



Annual Report 2011/2012



Bradley Stoke Town Council Annual Town Meeting
7.30pm Wednesday 9th May 2012
Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre, Savages Wood Road.

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

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Annual Town Meeting

Bradley Stoke Town Council
Annual Town Meeting
7.30pm Wednesday 9th May 2012

Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre,
Savages Wood Road.

Council Members welcome all
those attending to stay for light
refreshments after the meeting.



Bradley Stoke Town Council

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Town Clerk's Report



During 2011, the town council undertook two public consultation exercises, building on their experiences from those carried out in 2010. The first related to Post Office Provision within the town and the second, in conjunction with South Gloucestershire Council Youth Service, canvassed opinion from over 700 young people as to what activities young people in the area wanted. A synopsis of the results of both consultations are published within this annual report, with the full consultation results being available on the town council website, or alternatively, in hard copy from the office.

The town council has 5 noticeboards around the town. The noticeboards are updated regularly and provide a valuable source of information about forthcoming events and activities.

The noticeboards are located at

- Adjacent to Tesco's Express, Pear Tree Road
- Brook Way Activity Centre
- The Jubilee Centre, Savages Wood Road
- Adjacent to Tesco's Express, Webbs Wood Road
- Bradley Stoke Evangelical Church, Bailey's Court Road

By the time you read this report, the new town council office at The Jubilee Centre should be nearing completion. Once completed, the office will be much more accessible to the public as it will be situated closer to the centre of Bradley Stoke. Finally, I would like to thank all those (especially the Town Council office staff) who have continued to give me valuable help and support.

SHARON PETELA, BRADLEY STOKE TOWN CLERK.

Mayor's Charity

This year's charity drive has been as successful as ever despite the extremely difficult economic climate. That's essentially down to you and your continued support of all the events the Town Council runs for you and your kindness on the day. Without your support, we couldn't raise what we do.

This year's benefactors are two of the town's unsung heroes. The Scouts who now reside at the newly refurbished Brook Way Community Centre, alongside Bradley Stoke FM, are engaging with young people from all over the town and surrounding areas to immense effect, helping to develop key skills for the young people they can utilise throughout life. The Scouts are growing at such a fast rate because of the excellent organisation that it is and the brilliant and committed members of staff, volunteers and committee members. I'm sure that money raised by the town will be put to excellent use to procure required equipment and help with events for the Troop.

The Three Brooks Nature Conservation Group work all year round to maintain the nature reserves throughout the town. They are a group of committed local residents, striving to keep these areas the way they are and improve them for them for all, including the wildlife. Funding is always difficult to come by when working on projects such as these and I'm so pleased that we have raised money for the betterment of these areas which will be enjoyed for years. My personal thanks goes to both groups for your continued work within the town, dedication and drive, all in the interest of striving to always make our town that bit better. My sincere thanks.

CLLR BEN WALKER, MAYOR/CHAIR OF COUNCIL.

Chair's Overview 2011/12



After being re-elected in the local elections and asked to continue in post as Chair of Council and Mayor of the Town, I am so pleased we have continued to operate in the manner we left off in the previous term.

The Town Council continues to force efficiency of all budgets, consistently improving services yet saving you money. Not only have we been able to achieve this, we have carried it out under the back drop of a financial meltdown. The interesting aspect of all the improvements and efficiencies we have been making is that we have never been driven by the financial meltdown. Since this administration's election in 2007, we have set out clear objectives in the way in which we operate ensuring you, the council tax payer, always receives the very best in service and cost from us, including costs to the council. We have managed to regulate the inconsistent council tax rises of the past, keeping them low and even freezing the precept contribution for BSTC for three years.

We have consulted with the residents on a number of important issues, not seen before in the town and have a record of acting on the results of the consultations.

Some of the things we asked you about were:

- The construction of a new town council office,
- The development of Youth Provision in the town
- Post Office provision in the town
- Part-night Street Lighting scheme

In relation to the build, some of you will have noticed that works are almost completed and this construction will improve the accessibility of the Town Council Office and its staff to you, the resident. Not only does it improve council/resident engagement it has delivered additional benefits to the community such as an outside toilet facility for Jubilee Green users, a garden area, and in some respects, most importantly, it has delivered on cost.

As things stand at the moment, the total project has been estimated to be in the region of £334,800 (including a 10% contingency of £30,500 for unforeseen expenses) which is well below the original forecast which exceeded £470,000 at the public consultation stage. As council had already reserved £100,000 towards the project through forward planning, The Responsible Finance Officer was able to secure a 10 year loan of £235,000 at an extremely low rate of 2.05% which is fixed throughout the period of the loan. The annual cost of the loan will therefore be £26,111, which is less than the current annual rental and service charge

which currently costs £28,927. This produces an initial saving of £28,162 over the first 10 years during the loan period and council will save an additional £261,108 over each subsequent 10 year period after the loan has been repaid. This produces a huge saving of 54% over the next 20 years alone, when compared to the current rental costs, and means that Council will not need to worry about rising rental costs in the future and can use the savings for the benefit of the community.

We have also made lots of changes in the way we fund groups and projects in the town. We have re-structured grant criteria and budgets to open them up directly to you the resident. We want more to go on in the town, whilst making every penny work harder and go further, improving the council's relationships with its community in the process.

Following the consultation with the young people of the town and upon the change in the type of provision we provide in the town, I am pleased to report we are now engaging with an incredible number of young people. This provision model now being implemented has been based on need and not budget, forming a new concept for our partner, South Gloucestershire Council, and one they want to roll out in other areas of the district. A plaudit we are very proud of. The new model incorporates support for all elements of youth provision in the town, some centre based, some project based, some detached and some uniformed.

I would like to thank our partners locally, who are our Police Beat Team, The Willow Brook Centre, The Leisure Centre, South Gloucestershire Council and of course all of the community groups, from pre-schools to residents associations, which all come together to support and improve our wonderful town. A huge part of the Council's success is also down to its officers and staff who work incredibly hard to act upon council decision and manage buildings and community relationships. Thank you to you all.

I would also personally like to thank you all for your support over the last two years whilst I have served in office and all of my colleagues, past and present who have worked hard for the town.

Please do take the time to attend a meeting, a surgery or contact us directly if you need our assistance. We look forward to working for you.

"I would also personally like to thank you all for your support over the last two years whilst I have served in office and all of my colleagues, past and present who have worked hard for the town."

Attendances for BSTC Councillors

Councillor	Cttee				Council				Finance				P & E				L Y & A																			
	Full Council	Finance	L Y & A	P & E	C May	C Jun (Extra)	C Jul (Extra)	C Sep	C Oct (Extra)	C Nov	C Jan	C Mar	F Jun	F Aug	F Oct	F Dec	P Feb	P May	P Jun	P Jul	P Aug	P Sep	P Oct (Inq)	P Nov	P Dec	P Jan	P Feb	P Mar	L Y & A	L Jun	L Aug	L Oct	L Dec	L Feb		
Tom Aditya	C	F	L	P	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
John Ashe†	C			P	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	✓	✓									
Roger Avenin	C	F		P	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o		✓	o	✓	o	✓	✓									
Keith Cranney†	C			P	o	✓	o	✓	o	o	✓	o							✓	✓	o	✓	o	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Keir Grivil	C		L	P	✓	✓	o				✓	✓							✓	✓	✓	o							✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓		
Tony Griffiths	C	F		P	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	o	✓	o		✓	✓	✓	o	o		✓	✓	o	o								
Elaine Hardwick	C	F	L	P	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	o	o		✓	✓	o	✓	o	✓	o	o	o		✓	✓	o	✓	✓	o	✓	
Kim Harris	C		L		✓	✓	o	o	✓	✓	✓	o																	✓	o	✓	✓	o	✓	o	
Brian Hopkinson†	C	F	L		✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	✓	o	✓	o	o		o												✓	o	o					
Robert Jones†	C	F	L		✓	o	✓	✓	✓	o	o	✓	✓	o	✓	✓													✓	✓	✓	✓				
Barry Mitchell	C	F			o	o		✓		o	✓	o	o																							
Sarah Pomfret†	C				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	o																								
Ed Rose	C	F	L		✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓												✓				o	o		
Ben Walker†	C	F*	L*	P*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Charlotte Walker	C		L		✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	✓	o																		✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓

† = South Glos Councillor (sometimes otherwise engaged on SGC business) o = apology submitted * = ex-officio Inq = Inquorate
 Ben Walker, Chair of Council. Roger Avenin, Chair of Finance. John Ashe, Chair of Planning & Environment (P & E). Keir Grivil, Chair of Leisure, Youth & Amenities (L Y & A).

Finance Committee Report 2011

“Managed to achieve a zero increase in the Town Precept and therefore once again in partnership with South Gloucestershire Council this will result in a nil increase in Council Tax.”

Once again the current administration, chiefly through the auspices of the Finance Committee, has managed to achieve a zero increase in the Town Precept and therefore once again in partnership with South Gloucestershire Council this will result in a nil increase in Council Tax. (The Precept is that element of the Council Tax attributable to the Town Council). The freeze in the Precept has not been achieved through the reduction or diminution of Council services or facilities (indeed some of the latter are currently being enhanced), but through best practice and has remained at the same level for 3 years in a row which is good news for residents during this period of economic uncertainty. This surely must be a matter that the current administration can look back on with pride.

This has been a particularly busy year in that following the positive results of a Public Consultation in 2010 to build an office at the Jubilee Centre rather than continuing to rent the Finance Committee and the finance staff have been heavily involved in examining the long term savings that will be achieved through this project. The project was eventually put out to tender in 2011 and a competitive price was obtained resulting in work on the building starting in January this year and which is currently ongoing as of today. As previously mentioned, in future years we will make substantial savings on our current rental costs while the additional initial costs will be absorbed within current budgets and allocated reserves.

In order to enhance community development and youth provision, the Finance Committee have restructured the budget. The budgets for both have been maintained at the same level but rather than focusing solely on specific groups, grant funding will be available to the whole

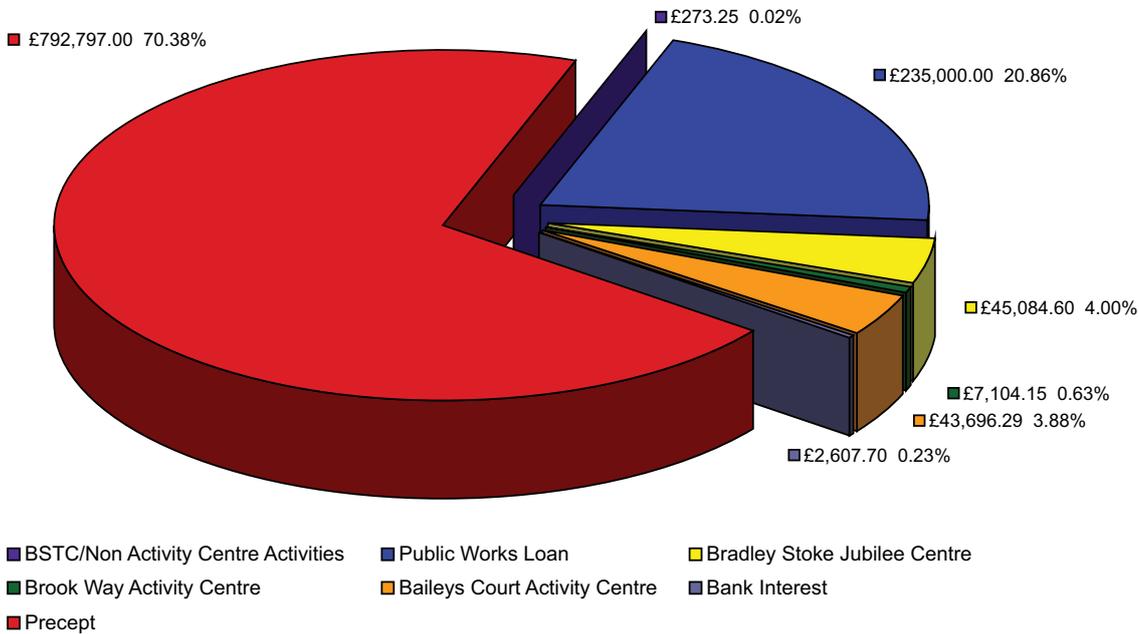
community, within the overall budgetary constraints.

The Finance Committee is also responsible for the setting of charges for our three main facilities at the Jubilee, Brook Way, and Baileys Court Activity Centres and in recommending these to the Full Council. This year we decided to virtually freeze these for next year and in some cases we have even reduced some charges so we believe that our hiring costs are very competitive. This has been achieved through ensuring value for money in our running costs. Accordingly we are of the opinion that this will encourage individuals and groups to fully utilise the facilities that are available in the town. We have also negotiated new rates of hire for a variety of groups including the Bowls Club, the Cricket Club, Bradley Stoke Scout Group the Football Club and the fledgling Bradley Stoke Community Radio Association.

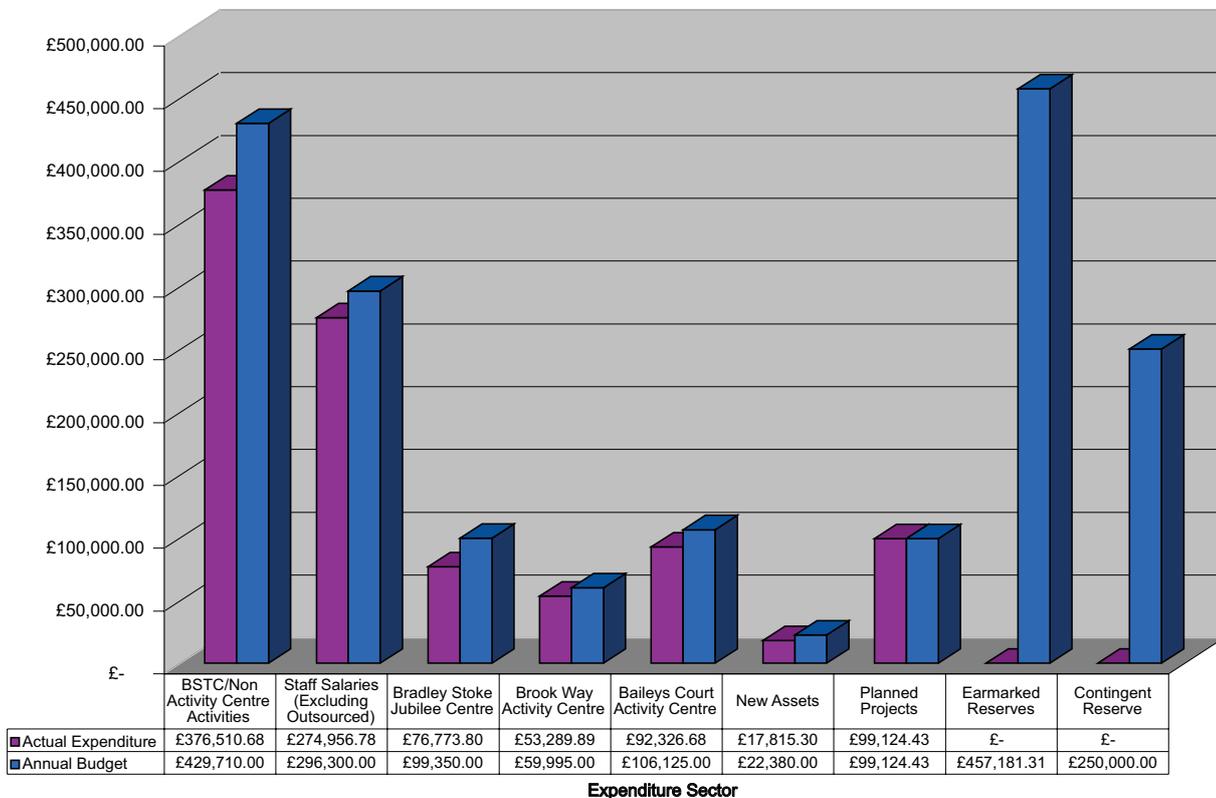
The work of this Committee is however quite varied and has incorporated such diverse subjects as the replacement of Council vehicles, the difficult question of allotment and allotment payments, and replacement/upgrades of office computer systems. However, naturally as the title implies, the Finance Committee is heavily involved in reviewing income and expenditure on a regular basis. We continually review all aspects of expenditure to see if these are justified and make strenuous efforts to achieve best value for money. This, together with budget setting, reviewing and audits form a significant part of our duties. It is interesting to note that external audit reports over several years have given the Town Council a clean bill of health on all aspects and our finance staff must surely be congratulated on this achievement.

Finance

2011/12 Income 31st March 2012



Comparison of 2011/12 Expenditure Against Annual Budget 31st March 2012



The above charts are based upon provisional pre-audit figures which were correct as at 31st March 2012 but exclude final year end adjustments. Finalised figures will be available after the audit papers have been produced and these will be placed on the website by the end of June 2012.

Leisure, Youth & Amenities Committee Report



"I would like to thank all members of the committee and the council staff for all the hard work and commitment over the past year."

It has been a privilege to serve as Chair of the Leisure, Youth and Amenities Committee for 2011/12. This year has been a bumper year for the committee and the second year that the committee has been established on Bradley Stoke Town Council. After the amazing spectacle of the Royal Wedding in April 2011, we saw the Community Festival take over the Jubilee Centre for three days of fun and games culminating in a gruelling 10km run on the final day. The Community Festival is an important and vibrant part of Bradley Stoke's annual calendar and helps bring the people of the town together with local community groups and charities. The annual fireworks event was bigger and better than ever and proved to be a big hit, even attracting the Vice Lord-Lieutenant for Gloucestershire Robert Bernays. We have also seen Bradley Stoke Community School achieve its aim of becoming an Academy, which was one of the first presentations I had almost a year ago at the last annual Town Council meeting in 2011.

The major change over the last year has been the way that the Town Council provides activities for the many young people in the town. The council restructured the provision for youth work, allowing a much more varied scope of activities from many different providers and a programme of detached youth work around the town. This really allowed the Town Council to achieve value for your council tax money and opened up funding for the many different organisations located in the town. The Town Mayor, Ben Walker and I spoke to a group of concerned teenagers during a council meeting in 2011 and were made aware of the questions they and others had about the restructuring. We also held a wider consultation alongside South Gloucestershire Council to obtain the views of as many of Bradley Stoke's youth as we could. As part of the restructuring we also saw the 1st Bradley Stoke Scout Group move in to Brook Way Activity Centre. The town has seen the group go from strength to strength over the past year with membership increasing and the need for adult volunteers growing all the time. One particular highlight this year was the South West Winterguard Academy Showcase performance held in January. Featuring performances from many different youth groups in the area, it really highlighted the talent that Bradley Stoke's young people have, and also the imagination and passion that parents and community leaders have for working with young people in the town. I was taken aback by the vast array of activities available, from Taekwondo to Street Dancing, and also the age ranges catered for. The people involved really showed a passion for their art, and it was heart-warming to see so much success.

The committee has many roles, one of the most important being the distribution of the Council's Grant Aid Budget. With £6000 to allocate on an annual basis, the Council makes grants of up to £500 to charities and community groups in the Bradley Stoke area. The groups given Grant Aid cover a wide range of different activities; this year Grant Aid has been given to the Sow and Sows (Allotment Group), the organisers of this year's International Women's Day and the Young At Heart group to name but a few. All of these groups are an integral part of Bradley Stoke and provide activities for everyone. If you think you have an event that might benefit from Grant Aid, then get in touch. 2012 has started strongly for the town and there are many things to look forward to in the year ahead. The coming months will herald the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the 2012 Community Festival; we are set for a fantastic and exciting year in 2012. It is a pleasure to see Bradley Stoke become more a vibrant and active community in the short time I have been a councillor. I would like to thank all members of the committee and the council staff for all the hard work and commitment over the past year.

Grant Aid	Amount approved by Council
Friends of Jubilee Green	£500.00
37 Squadron Air Training Corps	£350.00
Sole Sisters	£500.00
Bradley Stoke Youth FC	£480.00
Willow Brook Centre (Cots for Tots Appeal)	£500.00
Bradley Stoke Community Radio Association	£500.00
Southern Brooks Community Partnership - Dreamscheme	£500.00
Young at Heart 50 Plus Club	£500.00
Bradley Stoke Twinning Association	£400.00
Christ the King Church	£500.00
South West Winterguard Academy	£500.00
The Sow & Sows Allotment Group	£233.01
Southern Brooks Community Partnership - IWD	£300.00

Larger Grant Aid	Amount approved by Council
Four Towns Play Association	£5,000.00

Ex-Gratia Payments	Amount approved by Council
Holy Trinity Church	£250.00

Service Level Agreements	Amount approved by Council
Bouncing Babies Tiddlers Toy Library	£1,700.00
BS Youth FC + BSTFC	£1,945.00
Chinese Association	£1,764.37
Four Towns Transport	£2,404.24
Patchway, Filton and Stokes Volunteer Centre	£1,158.84
Three Brooks Nature Group	£1,500.00
Victim Support	£848.19

Planning & Environment Committee Report



This has been the first year that I have had the pleasure to serve as chair of the Planning and Environment Committee. The main remit of this committee - as the name suggests - is to deal with planning and environment issues including changes in highway legislation such as Toucan crossings, weight limits, traffic calming etc, but I would like to point out that the council has no control on traffic calming measures on any private roads!

The majority of our work concerns planning applications for building works in Bradley Stoke. As you may expect, in this current economic climate, many residents have decided to extend their homes rather than move. As a consultee, BSTC can pass comment on planning applications made to South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) and make objections if it feels necessary. We are determined that any development in Bradley Stoke does not impinge on our residents and we will also object to proposals that might lead to increase in noise, anti-social behaviour, litter and traffic.

Unfortunately we do not have the last say in these decisions. In the current year the committee considered 63 planning applications of which we objected to 7. SGC unfortunately does not always support our objections, but in 57 out of the 63 cases SGC and BSTC were in agreement.

Litter is always a concern for BSTC and we employ a part-time dedicated litter picker, which is in addition to the litter picking provided by South Gloucestershire Council. If you have any concerns with litter on public land or highways, please e-mail or phone the council.

I thought that I would take this opportunity to mention SGC Core Strategy. Whilst this legislation did not originate from BSTC it affects us as it does all the residents of South Gloucestershire.

Over the last year, South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) has continued to draw up its Core Strategy – a blueprint for future development across the district. This has made the headlines in the local media because as the owner of Filton Airfield, BAE Systems decided last year to close the airfield at the end of this year and sell it to a developer. Please note that SGC can no more stop BAE selling the airfield than it can stop me selling my house!

South Gloucestershire Council had to consider whether to pro-actively plan with the local community and aerospace industry for the future post-closure use of the airfield site through the Core Strategy process or whether the council allows the airfield to become a derelict brownfield site that runs the risk of BAE getting permission to develop it entirely for housing via a planning appeal.

The council chose the first option as a means of controlling what happens as part of any redevelopment of the site, including ensuring the upgrading of local transport infrastructure, such as reopening the Henbury loop railway line and extending the North Fringe to Hengrove rapid transit scheme.

The Core Strategy also includes more generous parking standards for new developments and making it harder for developers to avoid affordable housing requirements.

An independent planning inspector will make the final decision on the council's Core Strategy later this year.

Finally I have to say that I have thoroughly enjoyed being the chair of the Planning and Environment Committee and I would like to thank all the Town Council staff for their hard work and support.

I would also like to thank the other fourteen Town Councillors who have worked hard to ensure Bradley Stoke remains one of the best places in the South West to live and work. Please don't forget that all Town Councillors - including the Mayor - are unpaid volunteers.

“We are determined that any development in Bradley Stoke does not impinge on our residents and we will also object to proposals that might lead to increase in noise, anti-social behaviour, litter and traffic.”

Public Consultations

Once again, last year Bradley Stoke Town Council was involved in two public consultations to ascertain residents' views. The first one was instigated by the town council and was asking for views on the current post office provision within the town. The second consultation was spearheaded by South Gloucestershire Council and was aimed at the younger members of the community.

Post Office Questionnaire Public Consultation Results

The Public Consultation exercise ran from the beginning of August until 31st October 2011.

The public were consulted in a variety of ways:

- Bradley Stoke Town Council website – Questionnaire available with access to an online response form
- Bradley Stoke Town Council newsletter published September 2011 – Questionnaire which could be completed and returned to the office
- Bradley Stoke Town Council noticeboards

Results

The office received 273 responses to the consultation, 216 via the online response form set up on the Town Council website and 57 written responses.

Question 1 – Have you used a post office in past 12 months? If yes, what for?

Yes. 266 Responses.

No. 7 Responses.

Question 2 - Are you aware that there is a post office in Bradley Stoke (Pear Tree Road)?

Yes. 260 Responses.

No. 13 Responses.

Question 3 – Do you think there is a need for a larger post office in Bradley Stoke that would offer more services? If yes, where should it be located?

Yes. 253 Responses.

No. 19 Responses.

Possibly. 1 Response.

Youth Provision Survey Results

Starting in November 2011, South Gloucestershire Council and Bradley Stoke Town Council undertook a consultation with young people to find out what activities young people in the area wanted.

Young people could express their views via a survey available online and in hard copy form from a wide variety of venues including schools, clubs, youth centres and other community venues.

A prize draw was used to encourage as many responses as possible. In total, 730 responses were received by 9th January 2012.

Bradley Stoke Survey Headline Results

- 56 % of young people in Bradley Stoke play sports in clubs or teams in their spare time and is popular across all age groups.
- The least used youth provision is church based
- Leisure Centre usage is high with uniformed groups also popular
- Youth provision is most popular with the 15/16 age group, whilst Leisure Centre is very popular with under 11s.
- Arts and drama activities are very popular with 13 – 14 year olds.
- The main barrier to taking part is cost with transport and availability an issue for 15 and 16 year olds.
- Top of young people's wish list is drama, photography, dance, music and IT.
- 41 % of 13-14 year olds were interested in internet usage – perhaps highlighting the need for an internet café.
- Ball, swimming and trampoline were the three highest desired sport and fitness activities. Trampoline and swimming was the highest requested sport from the 13-16 age group.
- Horse riding, camping and BMX/scooting/skate boarding were the most demanded outdoor activities.
- Cooking, Hair and Beauty, and animal care were the life skills most wanted.
- Of all the activities on young people's wish lists sport and outdoor activities were the most favoured.

Results From More In Depth School Focus Work

- Cost and travel came out as the main barriers from participating with being embarrassed, friends and lack of information also featuring.
- A high number of young people are aware of where activities are currently available, and attend clubs where possible.
- The most popular activities attended are Netball, swimming, scouts, guides, after school clubs, skate board/scooters/bmx, ball sports, army cadets, youth clubs
- The overriding feeling from young people during this work was that they would like the activities to be run locally in Schools, Leisure Centres, Youth Centres, Parks and on the streets.
- The top three most popular activities young people would like to participate in each area are:
Art/media/music - Drama, photography and games design. Sports/fitness – football, basketball and dance. Outdoor activities – scooting, ice skating and go-karting. Life skills/volunteering – cooking, horse riding and guides.

Bradley Stoke Detached Project



Starting in November 2011, South Gloucestershire Council and Bradley Stoke Town Council undertook an extensive consultation with young people to find out what activities young people in the area wanted.

Young people could express their views via a survey available online and in hard copy form from a wide variety of venues including schools, clubs, youth centres and other community venues. A prize draw was used to encourage as many responses as possible. The Prize draw winners are Anne Rose Biju and Ross Whyte - a copy of the results are available at www.bradleystoke.gov.uk. Over 730 responses to the questionnaire were received from young people in the town.

Detached Youth Project

We have had a busy few months as a new team starting work in a new area, but have been made feel very welcome by the young people, Bradley Stoke Community School and the Town Council. We have worked with large numbers of young people both in School and in detached settings.

We work with young people aged 11 – 25 in a variety of settings to organise a wide range of activities and provide opportunities for them to be involved in and have their voice heard in their community.



Sample of Activities during a week

- Mon – The Young Women’s project at Baileys Court including regular cookery, beauty activities, discussion based workshops and computer games/music.
- Mon - Music Project at Little Stoke Youth Centre
- Tuesday – Football session at Bradley Stoke Community School including 2 inter club matches with Little Stoke (1 home and 1 away) with Bradley Stoke winning both games.
- Weds - Detached work with two youth workers visiting Bradley Stoke Skate Park, the Willow Brook Centre and the Jubilee Centre. The session is used to engage and build and develop relationships with young people and promote projects and activities that are taking place.
- Thurs- Skate Park session with Krazy Krankz.
- Fri- Friday night detached work with youth workers meeting young people at the Skate Park, Willow Brook Shopping Centre and Jubilee Centre. We offering informal chats, advice, sign posting, opportunities and guidance (and hot chocolate) to all young people in the area.

Recent events and trips include

- Joint trip with Little Stoke and Patchway Youth Centres to Alton Towers on Wednesday 15th February
- Music event at Bradley Stoke Community School on Friday 9th March
- Football tournament @ Bradley Stoke Community School on Saturday 17th March

For further information please see www.youthunltd.com or contact Catherine Challinor on 01454 865730.

“We have had a busy few months as a new team starting work in a new area, but have been made feel very welcome by the young people.”

Avon and Somerset Police Report



“In the last year the Bradley Stoke beat has seen a reduction in several crime areas compared to the previous 12 months.”

During the last year the neighbourhood police team for Bradley Stoke has faced many challenges. In the summer we suffered an increase in bicycles being stolen. Some were taken from public spaces such as schools, youth clubs and outside shops, while others were taken from garages and sheds at residents' houses. The response to this increase was twofold. Firstly local Police Community Support Officers visited schools and shopping centres to give security advice and encourage owners to mark their property with their postcode and register it with www.immobilise.com. We also set about identifying the people responsible for the offences. A total of fifteen arrests were made, some as a result of acting on information received from the public and some as a result of officers carrying out plain clothes patrols in the most affected areas.

Our aim of reducing anti-social behaviour in Bradley Stoke remains an important part of our day to day business. In May and June residents of The Hedgerows suffered a series of late night anti social incidents when eggs were being thrown at their houses. As a result of working closely with South Gloucestershire Council's Anti-Social Behaviour team a camera was fitted to a street lamp near the affected properties in order to act as a deterrent and to identify the offenders. An arrest was subsequently made and the incidents stopped.

In the winter months our attention has focused on the seasonal increase in house burglaries with an emphasis on raising security awareness by the use of such methods as the Vulnerable House Scheme where potentially insecure premises are identified by patrolling officers and community volunteers and the householder is then offered crime prevention advice.

Both Bradley Stokes beat managers, PC Steve Palmer and PC Claire Fletcher, have had notable successes this year. During December and January there were a number of incidents of indecent exposure being committed by a man entering rear gardens in the early hours of the morning. The witnesses to these offences gave very similar descriptions of the offender and police patrols were

increased to try and find him. PC Claire Fletcher and PCSO Paul Baxter, based at the Willow Brook Centre beat post, were on patrol when they located a man matching the description and arrested him.

A 30-year-old man has appeared before Northavon Magistrates charged with indecent exposure and burglary in connection with offences in Mautravers Close and Courtlands on 20th January 2012.

He was released on court bail to live at an address outside of South Gloucestershire with conditions including an 18-hour curfew between 6pm and midday.

The incidents have now stopped.

In December PC Steve Palmer located a cannabis factory set up in a rented house and was able to arrest a suspect as well as disrupt his activity by seizing the drugs and equipment.

In the last year the Bradley Stoke beat has seen a reduction in several crime areas compared to the previous 12 months. Criminal damage has reduced by 4.6% (144 offences compared to 151 offences), theft of motor vehicle by 40% (15 offences compared to 25 offences) and theft from motor vehicle by 52.9% (33 offences compared to 70 offences). Unfortunately we have seen a rise in dwelling burglary of 27.5% (51 offences compared to 40 offences at this time last year). This will be a priority for us to work on in the year ahead.

NON EMERGENCY NUMBER: 101

WEBSITE: WWW.AVONANDSOMERSET.POLICE.UK



PC STEVE PALMER



PC CLAIRE FLETCHER



PCSO JASON GREEN



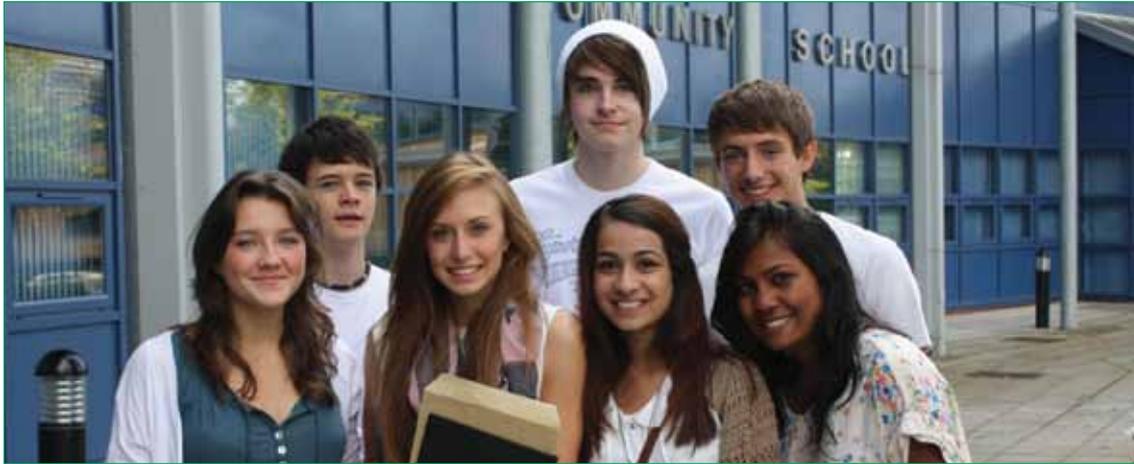
PCSO KIRSTY FLICKER



PCSO PAUL BAXTER

SERGEANT CLIVE JOHNSON. FILTON NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE TEAM.

Bradley Stoke Community School Update



Bradley Stoke Community School is a full school for the first time; now in our 7th year since opening, we have 1120 students in years 7-13, with more applications than places available in year 7 for September 2012. Our second cohort of students took their GCSE (and other) exams last summer and not only matched but exceeded the high standards set in 2010 with 89% of them achieving at least 5 A*-C grades at GCSE, and 67% of them achieving at least 5 A*-C grades including English and Maths. We are very proud of our students and there were amazing individual achievements amongst these overall figures.

On 1st January 2012 Bradley Stoke Community School became an academy as the founder member of the Olympus Academy Trust (named after the Concorde engine which was designed and built locally); there is now great potential for development in partnership with others in the future, with greater autonomy as an academy.

Our post 16 centre is now well established and we have 220 students on roll in addition to the Concorde Partnership students who join us for part of the week for their studies. Our oldest students will be the first to take their A level and equivalent exams this summer and many of them are in the process of finalising university places or training and employment opportunities for next year. We are delighted that one of our students has been offered a place at Oxford University. It will be sad to see our first cohort of students leave.

Our partnership work has taken on an unexpected additional dimension this academic year as Dave Baker was asked in October to take on an Executive Headteacher role at Abbeywood Community School in addition to his responsibilities at Bradley Stoke Community School for the rest of the school year when their headteacher left at very short notice. Given that our post 16 students already share courses (along with Patchway Community College and South Gloucestershire and Stroud – formerly Filton – College), this will provide great opportunities for closer collaboration between our 2 neighbouring schools and communities. A proposal is currently with the Department for Education for the Olympus Academy

Trust to sponsor Abbeywood Community School on a permanent basis; this would see Abbeywood become an academy as part of the Trust in September.

We continue to work with our 8 local primary school partners to provide opportunities for year 5 and 6 pupils in Drama, Languages and Music based around our specialist school focus areas of Languages and Performing Arts. The school also continues to be widely used by the community with many organisations using the facilities out of school hours and in some cases providing additional coaching for students in school as part of the arrangements. Southern Brooks Community Partnership continue to be close working partners as they provide support services for our students and their families.

The partnership with the town council to co-lease a minibus for 5 years has worked really well for the school and it has enabled us to provide a broader range of opportunities for students. We are grateful for the support from the council and other local organisations.

If you would like to find out more about the school, please have a look at our website: www.bradleystokecs.org.uk or have a look at our most recent school Ofsted inspection report: www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/134036 or feel free to get in touch and come and visit – we would be pleased to welcome you.



“On 1st January 2012 Bradley Stoke Community School became an academy as the founder member of the Olympus Academy Trust (named after the Concorde engine which was designed and built locally).”

Southern Brooks Community Partnership (SBCP)



“With the continuing support of Bradley Stoke Town council and our other partners Southern Brooks will continue to work to support local groups and organisations to grow and become stronger. Residents needing support for their groups can contact us and we will endeavour to assist wherever possible.”

Bradley Stoke Town Council (BSTC) funds community development work in the town in order to enable residents to contribute to the town’s development and to make positive contributions to their town, improving their quality of life and civic pride. “Community should be a place where you are known and missed if you go away.”

Bradley Stoke community radio station.

The group has grown exponentially from a core group of 6 residents in 2009 to over 80 members now. This year I worked with the group to gain their first OFCOM RSL radio licence for radio broadcast for two weeks in June 2011. This enabled the group to cover the Bradley Stoke festival. I was able to ensure that many of the local community groups were given the opportunity to promote their group and events on the radio. Supported by SBCP the group were successful in their application for a community licence and are currently in the process of applying for charity status. The group has impacted positively on many people and has improved the quality of life for many of its members, including a newly arrived resident who was quickly able to make lots of friends and who felt that by getting involved with the station he was making a contribution to his new town. I would say that the exceptional volunteers that have got involved with the radio are the ones who have made the success possible.

Dreamscheme.

Young people can do wonderful things: and the main aim of this project was to instill a sense of social responsibility in young people and for them to see that they can have a positive impact in their town. We carried out six projects that were initiated by the young people including doing garden clearance and car washing for some older residents, helping to run the Southern Brooks information stall at the Bradley Stoke Festival where the young people gave out leaflets and conducted questionnaires and, in October, some brave young people and their parents planted native wild primroses by Primrose Bridge – it will be lovely to see them blooming in the springtime. For their efforts the young people earned points that were exchanged for rewards – horse riding was very popular – but they also had to clear out the stables! One participant when asked what could be improved replied “nothing – it’s great”. We closed the project in November with a celebration party and the young people requested that we seek funding to continue. To deliver the

Dreamscheme we worked with South Gloucestershire’s children and young people services, a local church who provided a free venue and many local volunteers.

Toddler group support.

Bradley Stoke is fortunate to have 6 toddler groups in the town, all led by volunteers. Between them they provide facilities for over 100 families per week. The groups offer a place for toddlers to mingle and learn socialisation skills and for carers/parents to meet up for friendship and peer support. During this year three groups were faced with closure due to leaders leaving. I recruited new leaders for the three toddler groups, helped one group with governance issues and supported three groups with grant funding applications. The toddler groups are a valued resource for the town and the people who lead them are all gifted and dedicated to providing a quality service.

Bradley Stoke Festival.

We organised a toddler toddle on the first day of the Bradley Stoke festival to raise funds for Bernardo’s charity. Several mums came alone and did a few circuits around the Jubilee Green. We ran a stall on behalf of Southern Brooks with assistance from other members of staff and volunteer helpers, serving fruit provided by Bradley Stoke Matters. We offered information about Southern Brooks services and conducted a survey of festival-goers to find out how they felt about living in Bradley Stoke, including satisfaction levels, safety and knowledge of services provided. More than 90 % of people like living in Bradley Stoke, and feel safe here; however only 35-40 % knew where to go to access help. We also promoted the festival to local groups, encouraging them to take part by running a stall for fundraising.



International Women’s Day and the Outstanding Women’s awards.

IWD is an event recognised and supported by the UN worldwide to acknowledge the contributions that women make in society. In Bradley Stoke and the surrounding area we recognise that local women have a significant impact on the town with their volunteering, social and business efforts. This year I have worked with local groups to encourage them to put on activities to mark this day. This is a departure from the previous model of a single Southern Brooks organised event. Events will run over a two-week period from March 5th-16th, culminating in the Southern Brooks Outstanding Women’s Award and dance performances at Bradley Stoke Community School on Friday 16th March, 18.30- 20.00. This is a partnership involving Bradley Stoke Community School, South Gloucestershire Library Services, Willow Brook Centre, Bradley Stoke Matters, The Mercure Hotel, Winterbourne, and South Gloucestershire Safer and Stronger Group.

Other community development work.

I have also been involved with existing groups on issues such as conflict resolution and preparation of grant applications. I continue to receive numerous enquires about availability of allotments.

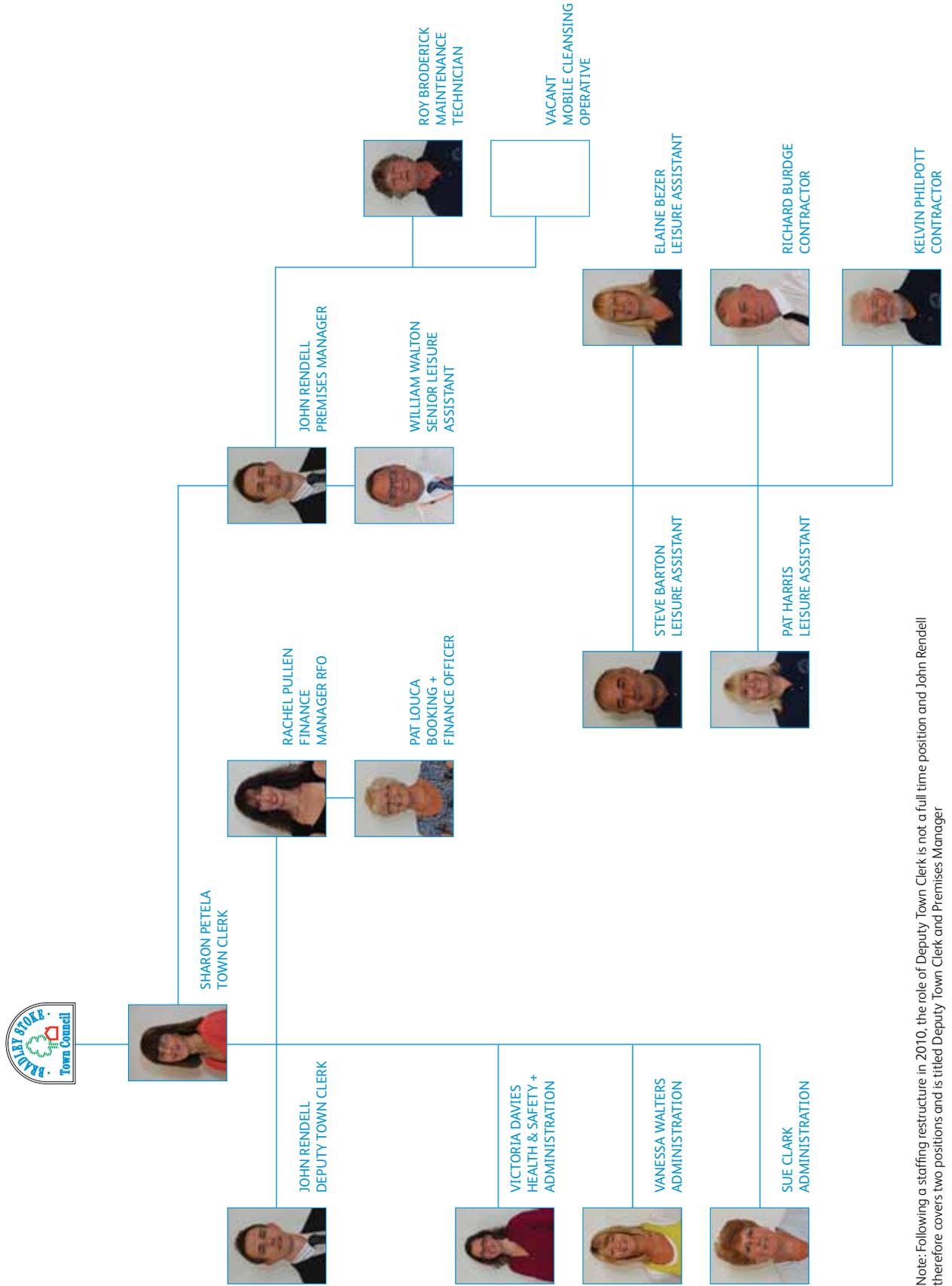
The Safer and Stronger meeting is a forum where local residents can voice concerns about issues that affect them to town councillors, the police, the fire service and South Gloucestershire councillors as well as other agencies. I have publicised the Safer and Stronger Group meetings to local groups, and encouraged the group to celebrate the contribution of volunteers working with young people in Bradley Stoke. So far we have invited two young people’s groups to make presentations. The Scouts also did a survey among young people on their views about Bradley Stoke and areas for improvement.

With the continuing support of Bradley Stoke Town Council and our other partners Southern Brooks will continue to work to support local groups and organisations to grow and become stronger. Residents needing support for their groups can contact us and we will endeavour to assist wherever possible.



“Bradley Stoke Town Council (BSTC) funds community development work in the town in order to enable residents to contribute to the town’s development and to make positive contributions to their town, improving their quality of life and civic pride.”

Office Structure



Note: Following a staffing restructure in 2010, the role of Deputy Town Clerk is not a full time position and John Rendell therefore covers two positions and is titled Deputy Town Clerk and Premises Manager



SPORT FACILITIES

3STC ACTIVITY CENTRES



TENNIS



JUBILEE CENTRE
3 TENNIS COURTS

Play in the day and keep your eye on the ball

NETBALL



JUBILEE CENTRE
3 NETBALL COURTS

For Tennis, Bowls, Netball and Six a Side Football at competitive prices,

BOWLS



BAILEYS COURT
6 RINK
BOWLS GREEN

Be an early bird and play between 9.00am and 4.00pm during the day, or even in your lunch break when the courts are not so heavily booked.

FOOTBALL



JUBILEE CENTRE
ONE MULTICOURT
SIX A SIDE PITCH

We also have very active Cricket and Bowls Clubs playing at Baileys Court who are always keen on recruiting new members.

Be Active for Life

If you are interested then please ring Pat Louca on 01454 864646 or email your request on bookings@bradleystoke.gov.uk. Alternatively, check out the prices on our website www.bradleystoke.gov.uk and arrive on the day and play (subject to availability).



bradley stoke community festival

1st-3rd June 2012

**Arts & craft stalls • Children's games & Activities • Climbing Wall & Bungee Trampoline • Cricket Tournament
Football tournament • Land Train • Local bands & dance groups • Rides & inflatables • 10k race.**

Friday 1st June

The Parent and Toddlers Picnic in the Park starts at 9.30a.m. until approximately 1.00p.m. at the Jubilee Centre. Professor Panic again presents his range of circus skills in the Big Top alongside Steve the Bubbleman and bouncy castles. Refreshments will be served alongside a range of local craft and community stalls.

Saturday 2nd June 11.30 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.

The headline band is Baraka with performances from other local bands: Freeze, Obsidian, Oblio, Uncle Buck and Bradley Stoke Community School bands Little Intentions and A Holiday Rumour. The dance area features local dance groups and associations. Fun rides for the children include trampolines, inflatables, quads and climbing wall plus longbow archery. K9 will be providing interactive dog handling displays, with Bristol Zoo again providing a "tropical" collection of bugs and insects with a storytelling session for the younger children from BS Library! Sideshows, arts & crafts and community stalls will offer a wide range of local products and novelties. The Schools Football Tournament for Year 1 Boys and 3/4 year girls starts at 10.30a.m. on the top soccer pitches. From 10.00a.m. the Three Brooks Nature Conservation Group will again stage a walk through the local nature reserve starting at Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre with a professional Ecologist detailing the local fauna and flora!

Sunday 3rd June

A 10K multi terrain race organised by the Sole Sisters begins at 09.30a.m. starting and finishing at the Jubilee Centre. 500 Competitors are expected. An outdoor Church service at Baileys Court Activity Centre starts at 11.00 a.m. with competitions and entertainment included. The Bradley Stoke Cricket Club will provide a BBQ + bar from 12.00 noon and the 4th Bradley Stoke Cricket 6-a-side Tournament takes place from 1.00p.m. until 6.00p.m. with evening entertainment in the clubhouse. The Bradley Stoke Bowls Club will be providing roll up demonstrations throughout the afternoon.

Taking part

If you would like to enter the Sole Sister's fun run, the cricket and football tournaments or book a stall please go to the web site www.bradleystoke.gov.uk or contact Bradley Stoke Town Council on **01454 868080**.



For full details please call 01454 868080
or visit www.bradleystoke.gov.uk