

Bradley Stoke

TOWN COUNCIL



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Wednesday 10 May 2006 to be held at 7.30pm



PUBLIC MEETING

The Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre, Savages Wood Road, Bradley Stoke

You are cordially invited to stay for a
glass of wine or a soft drink
after the meeting

MISSION STATEMENT

Bradley Stoke Town Council will work to promote and develop the interests and diversity of this vibrant community.

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Meeting Agenda

- 1** To receive any apologies for absence
- 2** To appoint the Chair of the Town Meeting
- 3** To confirm the Minutes of the previous Town Meeting held on 21 May 2005
- 4** To receive the following reports:
 - 4.1** Council
 - 4.2** Finance & Leisure
 - 4.3** Planning, Environment & Amenities
- 5** To deal with questions from Local Government Electors of the Town

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A message from the Mayor of Bradley Stoke



*Dear Residents of
Bradley Stoke,*

This has been an amazing year for me during which I've met so many people and learnt so much more about the town I call home. As the first ethnic Mayor I am pleased to see the community spirit is gaining ground. As a council we have worked together to see that the strategic plans for our future growth are always moving forward.

The New Community School was opened this year. The Headteacher, Mr David Baker, got off to a dynamic start with several events including an innovative pantomime just before Christmas; quite a feat when you remember the students and teachers had only been there for one term. A Christmas carol service and children's celebration party initiated by the Town Council and involving all the local churches was just the start of the many facilities and events open to residents seven days a week. The school is in every sense for the community and has offered office accommodation to the Southern Brooks Community Partnership run by Julie Snelling and Ruth Cornish. Mr Baker's plans for the future include close co-operation with schools in our twin town of Champs sur Marne. This will give students a head start on the broadest horizons for their futures. We commend and support every effort to earn a good name for our school. All the primary schools are highly regarded and I hope that in the future more of these children will be admitted to places in the New Community School.

My first official engagement was to our twin town of Champs sur Marne where the schools have been eagerly awaiting closer links. My next function was planting wild flowers in our precious woods. This gives some indication of the range of engagements covered in the course of a year, and a fuller list is given elsewhere in this report.

Activities at the Leisure Complex are going from strength to strength. The New Year's Eve Party in 2005 was the best ever with great party games for the children so that parents could relax and enjoy their evening out as well. With new services such as physio and beauty care and longer library opening hours, it is becoming an ever more popular meeting place for young and old.

Multicultural activities and the cohesive society we are building is gathering momentum with more stunning events showcasing our exotic cultures. Bollywood and Yoga classes are very popular as people take the opportunity to learn more of other cultures.

The International Day of Tolerance was new to us this year and

provided an opportunity for people to share their hopes and aims for encouraging an integrated society, drawing on and benefitting from the experience and abilities of the whole community. Similarly, the overwhelming success of the International Women's Day in March (attended by over three hundred women) indicates a support for making this an annual event in our diary. Our regular community lunches for residents are also well attended and provide opportunities for meeting and 'networking'. As a council, we were pleased to receive glowing praise from residents for the Bradley Stoke Community Festival and Fireworks Display.

Where ever possible on radio shows or interviews for the media I have represented our town with pride and enthusiasm. With our website receiving an award we have a lot to be proud of. Our man with a van can be seen chugging round keeping things ship shape. The skate park has proved exceedingly popular and thanks to an active input from residents, any teething problems were brought under control. Discussions with the PCT are continuing with regard to the development of health care in Bradley Stoke and the surrounding practices. Two of our residents launched Bradley Stoke Matters this year and it took off in a spectacular fashion, doubling circulation within the year through paid advertising. It is a very informative, handy guide to what's on in Bradley Stoke and the surrounding area.

Keeping Bradley Stoke as green as possible has been adopted as a policy by the Town Council. Encouraging children to walk to school is one example of cutting congestion and is good on the health front also. I can personally say that a joint effort between South Gloucestershire officers, the Town Council and Tesco, and taking into account points raised over previous plans, has resulted in a plan that more accurately reflects our criteria for the Town Centre.

The more input we have from residents the better are we able to create a town that we can be proud of. Many people were not aware that we are a town in our own right or that we have a Mayor. I hope I have gone some way to rectify that situation by being seen out and about as much as possible, not just at the monthly surgeries we hold for residents at the Leisure Centre.

As Chair, on behalf of all my fellow councillors, let me say a big thank you to the staff at our offices and those taking care of our facilities. You, my fellow councillors and I can make this a thriving multicultural town. I hope that the future will again see a Mayor and councillors from other ethnic groups to support the tradition. We can all benefit from the talents and ideas from all our residents. Why not choose to get involved and become a councillor as I did.

*Sandra Hobson
Mayor*

Bradley Stoke Town Council

At the Annual General Meeting in May 2005, two new councillors were co-opted to the Town Council, Councillors Veronica (Ronnie) Conway-Haskins and Heather Williams, thus returning the Council to its full membership of 15. As his last act as Mayor of Bradley Stoke, Councillor Julian Barge presented £500 to each of his chosen charities for the year, namely the Bouncing Babies Group, Young at Heart Club for the Over 50s and Breakthrough Breast Cancer, an additional sum was also presented to the Three Brooks Conservation Group.

Councillor Sandra Hobson was elected Chair of Council and Mayor for the ensuing year, with Karen Sanders as Vice Chair. Statutory business at the AGM included the appointment of Standing Committees and representatives to serve on outside bodies as well as updating the Bank mandates and appointing Auditors. There was news of a grant towards the provision of teenage equipment on the Jubilee Green, derived from a Section 106 Agreement on the new development under construction at Manor Farm Crescent.

By June a further Council vacancy had arisen because of Councillor Robert Warne retiring and planning to move abroad, but this took some time to fill and it was nearly Christmas before Councillor Dr David Gladstone could be co-opted. The July meeting of Council made a number of major suggestions about the further Electoral Review that was underway, the results of which are still awaited. Council was particularly concerned for the ill effects the Boundary Committee's recommendations would have on the sense of community that had been painstakingly developed over the previous 18 years since Bradley Stoke began.

During September Council spent much time discussing the proposed refurbishment of Baileys Court Activity Centre and how best this might be achieved. Extensive surveys were conducted and reviewed under the guidance of Mr John White, Project Manager, and Council's financial capabilities for this project were closely examined. This work formed an integral part of the annual budget process that would define the Precept for the following year 2006/2007. The final annual budget was approved in January 2006.

Concept statements for Baileys Court Activity Centre were received in February and ideas are being fine-tuned. This means that some exciting proposals were agreed for development of this community site. Provided the plans could be realised within the available budget, it could be possible for the building to be completed subject to planning approval within a year, thus providing a valuable extension to the Council's community facilities in the Baileys Court area.

In March, two more co-options were agreed and Councillors Adam Haskins and Robert Jones were welcomed to Council. Forthcoming events were anticipated such as an Easter egg hunt and Easter Bonnet competition linked into a coffee morning for residents, the Annual Community Festival that was now an established major event in our calendar, the ever-popular Firework display and another Christmas

celebration children's party. International Women's Day was celebrated in March, with 300 plus women attending.



Further work was done on the Strategic Performance Plan that would consolidate Council's achievements and provide a plan for the following three years. A number of additional security and CCTV measures at Council

premises were planned in response to an increasing amount of vandalism being experienced.

In many respects the year was one of 'business as usual' with some high points. Both the Internal and External Auditors had commented favourably on the financial dealings of the Council and the presentation of the accounts; the Website had been commended in the Co-op Bank/NALC Annual Communications Award; and got to the final five of the Sage/Daily Telegraph Website of the Year 10-49 Employees.

Overall Council have set in force a number of exciting developments this year that would be of great benefit to the residents of Bradley Stoke in future years.

Bradley Stoke Town Council
March 2006

Finance and Leisure Committee

Business As Usual doesn't begin to describe the variety of activities undertaken by the Finance and Leisure Committee in the course of a year. The Brief for the Committee is at least as long as the space I have for this Report, but its main aims are to consider and keep under review the main objectives of the Council; all major or overall issues of policy affecting the Town; the development of existing, and introduction of new, services; the order of priorities as between one service or project and another; and to advise other committees accordingly. In this connection I would like to thank all members of the Committee and the Town Council staff for their valuable support and guidance in all that the Committee has undertaken.

For some years the Town Council has been considering how best to develop Baileys Court Activity Centre to provide a better home for the resident Bowls and Cricket Clubs and extend its availability for youth and other groups throughout the year. Extensive consultations and exploration of possibilities have brought us to a point where plans may be prepared for a formal planning application. If this is successful it is likely that building will begin during the year.

Matters are in hand to provide a bus shelter at the totally exposed bus stop near Courtlands on Brook Way. A bus stop of the sort required here costs in the region of £6000. There are already 42 shelters around the town, provided and maintained by the Town Council over the years. It is an agonising job to prioritise the remaining stops that as yet have no shelters, but Council welcomes suggestions for the location of additional bus shelters and litter or dog bins that can be added to its Budget for future years.

The new Licensing Laws came into effect at the end of 2005 and Baileys Court Activity Centre is now licensed accordingly. A licence for the Jubilee Centre has also been applied for but both are considerably more expensive than previously. Council feels this is justified, however, as they will provide positive benefits for those who use the premises.

Much of the year is spent in considering income and expenditure and planning for the needs of the town in the forthcoming year in order to establish a Precept, which is the funding obtained for the Town Council alongside the Council Tax demanded by South Gloucestershire Council. It is worth restating, however, that the Town Council is an autonomous body, entirely separate from South Gloucestershire Council although the two councils need to co-operate and consult on a wide range of activities, and frequently do.



The Town Council derives its income from two main sources. The first and largest is the Precept that is received from residents and this year amounts to £695,844. The second is revenue from the letting of Council facilities to groups and individuals, although this only partially offsets the losses incurred in maintaining them. The deficit is met from the Precept.

Council felt it necessary to increase the Precept this year by 5.2% above the previous year although last year's Precept had actually been reduced from the year before that. The increase is necessary in order to maintain existing services and prepare for modest expansion to meet the ever burgeoning needs of a large town and its council. There are approximately 10,500 parish and town councils throughout England and Wales, of which Bradley Stoke Town Council belongs to a group of 80 or so that are known as the Larger Town Councils.



In the past year, Council has been pleased to receive just under £11,000 from a Section 106 Agreement on the housing development at Manor Farm Crescent. This will go towards enhancement of the Jubilee Green established last year. A further £4000 received via Southern Brooks Area Forum will be used to improve a cycle path off Champion drive and provide some additional litter bins around the town. Receipts such as these can only be regarded as 'windfall' money and cannot be relied upon each year but they are none the less welcome for all that.

Preparation of Budgets and Precepts leads, of course, to an eventual Audit. Both an independent internal and external audit are required whereby the dealings of the Town Council and its staff are scrutinised in detail to ensure that best practice is rigorously maintained not only with regard to its accounts but to the conduct of all Council business. It is pleasing to note yet again the favourable comments of the Auditors on the thoroughness of



our accounts and that no major problems have been found. The final audit for the year ending March 2006 will take place in June.

Tens of thousands of pounds each year is spent on repairs and maintenance and ways of reducing vandalism that in turn is a major cause of the need for repairs. Legislation, not least relating to Health & Safety, demands that certain standards are upheld. For example, if a car park has lighting, it must be in working order and a simple act of vandalism can result in hundreds of pounds worth of repairs. Windows get broken, litter bins are set on fire, pavings are ripped up and graffiti is applied to walls. The CCTV that has been installed at Baileys Court Activity Centre and the Jubilee Centre has improved the situation somewhat and it is hoped that CCTV recently agreed for Brook Way will continue this trend, but at a cost. Indoors, inconsiderate blocking

of toilets with soiled nappies and paper towels can result in expensive visits from such as Dynorod.

Each year Council sets aside a certain amount of money to grant aid projects that it deems worthy of support. In addition, several organisations have been awarded 'service level agreements' that last for a period of years enabling them to budget more effectively over time. A list of recipients is given elsewhere in this report.

The 'surgeries' held by Councillors on the first Saturday of each month at Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre continue to provide an important service to residents who may talk with the Councillors on any matters that concern the town and its inhabitants. The surgeries also provide valuable feedback for Council on the concerns of residents that Council can then seek to address in its future planning.

As a footnote, the last major housing development in the town is nearing completion and talks are in hand regarding the provision of additional health facilities on a site that has been reserved for them for many years. At the time of writing we still await movement on the provision of a town centre but, as one who has lived in Bradley Stoke from the beginning, it is exciting to think that next year-2007-and with all its component parts very nearly complete-will see the town's 20th anniversary and the Town Council's 15th.

Councillor Julian Barge
Chair of Finance and Leisure

Planning, Environment & Amenities Committee

During the year, in September 2005, we saw the long awaited opening of Bradley Stoke Community School and we are now seeing the last two remaining residential developments taking place along Brook Way.

The Town is an altogether different place since this Council took Office in 2003. We have seen new Civic Amenities opened, improvements in roadways and walkways and our green spaces preserved and protected for us all to enjoy.

2005 also saw record planning applications for additions and extensions to private dwellings showing yet again that Bradley Stoke is a community where families want to put down long term roots and be part of a growing town that affords a good quality of life. All in all, some 171 planning applications were considered during the year.

The "Town Centre" has reached a stage closer to reality as Tesco have displayed plans that have been favourably received by our residents. I'm being optimistic but hope that next year's Report will record that this project is well underway.

My thanks are due to all members of the Committee and to the Clerk and office staff for their advice and support.

Councillor Christopher Lees
Chair of Planning, Environment & Amenities



Report from the Town Clerk

The past year has seen a continuation of activity to benefit residents that has ranged from the installation of roller towels at the Activity Centres, thereby eliminating both the theft of paper towels and the blockage of toilets with them, to the provision of a tarmac path across the Jubilee Green that replaces the often flooded original. A programme to increase the number of litter and dog bins around the town is in hand. Council welcomes representation from residents regarding improvements that may be made and where possible it aims to implement them, although it may be a while before funding can be obtained.

However, there are quite a few things that are the prerogative of South Gloucestershire Council rather than the Town Council. It is not possible, for example, for the Town Council to take on roles that properly belong to Highways, or Education, or Refuse Collection, etc., and although the Town Council is statutorily consulted on all planning applications within the town, South Gloucestershire Council is the Planning Authority that has the final decision.

opportunity was also taken to check out all the signage in the buildings so that it too complies with the latest legislation. Such matters are part of the on-going concerns for health and safety that is a top priority in ensuring best quality premises for all our hirers. Many necessary measures are not immediately visible, such as the upgrading of the boiler room fire door at Baileys Court Activity Centre to comply with modern standards, and may cost hundreds if not thousands of pounds.

Each year an amount is set aside in the budget for repairs and maintenance, much of which is the result of vandalism. In the month ending March this year some £1500 was spent on repairing vandalism, plus VAT, plus staff time in sorting it all out. It is a matter of concern that this bill is rising annually but Council has installed closed circuit television cameras at Baileys Court Activity Centre and the Jubilee Centre and is planning to install more at Brook Way Activity Centre (in addition to the previously installed security shutters) in the near future. Each of the buildings is alarmed and security personnel are quickly on site if the alarm is triggered. The main



A major piece of legislation with which the Town Council had to comply during the year was the Disability Discrimination Act. We are fortunate in that none of the Council's premises are more than 15 years old and therefore did not need many alterations. Most might be described as 'cosmetic', such as adjusting the height of light switches and installing special parking bays in car parks, but all are welcome improvements for the comfort and convenience of those who use our buildings. All premises were already accessible to wheelchairs and, being single storey, do not require lifts. The

acts of vandalism are broken windows and damage to litter bins and bus shelters. Boarding windows up temporarily and then replacing the glass as well as replacing damaged litter bins are expensive. Each act of vandalism is reported to the police as a matter of course and crime numbers are obtained.

That any vandalism should occur at all is disappointing, but Council is generally pleased at the response of hirers who find the facilities amongst the best available in the area and this is in no small part due to the care and attention of the staff at each

of the premises. Daily checks usually several times a day ensure that any defect is quickly reported and remedial steps can be taken.

The appointment of our maintenance technician with his little red van has been one of the major contributions to keeping up standards not only at the Centres but in the six off-site play and skateboard areas around the town. Grounds maintenance is sub-contracted because it is not economically viable to purchase and store the necessary equipment ourselves. Elsewhere in this report you will read how pleased the teams are with the way the pitches are being looked after.

There are still opportunities for room hire at each of the Centres, mainly during the day but on some evenings as well. The rates are very reasonable and any group that is looking to set up or find warm and comfortable meeting rooms should contact the Council office. There is scope for regular room hire

throughout the year, but it is Council's policy to reserve most of each weekend for sports activities and one-off children's parties where modern homes do not always allow for twenty or thirty young children to play games. All our premises are facilities for the community that, as the hire charges do not cover the actual costs, are heavily supported from the Precept that is charged every year.

It is a pleasure, and much more than a formality, to thank all the staff for their help and dedication during the year. The Town Council is effectively a 'service industry' and to a great extent the staff are the services, for without them very little would get done.

David Chandler
Town Clerk

Health & Safety

Health & Safety issues are now dealt with by the Planning, Environment & Amenities Committee. This committee meets monthly at the Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre.

Annual community events have become a focus in the Bradley Stoke Town Council's calendar. Under our duty of care to staff and the residents of Bradley Stoke, attention is taken to make sure that the correct safety arrangements have been made. This involves checking contractors' and service providers' public liability insurance and own arrangements to manage risk where necessary; considering the need for first aid cover; informing and working with the Police and Fire Service; and considering other risks as far as is reasonably practicable in the form of risk assessment.

Risk Assessment is a statutory requirement and consists of five steps:

- ❖ Look for hazards
- ❖ Decide who might be harmed and how
- ❖ Evaluate the risks and decide whether the existing precautions are adequate or whether more should be done
- ❖ Record the findings
- ❖ Review your assessment and revise it if necessary

Hirers may find themselves involved in the risk assessment process when they book a room at Baileys Court Activity Centre, the Brook Way Activity Centre or the Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre. Work has been done to manage risk when using Inflatable Bouncing Devices, Barbeques and other equipment as they arise. This involves showing copies of the supplier's insurance where requested and following the terms & conditions highlighted in the risk assessment. Following simple safety steps helps towards a safe event and peace of mind for both the hirer and the Town Council.

The Bradley Stoke Community Festival, the Fireworks Event and the Community Carol

Celebration all ran successfully and safely. Every year our events are growing as is our experience and reviewing past events is a useful and necessary step in planning the next one.

The Skate Park is over one year old now and has proved to be a safe area for skate & BMX play. All Bradley Stoke Town Council Activity Centres and Play Areas have checking procedures in place so that

faults, vandalism and general wear & tear can be discovered in reasonable time and corrective action taken. There are signs on display at each location with how to contact the Town Council so that members of the public can also report any concern. The Play Areas are checked regularly by trained BSTC staff and also undergo yearly in-depth checks by an outside professional body. This year three members of staff successfully completed the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) RPII course and are competent to carry out routine inspections of children's playgrounds.

Vicky Davies
Administrator: Health & Safety



Activity Centres

Unfortunately over the last year for one reason or another I have lost three leisure Assistants from my team. Over the last year there have been many changes (for the better) in the Centres, with the two major ones being the installation of computers on each site giving easier communications with the office; and the introduction of a new staff rota (which

specialist attention. The football and cricket facilities are now at a very high standard and the daily attention/repair work that they now receive is paying dividends with praise from the resident Clubs.

The 'man with a van' is working extremely well for me, as Roy is able to get out and about the town with



helps give the best possible service to our hirers). Despite the loss of three team members over the year, the remaining team members have applied themselves well and adapted excellently to changing roles.

Attendances have been extremely pleasing at our monthly Leisure Assistant meetings and the staff have displayed great willingness when asked to attend various courses on both skills and social aspects of work ie Manual Handling and Fire Training and Behavioural Aspects of Work.

We have been hit with various spates of vandalism to our buildings around the town during 2005/ 2006 which is obviously frustrating and costly, but we are always looking at putting measures into place to give ourselves the best possible chance on working on the up keep of the buildings.

Our contract ground staff have been working hard to improve the appearance of all three sites over the last year, all of which really needed individual

the appropriate tools and is always the first on hand to attend any vandalism to properties owned by the Town Council and make safe when necessary. Roy is also responsible for cleaning up the Skate Park as well as maintaining the equipment/six other play areas and the community centres in Bradley Stoke so we are currently keeping him very busy!

The community events held at The Jubilee Centre last year were extremely successful and very well attended. The festival was bigger and better than the previous year and the whole weekend ran very smoothly. The firework display was again very well organised by the staff, and the display itself was a huge success. Hopefully these events will carry on being very popular as I think it is great to see all the people of Bradley Stoke visiting the site and joining together to help support these community events.

John Rendell
Activity Centres Manager

Bradley Stoke Community Beat Manager

— based at Filton Police Station —

Welcome to this, my second annual report as Beat manager for the Bradley Stoke area and I am delighted to have worked with so many keen and enthusiastic people who live or work in the area.

Bradley Stoke is a highly populated residential area and is in the process of having more homes built which will increase the population even more. Commuters increase the population by thousands each day.



PCSO Gareth Delve, who is Police Support Community Officer for our area, has joined me this year and even though his post is only part-time he has been a great help to me in dealing with the issues that we have.

These issues include motorcycles and the current craze is Mini Moto's that are very small motorised bikes which are easily available at local stores and do not cost much. I should inform all residents that these bikes can only be ridden on private land with the land owner's permission and are not to be ridden on any public places like paths, roads, anywhere on the Three Brooks Walk or the Nature Reserve. The Police have recently been given new powers to deal with nuisance bikes such as mini motos and, if certain criteria are met such as a person being caught on a public road without any driving documents, the Police will be able to seize the vehicle and subsequently send it to Police HQ to be dismantled. PCSO Delve and I will continue to carry out patrols both overtly and covertly, and offenders will be dealt with appropriately. However, it might be inappropriate to report everyone for offences when they may not have known they were committing them.

There are constant calls to police about youths causing criminal damage, drug abuse, drinking and general anti-social behaviour and the more recent trend of graffiti. I have identified these areas and am arranging extra patrols in the hot spots. By working in partnership with others from within the local community - local retail stores and the Leisure Centre for example - it has been possible to identify individuals and deal with the root of the problem by using Anti-social Behaviour Contracts (ASBOs) and involve the parents more. I will not tolerate Anti-social Behaviour and have already this year issued a number of Anti-social Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) to local youths due to their involvement.

Initiatives like the free football training available on Wednesday nights at Brook Way Activity Centre are still open to anyone who would like to take part and the youth groups in Bradley Stoke are always organising other initiatives that I am also involved in. In developing these initiatives it is hoped that the youths of Bradley Stoke will not be just hanging around getting bored and causing a nuisance.

There has been a lot of hard work done to implement a Travel Plan to encourage pupils to walk or ride to the new Community School instead of being driven there. It has been a privilege to be involved with this plan. Where parents do drive their children to school, however, it is important that they take care with regard to their parking and speed. There are also six primary schools that have similar issues. I plan to do regular school patrols and will enforce any parking offence seen at that time.

I have now moved my regular police surgery's to the Bradley Stoke Library at the Leisure Centre. Dates are available from a number of locations around Bradley Stoke or, if you have internet access, visit Avon and Somerset police web page and go to your local beat where you can find updated information on a wide range of issues.

The overall total number of reported crimes for the period of April 2005/2006 has again shown a drop from the previous year from 776 to 742. Burglaries have shown a big decrease following police operations in the area, as has theft from motor vehicles. Unfortunately, the theft of motor vehicles themselves has increased and a lot have been stolen using the owners' keys, so please make sure you secure your vehicles and don't leave keys on show.

Bradley Stoke still has one of the lowest crime rates in South Gloucestershire, which is even more impressive when you look at the high population it has compared with other areas. In recent months with the help of members of the public, the Police have been able to make arrests concerning drug related offences and vehicle crime. That members of the public have been proactive in this way is a great help and underlines the commitment the police have in dealing with this kind of criminal activity. Please take the time to tell me about any criminal activity or suspicious incidents that you witness, as this information can sometimes make all the difference in preventing crime. You can contact me via the Avon and Somerset Web site or e-mail me at shaun.oliver@avonandsomerset.police.uk or call 0845 456 7000

PC Shaun Oliver *Bradley Stoke Beat-Manager*



Bradley Stoke Community School

Being associated with Bradley Stoke Community School in 2006 is a once in a lifetime opportunity! The school's facilities are unrivalled in terms of being suited to education in the 21st century and those who are a part of the school in its initial phase are pioneers. The first year 7 cohort of 186 students is now settled and working effectively with the 12 teachers and 18 other staff. There is great anticipation as we prepare to double in size this year and we are now looking forward to welcoming the second cohort of year 7 students and staff in September 2006 as we seek to ensure that the children of Bradley Stoke are given an inspirational secondary education that will be both memorable and successful. Our vision is for a school which is both in the community and for the community. The school has a new governing body since January, with a significant proportion of the temporary governing body continuing their service. The governors represent parents and the local community and work closely with the staff team to deliver the vision.

The school

Bradley Stoke Community School has been designed to cater for 900 students in the age range 11 to 16 years, covering teaching years 7 to 11. Initially the intake was 185 Year 7 students in September 2005, with a further 180 starting in year 7 each September for the following 4 years. Not surprisingly, now that the school is open, there has been huge interest in places for this September. Discussions will take place in due course about the possibility of post 16 provision at Bradley Stoke Community School in partnership with other local schools and colleges.

The school site is one of the most technologically advanced in the country with specialist facilities in all teaching and learning areas of the school and a flexible ICT (wired and wireless) infrastructure throughout the school. All teaching rooms have interactive whiteboard facilities and all teaching staff have laptop computers, which are used to register students electronically every lesson. Staff and students can access e-mail and electronic files in school and at home via the Bradley Stoke Community School 24-hour school.

The modern design has been planned to provide appropriate temperatures for learning at all times of year and a range of facilities for students when they are not in class. All aspects of the accommodation and site are fully accessible to all users. In addition to the buildings, the site boasts a range of outdoor facilities including floodlit all-weather sports pitch and tennis courts, landscaped courtyard areas for students to relax in and a large number of good quality cycle racks.

The curriculum mixes a traditional subject-based approach with a more modern personalised approach focusing on skills for learning, student-directed learning and healthy lifestyles. This approach will be developed further in due course.

The community

It is not a coincidence that the school is called Bradley Stoke Community School; it reflects our



desire to work with the community and to involve the community in the life of the school from the outset. We are developing strong partnerships with local primary and secondary schools and other education providers based around common areas of interest and being able to support one another in what we would like to achieve. It is our hope that the school will provide a focal point for the people of Bradley Stoke and that there will be opportunities to bring many people together for a range of purposes and activities in the months and years ahead. It has been our aim to establish strong relationships with the town council, local clubs and churches, the leisure centre, local businesses and other agencies but especially with the people of Bradley Stoke and much work has already taken place in this area. We



host training events, meetings, conferences, community learning and all sorts of community sports and leisure events every day so the school is a familiar place to many local residents already.

One way in which we will develop partnership work is through seeking additional funding to support collaborative work. We are finalising a bid to become a specialist school which we hoped to submit to the DfES in March 2006 but as we are still short of sponsorship we have had to postpone until the autumn. This will provide additional funding to work with the community on specific projects over a 4-year period in the first instance. Extensive preparation and consultation have taken place and we plan to become a specialist school for performing arts and languages from September 2007 and would welcome contact with community groups interested in the specialist areas.

The school is keen to work in partnership with local clubs and organisations and offers discounts and priority access to users who are willing to contribute to the range of enrichment activities for students. Community activities run until 10:00p.m. most days of the week. Students are welcome in school from 8:00a.m. until 5:00p.m. every day and many of them choose to be there for that long either based in the learning centre or participating in extra-curricular activities after school. Our current year 7 students were involved in decision-making about many issues affecting them before they started at the school as consultation was a strong feature of preparing for the school opening whilst they were in year 6. An interim school council, which met during the months leading up to the school opening, has now been replaced by a council with representation from each tutor group and it is a significant leadership group within the school. Feedback from visitors who have met



students has confirmed that our students feel that they are listened to and that they have a voice. We feel that this is important and want to build on the promising start we have made in this area of our work. Students will be fully involved in the recruitment process for our next round of staff appointments, as they were last year.



School Official Opening

Samba Band



If you would like to see the school prospectus, which contains more information about school routines etc. as well as photos of facilities, students and staff, please check the website:

<http://www.southglos.gov.uk/hosted/cyp/bradleystokeschool/>.

Bradley Stoke Community School was the focus of a documentary entitled "Creating a School", made for Teachers' TV during the 6 months before the opening of the school. It is about the process of preparing to open a new school and can be viewed on the Teachers' TV website: <http://www.teachers.tv/strandProgramme.do?strandId=6&transmissionProgrammId=252631>

Dave Baker *Headteacher*

Southern Brooks Community Partnership

This has been an exciting year for us as we finally have a base in Bradley Stoke. In September we were lucky enough to move into the new Bradley Stoke Community School. This new school will make a real difference to children in the town and will provide a focus for community activity. We are very pleased to be part of it!

Southern Brooks Community Partnership is a registered charity, managed by a voluntary management committee. Our mission in life is to "Build Community Spirit". At our AGM in November we changed our name. This is mainly because we now deliver services across the area, as we have taken on the work of Scaffold and we've been around a long time now, over 15 years, so the management committee don't feel we're a "project" anymore. At the AGM we were pleased to welcome two new management committee members from Bradley Stoke and Edna Faulkner, another resident of the town, is now Chair. We have a full time youth work team in Bradley Stoke, run weekly toy library sessions, a domestic abuse support group and employ a community worker and family support worker, who are both busy helping with new groups.

Another highlight for us this year was the very successful Community Festival. As well as working with the Festival Association and the Town Council to plan the event, we secured funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund Young Roots programme. This gave young people aged 13 - 19 the chance to explore different cultural heritages and to showcase the activities at the festival. During the run up to the event, many local young people and their families took place in workshops and one of the successes was the creation of "Shona the Dragon", now proudly protecting Coniston Community Centre in Patchway.

For several years we have been running after school activities in Coniston Primary School. This year we are pleased to have secured funding to run activities in several of the Bradley Stoke Primary schools and in the community school. Called "YES" clubs (short for Your Extended Schools), these are great opportunities for children to take part in games and activities that they choose, and we're currently making props with children for them to take part in the next Community Festival. As the Saturday of the festival is the first day of the World Cup, we hope the children will make flags and artefacts to represent the different countries involved. We're also running parenting workshops, both in primary schools and in the community school, and over May half-term will be holding an activity day for secondary school parents and their children.

We've been pleased to work closely with the Town Council to host quarterly community meals. In November a lunch was held to mark International Day of Tolerance and the event was opened up to people across the area. Over 50 people attended, from a variety of different ethnic groups and it was an opportunity to find out more about different cultures and people's experience of living in this town. We've now been funded through a Faith Communities grant to run events bringing people from different faiths together. In Bradley Stoke we hope to hold an event in December focussing on young people. It feels really important that as the town continues to grow we foster a sense of community and mutual respect for everybody living here.

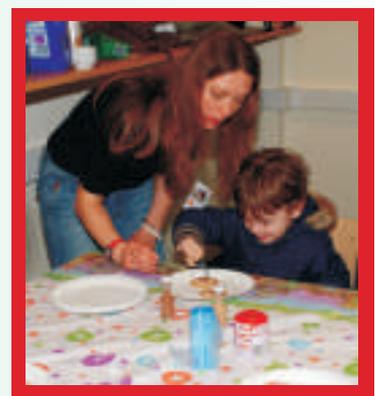


"People working together at the Business Conference"

For the first time in several years a celebration of International Women's Day was held. International Women's Day (8 March) is an occasion marked by women's groups around the world. We're really glad that Bradley Stoke Town Council supported the event with funding and what a success it was, with over 300 women attending. How do we build on that for next year? If you'd like to be involved in helping to plan this, let us know. One of the requests from the day was for more assertiveness workshops, so working with Flexible Training Partners, a local training consultancy, we are pleased to be running for workshops in May. Other requests included creative writing and yoga classes, and we will be setting these up soon.

In February we organised a workshop with Patchway Community College to bring together voluntary and community groups, funders and local businesses. The aim of the workshop was to get people talking about how different organisations could work more closely to everyone's benefit. It was a great event, and we now have the beginnings of an action plan to pick up the suggestions made.

In March we worked with a group of people to organise a celebration of the work of the Early Years Partnership. The event was held at Bradley Stoke Community School, and the many families that attended were treated to lots of fun with a Bear Hunt, balloons, craft stalls and play sessions. There were information stalls from lots of organisations and in the evening the new plan for Children and Young People was presented. Several young people had made a DVD about their ideas on the plan, and along with adults that had made a difference in the community, they were presented with certificates to mark their achievements.



"Family Support Worker Stacey Harvey making delicious iced biscuits"

In the past much of the funding for community development work in the town has been provided by South Gloucestershire Council. This year they have decided to concentrate their resources on "disadvantaged communities" and "new towns". Apparently Bradley Stoke no longer counts as a new town, which will be a surprise to everyone living here. We are grateful to Bradley Stoke Town Council for providing additional support for our work. Every new town has the need to bring people together to identify common issues and to set up new groups and we will continue to work with local residents to help them turn their ideas into reality. We provide help to community groups in applying for funding, advice on getting started and workshops on the whole range of issues that help groups run effectively. So if you have a germ of an idea and would like help in getting other people involved, please ring us. Corrina Wood is the new community development worker in the town, focussing at the moment on involving local groups in this year's festival.

We are actively involved in a number of organisations that provide services in the town, such as Patchway & the Stokes Volunteer Bureau, the Play Association (which provides free play activities for children in August) and Freespace (activities for young people in August). So we have a wide range of contacts with people that are helping make Bradley Stoke a wonderful place to live.

Southern Brooks Community Partnership

Room F22, Bradley Stoke Community School, Fiddlers Wood Lane, Bradley Stoke, Bristol, BS32 9BS

Office Manager	Mo Bell	Main office base:	01454 868570
Project Co-ordinator	Julie Snelling:	07989370715	jscdp@ukonline.co.uk
Youth Development Manager	Ruth Cornish:	0781 4075339	bradleystokeyouth@hotmail.com
Children's Services Manager	Jenny Bourne:	0117 3309071	Jbourne2003@hotmail.co.uk
Project Workers	01454 867076	01454 868573	
Scaffold Toy Library	Cheryl Godsell		
Domestic Abuse	Jackie Davison	07812 032219	
Coniston Community	Ruth Ramsay	07855 167037	
Extended schools co-ordinator	Lorna Wood	01454 868570	Worker
Family Support Workers	Kim Morton	Corrina Wood	Stacy Harvey
Green Hut Youth team	Daniel Boulton	Lee Bateman	Andrew Fine
Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre	Daniel Boulton	Elizabeth Charles	

This year we have increased our staff team significantly, and now employ about 70 full and part time staff. We often have vacancies and would also be interested to hear from people that may like to undertake some voluntary work with us - this could be anything from a few hours a week admin support in the office, to being involved in working with our children and young people's schemes (following satisfactory CRB Disclosures). Our AGM is in November every year and this is the chance for people to come and find out about our work and get involved in the management committee if they want to. Membership of our organisation is free, and open to everybody living or working in the town. Thanks to four wonderful UWE students who did a placement with us, we now have a website. We are still adding to the content, but you'll find lots of information about our activities on it, along with job vacancies and forthcoming events and an application for membership form. We'd like it to be a really useful community resource, so if you'd like your group details on the site, please let us know.

The website address is:
www.sbcommunitypartnership.org.uk

Julie Snelling
Project Co-ordinator

Southern Brooks Community Partnership is a registered charity and is managed by volunteers, some representing organisations that are active within the town. We are a membership organisation and there are several categories of membership. If you live in our area or you belong to a group that meets in the towns you are welcome to join the project. Membership is free, and as well as receiving the newsletter, we can provide advice and support with fundraising, access to low cost office services and network membership to a variety of organisations including the South West Forum.

Bradley Stoke Youth Development Project

There have been some major changes to the delivery of youth work in the Town. Bradley Stoke Youth Initiative after years of delivering youth work in the Jubilee Centre decided to merge with the Development Project. This means the project applied for the South Gloucestershire tender and has taken on the management of the Club. We are sure that with a good staff team and the input of the young people we will be able to build on the work of Bradley Stoke Youth Initiative.

We are keen to announce that the future of Youth Work in Bradley Stoke is looking more secure. This year Bradley Stoke Town Council and South Gloucestershire Council have agreed to fund the Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre Youth Club, the Green Hut Youth Club and detached youth project for the next three years. This means that the project can actively work with the local stakeholders to ensure youth facilities within the Town continue to develop.

The Green Hut Youth club has a vibrant team consisting of Daniel Boulton leader-in-charge on Monday & Tuesday, Lee Bateman leader-in-charge on a Wednesday, we also have Charlotte Croome who works on a Monday & Wednesday, Laura Sandman works on a Tuesday, Sarah Norton who works on a Monday & Tuesday and Sue Sandman who works on a Tuesday. Three of the team have completed the introduction to youth work course and Sarah has gone on to start her National qualification for sessional youth workers. We run many different projects and activities in the youth club for example: a recent Music project where some young people made a CD of their own music. We are hoping to start up a football team within the youth club for the older young people to play in a pro league in Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre playing on a Sunday night. There is a good atmosphere in the club and all the young people have good ideas for the club. We try to get them involved and they have recently helped to plan their own activities. In partnership with Connexions and the sexual health team we have recently launched a drop in advice session for young people every week. The project is funded for an academic year from money from Awards For All.

Bradley Stoke town is still lacking a dedicated youth club. The original vision for this facility was to run as a drop in café with internet and music facilities, as per the Youth Strategy Document of 2003. The project will continue to raise this as an important issue over the next few months. The Project is striving to ensure that young people have a say in the Project, which has been a bit of a challenge recently. We have decided to take a new approach and work towards having groups in the youth clubs that meet every six weeks to decide things for the club. For example, we are involving young people in the interviewing of new staff members. In terms of the wider scene we will be working with young people on areas of specific interest.

A huge thanks goes to the new Community School team for making us feel very welcome in our new offices. We have recently moved into the building and we are hopeful that it will be a good partnership for all concerned. The youth worker has recently started working with eight young people on producing a school newsletter, the first copy of which will be ready for October half term.

Successes

- ❖ Duane, Keiron and Max worked with the detached team for five months and then were joined by five others to produce a DVD on young people and alcohol. The DVD was shown at the first Bristol Young Film Makers festival
- ❖ The Skatepark was opened this year and is very well used by young people. They helped to organise a skate park competition as part of Bradley Stoke Community Festival. The event went really well and they are keen to help plan one for next year.
- ❖ Twelve young people spent the day at Rovers receiving football training and then attended a match. AJ has shown an aptitude for coaching football and has recently completed the service part of his Duke of Edinburgh award for coaching football to younger people,
- ❖ Four young people attended a wheels Project where they learned how to strip and assemble go-karts. They seemed to thoroughly enjoy the session.
- ❖ Twelve young women completed a baby sitting course. Some of the group then went on to run a crèche for the day. This involved planning, organising and working out the health and safety aspects of such a venture. Some of the group are still meeting and working on a talent show.
- ❖ Two Young Mums have recently completed a peer mentoring project with South Gloucestershire Young Mums group. The number at Young Mums has been steadily growing and they regularly have seven young mums to a session. We would like to welcome Charlie as the new Young Mums worker
- ❖ At the Bradley Stoke Festival 40 young people participated in a football tournament and about 30 people aged 4 to 75+ helped with the construction of a 3metre long willow dragon.

Ruth Cornish *Youth Development Manager*

Bradley Stoke Youth Development Project Aspirations for 2005/6

Detached Youth Project	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To plan and deliver at least three projects a year which can be accredited 2. To work with the skate park users to set up a user group 3. To work with young people, their families and stakeholders to campaign for a dedicated youth space 4. To work with Bradley Stoke Community Festival Association to help put on activities for the festival such as football tournament and skate park competition 5. To fundraise for the projects including young mums and football 6. To host a Residential 7. To work closely with the school and develop the provision in the school with consultation of young people and the head teacher
Green Hut	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To support five young people to achieve their South Gloucestershire Awards 2. To set up a steering group in the Club where they run tuck shop and plan the programme etc. 3. To fundraise for a six months music project for the youth club
Jubilee Centre	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To support five young people to achieve their South Gloucestershire Awards 2. To set up a steering group in the Club where they run tuck shop and plan the programme etc. 3. To have run the drop in advice session until June 06 and from that devise a future strategy



Bradley Stoke

Cricket Club

—Founded 1991—

Bradley Stoke Cricket Club can be found at the Activity Centre in Bailey's Court Road, where home fixtures are played on the purpose built cricket pitch, which comes complete with excellent changing facilities and a bar. The ground was laid in 1990, and the Cricket Club took up residence when it was formed in 1991, since when it has played in the Bristol & District Cricket League. The pitch and ground, which is both picturesque and easily accessible, provides an excellent playing surface, with match day wickets that are the envy of the vast majority of visiting teams.

The Club runs 2 League teams on Saturday afternoons, a Sunday team that plays friendly fixtures, a Midweek side that plays in a League centred on the Bailey's Court ground, and has a budding youth section that it hopes will be playing friendlies and Youth League fixtures in the near future.

The Saturday 1st XI will be playing in Division 1 of the League in 2006, having finished Runners-Up in



Division 2 last year. This is a remarkable achievement for such a relatively young Club, that joined the League in a position that was, (even allowing for League re-structuring in 2001,) effectively 5 Divisions lower. The 2nd XI plays in Division 2 of the parallel 2nd XI League, and this also represents a significant advance from lowly beginnings. The Club has also been something of a trailblazer, as it is the first, and as far as we know the only Club in the League (so far) to wear match shirts bearing players' names and squad numbers. The Midweek team is the current holder of the Midweek League title, having succeeded in a tight

but entertaining 2005 Final that went into the last over of the match.

The Club has been indebted to the DES Engineering Group for their sponsorship of the Bradley Stoke



Cricket Club Midweek League over the last couple of years, and is confident that this association will continue in the coming season. However, the Club is always open to sponsorship offers, in any area of its activities, and anyone wishing to make an approach is very welcome.

The Club is a committed supporter of the Council's excellent policy on the provision of sport and recreational facilities in the Town, not least of which is the superb ground and surrounds at Bailey's Court.

Indoor nets are being held in preparation for the new season, and the Club has a folding net that it uses for outdoor practice when the light and weather improve later in the year, and anyone wishing to join the Club, or try their arm and eye, is welcome to come along at any time. If you want to know more about the Club, whether as a player, supporter, spectator or potential sponsor, please contact the Chairman or Vice-Chairman as follows:

Chairman **Paul Hardwick** 01454 618385;
Vice-Chairman **Dennis Talbot** 01179 314964.

The Northavon Bowls Club

The Northavon Bowls Club at Baileys Court enjoyed another successful season in 2005. Both men and ladies membership numbers increased and the junior section continues to thrive. We had a very full season of fixtures, and all our league teams performed well, especially the Ladies and Mens 'A' league teams who both won promotion to Division 1, while all the other teams managed to stay up in their respective leagues. Our green is now used every day in the season which runs from April until the end of September.

Our finals weekend was played in an excellent spirit

with very good bowling, and for the first time a Junior pairs competition was held with brilliant bowling from the four juniors concerned.

We hope to have juniors from the club playing at County level in 2006, as we have several going for trials.



As our green has improved beyond all recognition we are now regularly asked to host national and county games, and in 2005 we hosted a team of Welsh ladies and also hosted the City and County of Hereford, versus the City and County of Bristol and this match was watched by representatives of BSTC.

Our annual club tournament was a good day attracting bowling teams from all over the area (and further away) and was well supported and raised vital funds for the club.

Our Captains Day which is our Charity Day was great fun and we raised a good sum for our two charities, Macmillan Nurses who offer palliative care and the Dystonia Charity.



The annual prizegiving and dinner was a good evening and we are fortunate to have a strong social mix at the bowling club. We regularly enjoy several special bowling days away, such as Bideford and Exmouth. We also spend a week every year touring and in 2005 we visited Dawlish and played South Devon teams.

In the winter we continue bowling indoors and have several winter bowling holidays. In 2005 members have been to Okehampton, the Isle of Wight and Cricket St. Thomas. Members also have the opportunity to go on 'turkey & tinsel' and New Year holidays and the club manages to hold social evenings as well. The bowls club even run an associated Ladies handicraft group once a fortnight at Baileys Court and we welcome any interested parties as new members.

In 2005 we offered a free month of membership in May to anyone who wanted to try bowling and we intend to repeat this offer in 2006. We supply all the necessary woods, shoes and equipment and will give coaching if desired. We welcome anyone, and can accommodate any age group.

Bradley Stoke Town Football Club

First Successful Season

Bradley Stoke Town are looking like completing their first year as a football club in the next few weeks, and an extremely successful one at that. As a football club, Bradley Stoke Town have really established themselves as an integral part of the local community, forging strong partnerships with Bradley Stoke Town Council, Bradley Stoke Youth FC and our lead sponsors Lifestyle Estate Agency.

Finishing in an extremely respectable position in division 6 of the Bristol & District league will provide a good platform to build on next season. From the outset, the aim for this season was to create a core squad of players committed to the club. Through the friendly and dedicated group of players currently at the club, this has been achieved.

The club's ethos is "to provide a friendly club for members to enjoy their football, to foster loyalty, encourage and reward effort and promote the Club, Town and local community of Bradley Stoke". The club has ensured this has been the case all season and will strive to abide by this for future seasons to come.

The squad has grown so much during the later part of the season, largely through word of mouth, local support and via the clubs website (www.bstfc.co.uk), that we are now hoping to establish a reserve side as of next season. All new members are welcome to come along to our training sessions which are held on Tuesday evenings please contact the club's Manager James Palmer on 01454 856 188 or jrpalmer78@yahoo.co.uk or Secretary Nick Potter on 01454 615 067 or nick.potter@tiscali.co.uk to find out the location and times (training will be held during the summer months as well during the football season).

Special thanks have to be given to all of the club's sponsors: Lifestyle estate agents, Tooze IT and National Legal Services. The support is greatly appreciated and has enabled this club to get off the ground and become a reality.

There will also be a number of future sponsorship opportunities, so please contact the club for more information.



Bradley Stoke Youth FC Charging Ahead

Our 2004/05 Season ended with farewell to the Under 18s squad some players having been with us since the Club's founding in 1998, when we started with an U.12's team and 20 players. In 2005/06, our eighth season, we had ten teams around 200 players ranging from U.7s up to U.16s.

Our home base is Bradley Stoke Community School where we train weekdays with matches played there and at the Town Council's Jubilee and Baileys Court Activity Centres and due to size further a field. Our thanks go to the School and Council for their hard work keeping pitches in good repair. As part of our community link to the School we have provided football coaching to their Year 7s.

Sundays, our 'Match(s) of the Day' equivalent, has the U.12s, 13s, 14s and 16s in action in the Avon Youth League while our U.9s, 10s, 11'As' and 11'Bs' play in the Hanham Minors. As for our U.7s and 8s it's non league and very entertaining. The BBC has yet to call but we have appeared in Soccerworld and the Evening Post's 'Star Match' reports.

2005/06 saw our U.13s and 11s'A' promoted into Division 2 and this Season the U.10s are hotly chasing for promotion. Two cliff hanger cup matches saw the U.10s reach the Quarter Finals only to go out 1-0 on penalties while our U.13s beat top Division 1 side, AEK Boco, in Round 3 after penalties, only to go out in the Quarter Finals. A notable first, is having two U.11 teams in the same Season offering more kids the chance to play football and down to the manager last year keen not to see anyone miss out. We also formed a brand new U.14s side that got to the Glos FA Cup 3rd Round in their first season. We've had some high scoring games with the 7s, 8s, 9s and 10s winning 9-0, 14-1, 13-1 and 314 and our 12s have acquitted themselves well and won against top table opposition.

Early 2005 saw a new adult team formed, Bradley Stoke Town, with the Youth becoming its feeder club plus some of our managers playing for the Town, they just can't get enough football. In September, a new and very active Social Committee was born



clocking up a very successful Christmas bowling event and planning no doubt more social events.

Our Birthday is 10th June which has special World Cup connections as we were founded a few hours after the 1998 World Cup opener Brazil v Scotland and this year it's England's opener against Paraguay.

As for 2006/07, our 16s are planning to join the Town and a new U.7s is being formed 'The Wheel of Life' one could say in youth football.

Finally, a big thanks to all our Sponsors who can be found on our website and thanks also to our players, parents, managers and volunteers.

For more information: visit the Club's website www.bradleystokefc.co.uk or contact the Club Secretary (Gunnar Moran) on 0117 909 6557.

Bradley Stoke Twinning Association Report for 2005/2006.

Over the past year, the Twinning Association has organized a link between the Bradley Stoke Community School with the School in Champs Sur Marne. We see this as a very important link as the school is in the early stage of development and for the ongoing educational benefit the children and families in learning more about the French Language and Culture.

Last November, 2005 it was our turn to visit and be hosted by our French Twinned Town of Champs Sur Marne. As always, we all had a fabulous weekend, which started off by going from Waterloo by Euro Star direct to Euro Disney, which is just a short distance away from Champs Sur Marne.



On the itinerary that they had planned for us we visited The Merovingian Crypt's in Jouarre in the Maine Valley with very ancient marble tombs in a crypt, and are the oldest in Europe.

We also had a visit to a family run cheese making business on a farm. We were taken round and shown the process and a interesting video to go with it. They made Brie their speciality and we were all able to buy freshly made cheeses afterwards. We were all able to shop in the Mall in Euro-Disney.

We also had a very entertaining evening with dinner and entertainment at a Paris Cabaret.



During the year we have hosted and attended Regional Twinning meetings of the South Gloucestershire Twinning Association.

Everyone who gets involved in Twinning has a lot of fun. Whatever your age or background, twinning is an excellent way to meet new people, from abroad and locally, through the Twinning Association, to share ideas and experiences, gain first hand experience of another culture, share a hobby or interest, practice or learn a foreign language, and visit new places with the Locals.

New members and families are always welcome to join the Twinning Association. Please contact **Anne Clark** (*Chair*) on 0117 969 3539

International Women's Day

Background

Several years ago Stokes & Patchway Women's Network organised events for International Women's Day. The Network no longer exists and Bradley Stoke Town Council, with a female Mayor, was keen to explore the opportunities for putting on an event this year. Southern Brooks Community Partnership (SBCP) were invited to work with them to see if something could be organised for March 2006. International Women's Day (8th March) is an occasion marked by women's groups around the world. It's a day when women on all continents, often divided by national boundaries and by ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic and political differences, come together to celebrate their Day, they can look back to a tradition that represents at least nine decades of struggle for equality, justice, peace and development. The idea of an International Women's Day first arose at the turn of the century, which in the industrialized work was a period of expansion and turbulence, booming population growth and radical ideologies.

Process

Julie Snelling set up a meeting, inviting people representing a wide range of organisations and South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) departments. Attendees at the initial meeting included the Equalities Officer for SGC, the library service, Rotary, Bradley Stoke Town Council (BSTC), Bradley Stoke Young Mums Group, (through Ruth Cornish or Charlie Croom), South Gloucestershire Asian Project (SGAP) and a local resident. Community Development and the PCT sent apologies. We agreed to hold the event in the week and that the theme would be "Women and Wellbeing". The target audience was women across South Gloucestershire but we agreed that the focus would be Bradley Stoke and the neighbouring communities. We agreed to run a crèche, to make the event accessible to women with children. A small



working group emerged and regular attendees were the Women's Institute, the Library Service, SGAP, SBCP and Bradley Stoke Town Council. Meetings were chaired by SBCP while administration was undertaken by the town council. This was an effective way of working and sharing the tasks. Much of the communication was undertaken by e-mail, with people taking responsibility for their areas of interest. The Citizens Advice Bureau run a regular session in the Jubilee Centre on a Wednesday and they agreed that this would be for women only. As the event drew nearer, regular phone calls were received from a range of groups wanting to have display stalls, including Walking for Health, Sole Sister's Running Club, Smoking Cessation, Flexible Learning Partners and the WI. Publicity was circulated widely, with good coverage by the local press, Bradley Stoke Matters, on websites and in newsletters and through the library. Our aim was to provide a wide range of activities and we also wanted it to be a celebration of and for women. One of the benefits of holding it at the Jubilee Centre is that everyone would be in one space, and we were keen

to have a workshop towards the end of the event for women to be able to talk about the local groups that they were involved in and to identify any gaps in services. We hoped to run a food workshop in the morning that would produce the food for lunch. Unfortunately this proved impossible due to Health & Safety legislation and so lunch was provided by a local caterer. Councillor Sue Hope was invited to

facilitate the afternoon workshop discussion, and to jointly open the event with Bradley Stoke Mayor, Councillor Sandra Hobson.

The Event

The day dawned wild and wet and we were concerned that this would affect numbers. How wrong could we be! Over 300 women attended, from



all over South Gloucestershire (we had hoped for 50 to 60!). We were pleased to welcome members of the Siblands RAC in Thornbury. It became a truly multi-cultural event, with comments including how good it was to spend time with other women. The fact that it was a completely women only event enabled Muslim women to attend and take a full part. We planned the event as open access, only people needing crèche places were asked to book. This worked well, with 7 crèche workers enabling most women who wanted to use the crèche the chance to. Some women chose to keep their children with them, and they enjoyed the activities. The event almost became a victim of its own success, and unfortunately several people were disappointed not to be able to have treatments. Lunch was something of an experience, with long queues and only tomatoes left for those at the end!

Activities

Yoga, Indian Dance, Creative Writing, Aromatherapy, Hand Massage, Head Massage, Assertiveness, Silk Painting, Card Making, Glass Painting, Nail art

The learning

More activity providers! More lunch! More space! - ALL of which will be attended to for 2007.



Thanks to:- South Gloucestershire Library Service, South Gloucestershire Asian Project, Crafts 4 U, Bradley Stoke Young Mums group, Bradley Stoke Women's Institute, Citizens Advice Bureau, Councillor Sue Hope, Walking for Health, the crèche workers, Bradley Stoke Town Council and all of the activity providers and participants on the day.



Bradley Stoke Town Council

GRANT AID 2005/2006

The following are the organisations that have benefitted from Bradley Stoke Town Council Grant Aid during 2005/2006 under Section 137 funding criteria.

NO	Organisation	Amount Awarded £
1	Bradley Stoke Youth FC	500.00
2	Neighbourhood Watch	100.00
3	2nd Stoke Lodge Brownie Unit	400.00
4	Playpitch	250.00
5	Stokes Singers	200.00
6	Watercress Kids Club	400.00
7	Jubilee Tots	400.00
8	BS Football Initiative	400.00
TOTAL....		£2650.00

SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT FUNDING 2005/2006

The following are the organisations that have benefitted from Bradley Stoke Town Council Service Level Agreement Funding during 2005/2006.

NO	Organisation	Amount Awarded £
1	Victim Support	788.00
2	Four Towns Transport	2,170.00
3	Patchway & Bradley Stoke Play Association	2,170.00
4	Patchway, Filton and The Stokes Volunteer Bureau	1,085.00
5	Freespace	500.00
6	South Glos Chinese Association	1,593.00

Additional funding was also given to:

Citizens Advice Bureau for a dedicated weekly service in Bradley Stoke, Southern Brooks Community Partnership (ex P&BS CDP and P&BS CDP (Youth)), Wildspaces for the Nature Reserve, and the Night Bus.

Council Members at 31 March 2006

Chair: Councillor Sandra Hobson Vice Chair: Councillor Karen Sanders

Press Spokesperson: Councillor Julian Barge

Council

Julian Barge*
 John Ashe
 Veronica (Ronnie) Conway-Haskins
 David Gladstone
 Adam Haskins
 Sandra Hobson* (Chair)
 Robert Jones
 Christopher Lees*
 David Pickwell
 Mary Prescott
 John Samways
 Karen Sanders
 Geoffrey Stobbart
 Heather Williams
 Jon Williams*

* Also Members of South Glos Council

Councillor Jo Byron is the South Glos Member for Bradley Stoke Sherbourne but does not sit on the Town Council.

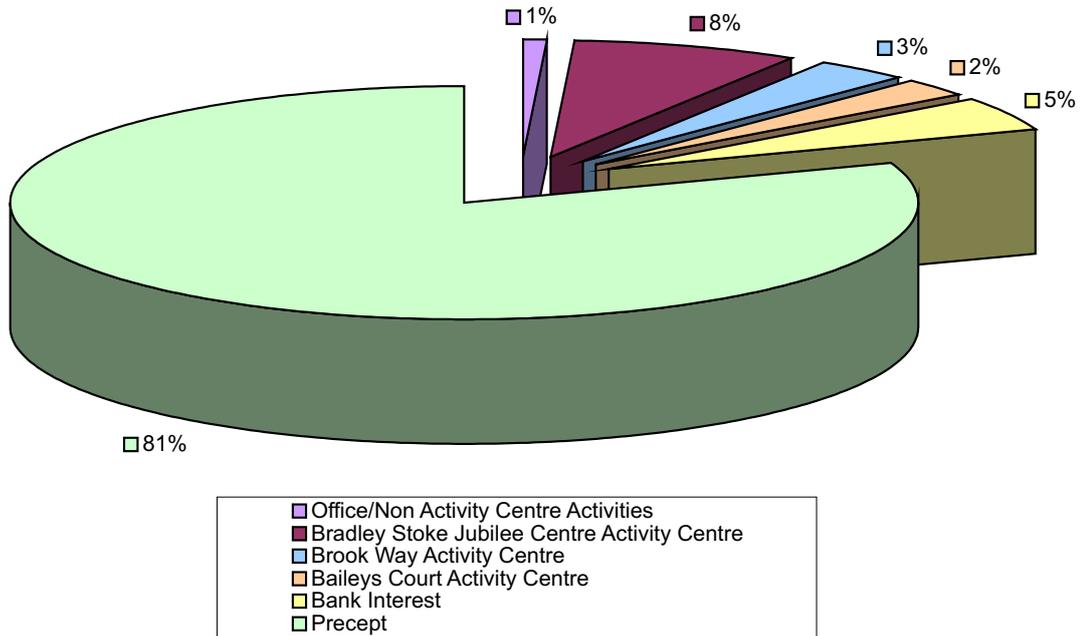
MEMBERS ATTENDANCE RECORD

	COUNCIL		FINANCE		PLANNING	
maximum possible	9	%	7	%	12	%
Ashe	7	78	7	100	7	58
Barge	7	78	7	100		
Conway Haskins*	6	86	5	100		
Gladstone*	1	50			3	100
Hobson	8	89	7	100	6	50
Lees	4	44			6	50
Pickwell	3	33			4	33
Prescott	3	33			3	25
Samways	7	78	7	100	10	83
Sanders	9	100	5	71		
Stobbart	4	44			10	83
Williams H*	4	57	3	60		
Williams J	8	89			8	75
* = % adjusted as Councillor only served part of year.						
Two meetings were inquorate						

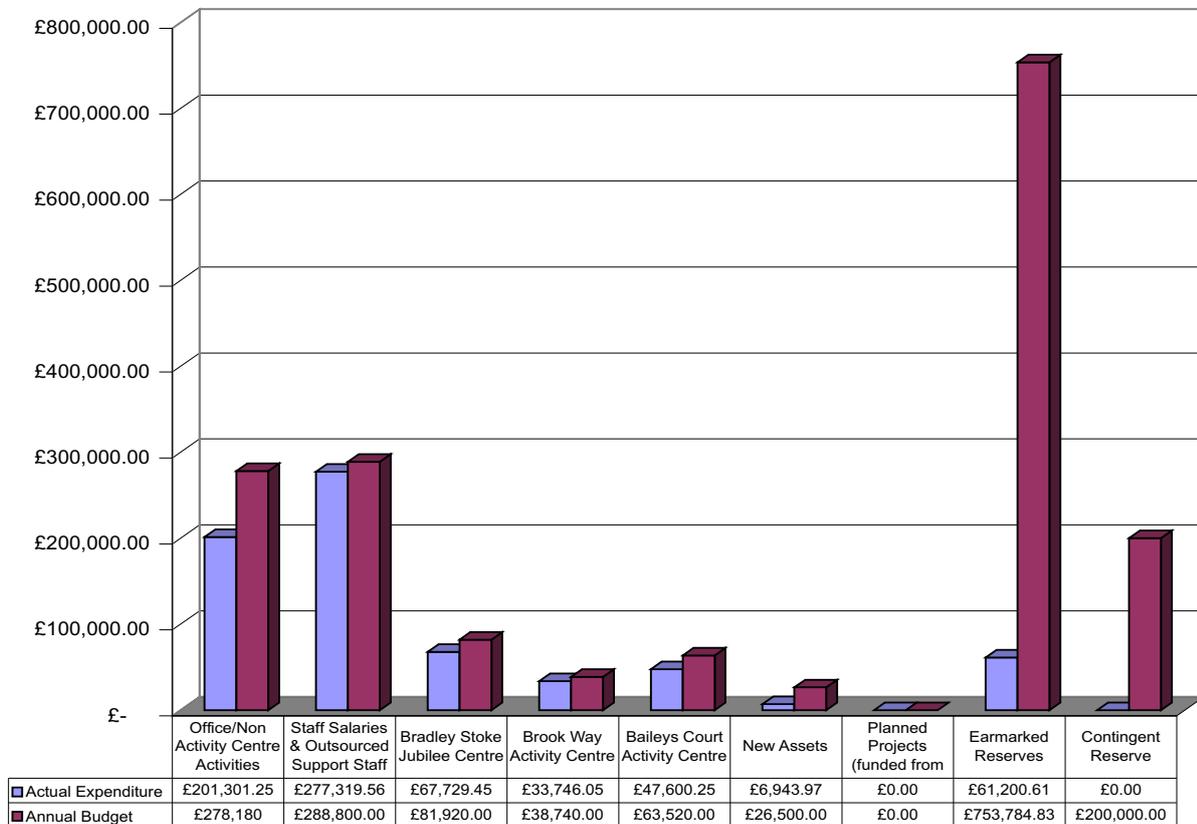
Staff List at 31 March 2006

David Chandler	Town Clerk	John Rendell	Activity Centres Manager
Lesley Osborne	Deputy Town Clerk	Roy Broderick	Maintenance Technician
Vicky Davies	Administrator - Health & Safety	William Walton	Leisure Assistant
Vanessa Walters	Administrator	Jack Robinson	Leisure Assistant
Sue Clark	Administrator	Elaine Bezer	Leisure Assistant
Rachel Pullen	Finance Officer	Denise Pewsey	Leisure Assistant
Vacancy	Administrator - Finance/Bookings	Pat Harris	Leisure Assistant

2005/6 INCOME



Comparison of 2005/6 Expenditure Against Annual Budget



The figures were correct as at 31st March 2006 but accruals will be added and year end adjustments will be made prior to the Audit which is scheduled for June or July 2006 subject to confirmation.

