 14,019 on the current Register of Electors and 15 elected Councillors in seven Wards. Four Town Councillors are also Members of South Gloucestershire Council. Councillor Jon Williams is

one of our representatives for the South Gloucestershire Council Ward of Bradley Stoke North, and has just been elected onto the Town Council for the Meadowbank Ward.

Councillors

Robert Jones (Chair), Mark Forsyth (Vice Chair), John Ashe, Roger Avenin, Julian Barge Morgan Baynham, Ronnie Conway-Haskins, Keith Cranney, Sandra Hobson, Brian Hopkinson, Sarah Pomfret, David Skeet, Dr. Elizabeth Todd, Benjamin Walker, Jon Williams.

Meetings

As well as Full Council, there are Standing Committees for Planning, Environment & Amenities and Finance & Leisure. All Council and Standing Committee meetings are open to the public and the press. At any of these meetings electors

Academic Year

2008/9

Term 3: 5 Jan – 13 Feb 2009
Term 4: 23 Feb – 3 April 2009
Term 5: 20 April – 22 May 2009
Term 6: 1 June – 24 July 2009

Blood Doning

The Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre

Session Dates 2009

Friday 23 January, Friday 27 February, Friday 13 March, Friday 17 April, Friday 22 May, Friday 19 June

What's on

Sunday 14 December
CHRISTMAS CRACKER

Joint Local Churches & BSTC Party

Wednesday 4 March
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
Ring Julie on 01454 868570 for info.

Second Friday of each month
LOCAL PRODUCE MARKET AND COFFEE MORNING

Second Friday of each month
Brook Way Activity Centre
9.30am until 12.30pm.

Tuesday 1pm – 3pm
STOKES WOMEN'S GROUP

Little Stoke Youth Centre, Little Stoke Lane
16 December – Christmas Party
6 January – Coffee and Chat
13 January – Nail Art with Nyki
20 January – Jewellery Making
27 January – Visit from Fire Brigade
3 February – Colour Therapy
10 February Valentines Cooking
24 – Programme Planning

If you would like to join in with any of the above events, then please contact Heather on 07788103384 or Linda on 07767608236.

Useful Telephone Numbers



South Gloucestershire Council
Services Main Switchboard
Number:

01454 868009

Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre
01454 868050

Bradley Stoke Library
01454 868006

Dog Warden
01454 868000

Education - General Enquiries
01454 868008

Travellers
01454 863876

Trading Standards
01454 868001

Education - General enquiries
01454 868008

STREETCARE
01454 868000

Bradley Stoke Matters
Community Magazine
01454 201515

The nearest SORT IT!* Centre (Civic Amenity Site) to Bradley Stoke is at Station Road, Little Stoke

Opening Hours

Monday to Friday
Gates Open 8.00am
Gates Closed 4.15pm

Saturday & Bank Holidays
Gates Open 8.00am
Gates Closed 4.00pm

Sunday
Gates Open 9.00am
Gates Closed 1.00pm

Directions

From the Aztec West roundabout travel south towards Bristol on the A38. When approaching the flyover filter left, and then turn left at the traffic lights into Gipsy Patch Lane. Shortly you pass under a narrow railway bridge - turn left immediately afterwards into Station Road. The SORT IT!* site is half a mile ahead, on your right

South Glos Council's Streetcare and SORT IT! Helpdesk can be reached on 01454 868000. You will then be given a choice of numbers for the Council's services for Highways, Open Spaces, Street Lighting, Waste Services and Fly Tipping or email in on streetcare@southglos.gov.uk

Others

Filton Airfield Complaints Lines
0117 969 3831 & 0117 936 4595
(For any problems arising from the airfield)

Filton Police – Community Beat
Office Direct Line
0117 945 4835

Pet search (Lost/Found Pets)
0117 949 2774

Sofa Project
(Furniture Recycling Charity)
0117 9543567

Feedback



The Town Council welcomes your comments and opinions.

Please make your views known via the Clerk. Correspondence for Council and Councillors may be sent to:

David Chandler, Town Clerk, Bradley Stoke Town Council, 7 The Courtyard, Woodlands, Bradley Stoke, South Glos, BS32 4NQ

Telephone: (01454) 868080 Fax: (01454) 868084 E-mail: town.clerk@bradleystoke.gov.uk