



# Annual Report 2012/2013



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

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Bradley Stoke Town Council  
Annual Town Meeting  
Wednesday 8th May 2013 at 7.30pm

Oak Hall  
The Jubilee Centre  
Savages Wood Road  
Bradley Stoke  
BS32 8HL

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



Bradley Stoke Town Council  
Council Office  
The Jubilee Centre  
Savages Wood Road  
Bradley Stoke  
South Glos  
BS32 8HL

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# Town Clerk's Report

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June 2012 saw the Town Council move into their purpose-built office located at The Jubilee Centre. Since the move from a remote location in the north of the town, to a more central location, staff are pleased to see a significant increase in people calling in to the office for a variety of reasons.

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

Finally, I would like to thank all those (especially the Town Council office staff) who continue to give me valuable help and support.

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SHARON PETELA, BRADLEY STOKE TOWN CLERK.

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# Mayor's Charity

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Historically, the community of Bradley Stoke has been supportive and generous when it comes to the Mayor's charity and this year has been no exception. With a great amount of funds raised at this year's community events, it is you who we need to thank for your continued support of the chosen charities. A special thank also goes to Cllr Kier Grivil for putting on his running shoes and raising money in support! This year, in order to support two valuable causes in the area, the Mayor's Charity raised money for the Alzheimer's Society Bradley Stoke Sports and Social Group and The Have a Heart ChildLine Appeal raising money for children.

In our community, The Alzheimer's Society Bradley Stoke Sports and Social group will benefit greatly from the money raised and will continue to provide a variety of activities, help and support to individuals living with dementia in Bradley Stoke. They provide a safe and friendly environment for members of our community to build confidence, increase fitness and develop new friendships.

So far £7,938.62 has been raised. Thank you all for your support and generous donations.

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COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE WALKER, MAYOR/CHAIR OF COUNCIL.

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# Chair's Overview 2012/13

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When I was elected as Mayor of Bradley Stoke, I was extremely honoured to have the opportunity to represent our community. This year has had many personal high points for me, one of which was having the chance to meet so many residents and members of our Town, who make it what it is. Having been the youngest Mayor the town has ever had, I hope I have shown the young people in our community the opportunities our Town can provide.

This year has been a productive year for the council, just like any other. With too many projects and successes to list on this page, just to mention one large achievement we have seen, was the completion of our new Bradley Stoke Town Council offices at the Jubilee Centre. The build has improved accessibility of council services for our residents and also provided our Town with an asset for the future.

The Community Festival 2012 was boosted by Olympic fever and the Queens Jubilee, with many visitors from Bradley Stoke and beyond. I had the pleasure of unveiling the plaque at the Jubilee Green to mark our Fields in Trust status and officially commemorate the new Queen Elizabeth II Field Jubilee Green. The weekend saw many sporting achievements at both the Bradley Stoke Youth Football Club tournament and also the Bradley Stoke 10k run. Unfortunately the weather put a stop to the cricket, although it saved some Councillors from embarrassment. Plans are full steam ahead for 2013, with the introduction of a Bed Race starting at Baileys Court Activity Centre on the Sunday.

The fireworks went off with a bang and once again a record amount of people attended. We were very lucky to be joined by our local Paralympian Karen Butler, who led the countdown. We received numerous compliments from many local residents about the display and this was reflected in the amount raised for the Mayor's charity.

We have seen many community groups thrive again this year and I would like to thank each one for their contributions to a variety of people living within the community. We have also seen the formation of new groups, such as The Bradley Stoke Singers, who showed true community spirit when 80 members joined within a few weeks of forming and Stay & Play at Christ the King Church group (now known as Incredible Kids), who provide a safe playing environment for children with additional needs and make some wonderful tiffin as well! I am only able to name a few, but thank you to you all.

This year the dynamic of the Councillors changed, but I personally feel this has only enhanced the diverse nature of our council. I would like to thank all members of Bradley Stoke Town Council, who give up their time voluntarily, for their effort and support. However, there is an even bigger thank you that must go to the Town Clerk and all her staff. The day to day running of the council would not be possible without everyone's hard work. Without you all, it would not function as efficiently as it does. Thank you.

It has been an absolute pleasure to be your Mayor and personally I would like to thank every person in Bradley Stoke for their contribution towards our community and Town, which I will continue to say, is a wonderful place to live.

*"This year has had many personal high points for me, one of which was having the chance to meet so many residents and members of our Town, who make it what it is".*

# Attendance for BSTC Councillors

Councillors	Cttee				Council				Finance				P & E				L Y & A																	
	Full	Finance	L Y & A	P & E	C May	C Jun (extra)	C Jul	C Aug (extra)	C Sept	C Sept (extra)	C Nov	C Jan	C Mar	F Jun	F Aug	F Oct	F Dec	F Feb	P May	P Jun	P Jul	P Aug	P Sept	P Oct	P Nov	P Dec	P Jan	P Feb	P Mar	L Jun	L Aug	L Oct - Inq	L Dec	L Feb
Tom Aditya	C	F	L	P	✓	✓	o		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
John Ashe^^	C			P	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	✓	✓						✓	✓	o	✓	o	✓	o	✓	o	✓						
Roger Avenin	C	F		P	✓	o		✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Keith Cranney^^	C			P	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	o	✓						o	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	o	o	✓						
Keir Gravil	C		L		✓				✓																				o	✓	✓	o		
Tony Griffiths	C	F		P	✓	o	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	o		✓	o	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓			o	o	✓							
Elaine Hardwick	C				o	o	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓									✓												
Paul Hardwick	C	F	L	P					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Kim Harris	C		L		✓		o		o	o	o		o										✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o			✓	
Brian Hopkinson^^	C	F*	L*	P*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	o	✓		o		o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Robert Jones^^	C	F		P	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	o		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Sarah Pomfret^^	C		L		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	o						✓										✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Ed Rose	C	F	L			✓	✓	o	✓		✓	o	o	✓	o	✓	o	o	✓										✓	o		✓		
Ben Walker^^	C	F	L	P	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	
Charlotte Walker^^	C	F*	L*	P*	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	o	o	o	o	✓	o	o			o	o	o	o	o	✓	o	o	o	

^^ = South Glos Councillor (sometimes otherwise engaged on SGC business) o = apology submitted \* = ex-officio (Chair & Vice-chair) Inq = Inquire  
 Charlotte Walker = Chair of Council, Brian Hopkinson = Vice-chair of Council, Roger Avenin = Chair of Finance, Rob Jones = Chair of Planning & Environment, Keir Gravil = Chair of Leisure, Youth & Amenities (resigned as councillor 07.02.13). Barry Mitchell resigned 04.07.12, Paul Hardwick elected 06.09.12. Paul Hardwick elected as Chair of Leisure, Youth & Amenities 18.02.13

## Finance Committee Report

*“The Council is able to announce that for the FOURTH year running we are applying a nil increase. In a period of general financial insecurity and financial hardship for many this is no less than the residents of Bradley Stoke deserve.”*

By far the most significant event of the financial year was the setting of the Council’s Precept (i.e. that element of the Council Tax applicable to the Town Council).

We are currently in an uncertain period. Certain services previously provided by the District Council may be in future devolved to Town and Parish councils, and we are additionally faced with a revised method of calculating our entitlement to Council Tax, both which may have a significant negative impact on the level of income we are able to call on.

In view of these there were strong pressures on us to increase the Precept by somewhere in the region of 2.7% to 3% which has led to much debate within the Council. Virtually all other neighbouring local councils were either in the process of increasing their Precepts or strongly recommending such increases, some by significant amounts.

Nevertheless a majority of councillors were of the persuasion that despite the above difficulties and even with normal inflationary pressures we should still stick with a zero percentage increase for 2013/14. This can only be done through sound financial management but we are confident that this can be achieved without any significant diminution of services provided.

Accordingly the Council is able to announce that for the FOURTH year running we are applying a nil increase. In a period of general financial insecurity and financial hardship for many this is no less than the residents of Bradley Stoke deserve.

The other major financial event of the year was the completion and opening of the new Council Office.

This has been several years in the making and is considered to be well worth the effort. Although there has been much debate in various journals etc. the financial benefits are obvious. In simplistic terms we did use some reserves for this with the remainder being topped up by a Public Works Loan (at an extremely advantageous interest rate). The total cost was in the region of £300K. However the loan interest and capital repayments are currently less than the rent we were paying previously therefore there is an immediate saving. Also the loan (interest & capital) will be repaid within 10 years and from that time we will have what is virtually a free resource and the Town Council will be free from any payments for our premises whatsoever.

The work of the Finance Committee is quite varied. Some of the issues we have dealt with (or are still ongoing) are listed below:-

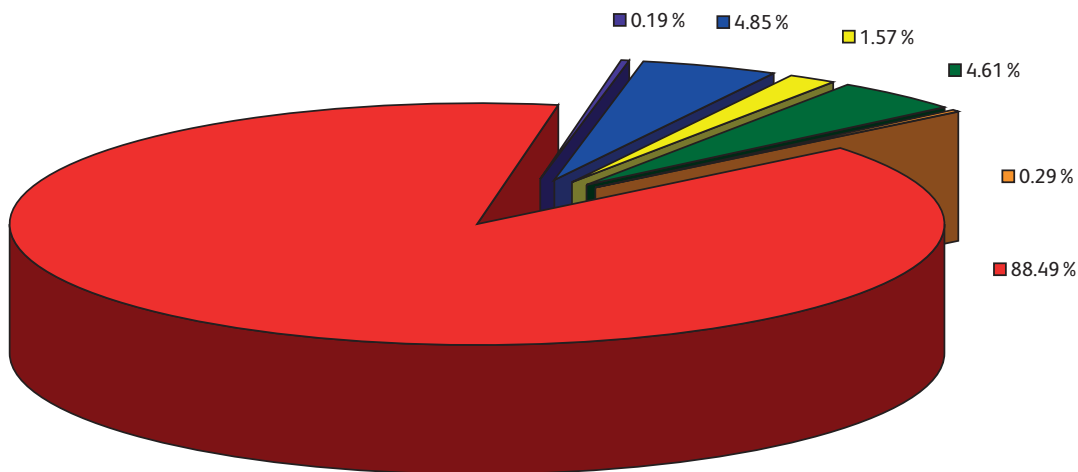
- Police Officer funding
- Citizens Advice Bureau funding
- Problems caused by Cold Callers in Bradley Stoke
- Waste Collection charges
- Youth Participation Worker funding
- Allotment funding
- Health Visitor & Midwife usage at Brook Way
- Refurbishment of Council owned buildings
- Project Beacon Playscheme

The progress and outcomes of these issues and many more are open to public scrutiny through the Finance Committee minutes published on the Town Council website.

It is considered that the council finances are managed prudently across the board, a reflection on the quality of both Councillors and Council staff. Finally it is worth noting that once again the council received a completely clean ‘bill of health’ from the independent Internal Auditor.

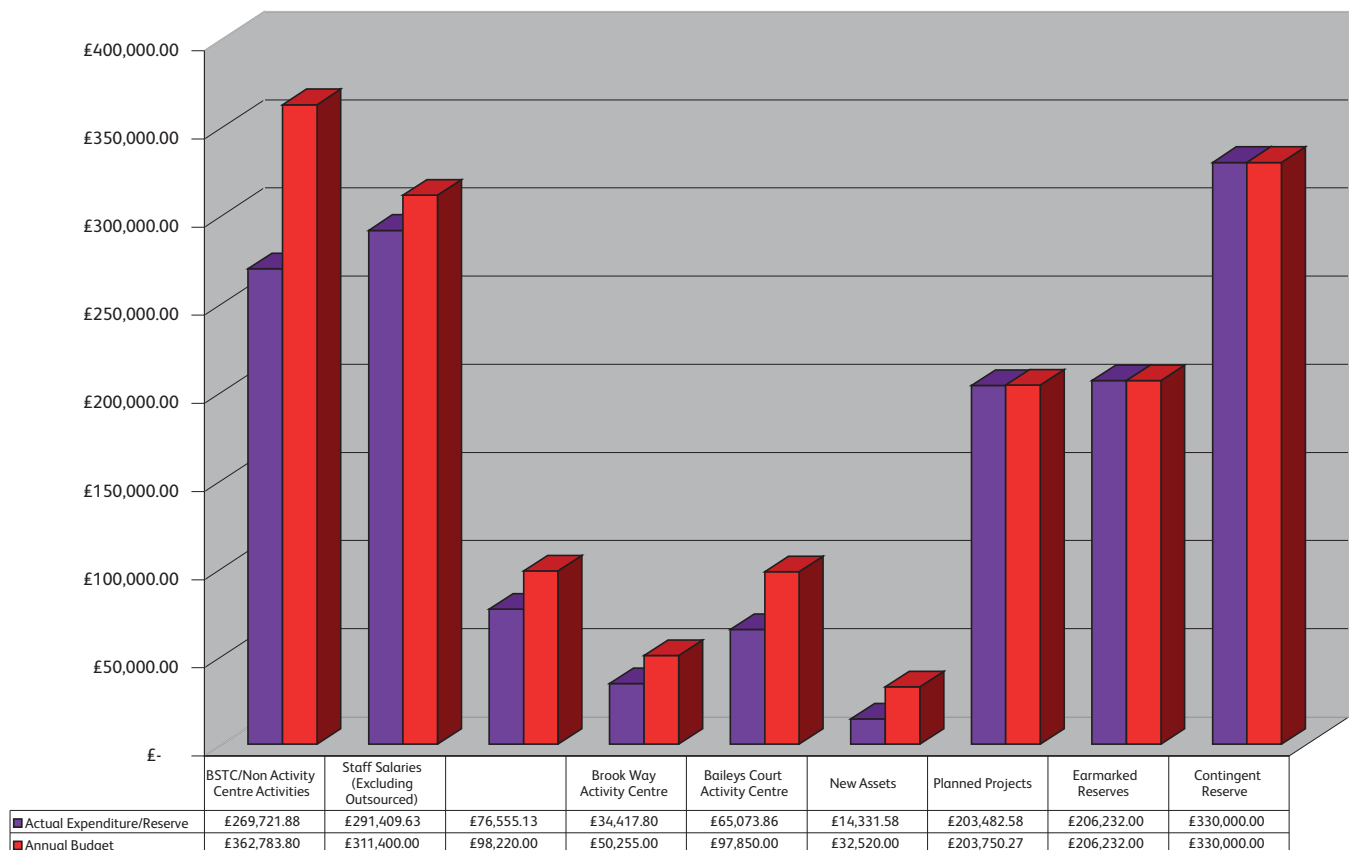
# Finance

## 2012/13 Pre-Audit Income 31st March 2013



■ BSTC/Non Activity Centre Activities = £1,743.49	■ Baileys Court Activity Centre = £41,250.78
■ Bradley Stoke Jubilee Centre = £43,471.89	■ Bank Interest = £2,606.38
■ Brook Way Activity Centre = £14,034.94	■ Precept = £792,571.00

## Comparison of 2012/13 Pre- Audit Expenditure Against Annual Budget 31st March 2013



The above charts are based upon provisional pre-audit figures which were correct as at 31st March 2013, but exclude final year end adjustments and accruals. Finalised figures will be available after the audit papers have been produced and these will be placed onto the website by the end of June 2013.

# Leisure, Youth & Amenities Committee Report

*“Youth in Bradley Stoke is an important element of our Community and we try to ensure that our youth feel that Bradley Stoke is a place where they have been pleased to grow up”*

I have been asked, as Vice Chair of Bradley Stoke Town Council, to write the annual report for the Leisure Youth and Amenities Committee.

Leisure Facilities in Bradley Stoke are quite extensive and during the year members of the Committee and Staff of Bradley Stoke Town Council have ensured that these are not only kept up to scratch but that they are increased and improved wherever possible.

Youth in Bradley Stoke is an important element of our Community and we try to ensure that our youth feel that Bradley Stoke is a place where they have been pleased to grow up. During this last year there have been many events and our wish to bring a youth council here in Bradley Stoke to fruition is beginning to see work commence in bringing this into being.

Amenities: These do not grow on trees and have to be cared for, ensuring that they are not only fit for purpose, but continue to be of excellent AAA rated standard which we continue to strive to safeguard, promote and increase wherever and whenever possible.

I cannot praise our Cllrs and Staff enough for all the time and energy they put into the above. Yes our Staff are paid, however the commitment and diligence which is so clear as Cllrs are able to see is remarkable. I will stress that Cllrs serving on Bradley Stoke Town Council are not paid as they are volunteers, who give of their time and advice freely.

There have been many highlights of the year, however one I believe is a major one of the last decade has seen Bradley Stoke Town Council build its own Council Offices. This Building is situated adjacent to the Jubilee Community Building which is centrally located in Bradley Stoke, in Savages Wood Road.

The new centrally located offices are proving much more useful to residents as they have found it so much easier to personally call in with queries or bookings for community rooms, leisure facilities etc. Cost-wise this new amenity is also saving money as we took advantage of a fixed interest public works loan. The loan actually costs us some £8,000 less per annum than our old offices did to rent. The Building is now a long term asset for Bradley Stoke and it will take just 10 years to repay the loan in full. Current calculations show that we will be saving hundreds of thousands of pounds over its lifetime. Previous administrations had shied away from such a project; however this administration coupled with our Council Staff's desire to help us bring project to completion, helped us to achieve this well within budget and money to spare.



Grants: Each year that goes by, community groups in Bradley Stoke keep growing. However we are very mindful that often our groups need a little support. We do this in various ways, by offering information, signposting to useful connexions and also help with the occasional start up or support grant.

Over the last 12 months we have made the following grants to the here listed organisations:

## Larger Grant Aid

Four Towns Playscheme	£5,000.00
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## Youth Grant Aid

2nd Stoke Lodge Brownie Unit	£500.00
Bradley Stoke Youth Football Club	£434.00
Southern Brooks Community Partnership - Dreamscheme	£260.00
Stay and Play @CtK	£450.00
St Mary's Rugby Club (Under 13 Boys)	£400.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,044.00</b>

## Grant Aid

Babies on Boobs Breastfeeding Support	£140.00
Bradley Stoke WI	£400.00
Friends of Jubilee Green	£491.00
Sole Sisters	£500.00
St Peter's Hospice	£400.00
Play Pitch Pre-school	£350.00
Young at Heart 50+ Club	£500.00
Survive	£500.00
Stay and Play @CtK	£450.00
The Stoke Singers	£200.00
Bradley Stoke Twinning Association	£400.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£4,331.00</b>

## Community Development Grant Aid

SBCP - Toddler Group Support	£3993.10
SBCP - Community Group Support	£3993.10
SBCP - Dreamscheme	£3905.10
SBCP - Community Consultation	£3925.10
Friends of Jubilee Green	£2101.00
Encounters Festivals Ltd	£750.00
VGM Awesome: VGM-a-thon project	£300.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£18,967.40</b>

## Service Level Agreements

Bouncing Babies	£1,700.00
Bradley Stoke Youth Cricket Club	£3,000.00
Bradley Stoke Youth Football Club	£2,300.00
South Glos Chinese Association	£1,764.37
Christ the King Youth Group	£1,600.00
Four Towns Transport	£2,404.24
Patchway, Filton and Stokes Volunteer Centre	£1,158.84
South West Winterguard Academy	£2,050.00
Three Brooks Nature Conservation Group	£1,500.00
Victim Support	£848.19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£18,325.64</b>

However I would like to highlight the work done by the Volunteer Centre. We are very supportive of this organisation. Over the last year I have spoken to many people who have volunteered. Comments have included: "It makes me feel much more worthwhile", "I have made so many new friends" and "It is so good to be needed". Comments like these make an organisation such as the Volunteer Centre so valuable to us all.

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## Leisure, Youth & Amenities Committee Report cont.

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The Council is a facilitator for these groups who in themselves represent a good section of our community. New groups are always welcome to approach us.

The year started with Cllr Keir Grivil being re-elected to the post. However work commitments kept Keir away from a couple of meetings which I chaired in his place. Keir's work career has seen him recently move to Australia and we all wish him well and thank him for his help on this Committee. On his leaving, we recently elected Cllr Paul Hardwick to the role.

Paul is well versed in community projects and for many years chaired Bradley Stoke's Cricket Club helping it to develop into the successful club it is today.

Although there have been many, many great events in this last year, I would like to state here that Community is often spontaneous. This last year saw many residents organising Jubilee street parties, one of which I had the pleasure of attending in Wheatfield, whilst other events such as the Chinese New Year Party brought the year of the Tiger to an end and entered the year of the Snake. Our Chinese Community were there in force dressed in splendid robes, acting out traditions past with dancing dragons.

I hope this short report has given you a small insight if not a massively detailed one, of our Leisure, Youth and Amenities Committee for 2012/13.

Cllr Brian Hopkinson,  
Vice Chair of Bradley Stoke Town Council

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# Planning & Environment Committee Report

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The Planning and Environment Committee, unlike Full Council or the other standing committees, meets every month throughout the year. This frequency is a necessity as the timescales involved in many planning applications means the window for consultation is often short and without assembling monthly we would not be able to comment on all applications within the Town.

At the time of writing we have considered 64 applications, a slight increase on last year, raising 17 objections.

South Gloucestershire Council, are of course the principal authority for planning matters in the Town, and our comments rank only alongside those of other consultees. Needless to say we do not always find ourselves in agreement with the end result and have been overruled by South Glos on no less than 8 occasions so far this year.

A number of consultation documents have also been forthcoming from South Gloucestershire Council and others and the committee have considered and responded on a range of issues that will shape development in surrounding areas in years to come. With large numbers of new houses set to be built in South Gloucestershire in the next decade many commentators are looking again at Bradley Stoke to see how the town has evolved and we have tried to comment with the benefit of experience wherever possible.

We have also been fortunate to receive a number of third party presentations at some of our meetings with representations from the Post Office, Knightstone Housing and Glenside Bristol among others. My thanks to all who have addressed us for their time, many of their presentations have attracted public interest and indeed the public gallery at this committee is rarely empty.

Finally on the planning side some good news in connection with one of our standing discussion items, Broadband. You will have no doubt seen in the news that South

Gloucestershire and BDUK have signed a deal with BT to bring superfast broadband to over 90% of residents. Parts of Bradley Stoke, currently unable to receive a good broadband service, look set to benefit from this investment and we look forward to hearing more about the rollout plans at a future committee meeting.

And so to the committee's Environment remit which covers a multitude of areas from Litter and Graffiti to Conservation. As well as the more routine matters falling within these categories, two discussions this year warrant a special mention.

The first demonstrates quite nicely how even the smallest changes can have unintended consequences as was the case when signs at Baileys Court Activity Centre were replaced to update council contact details following the move to new offices. One of these signs which had adorned the gate for approximately 14 years included the wording "No Dogs Allowed". However, the new sign, with identical wording to the one it replaced, upset dog walkers and we were delighted to welcome a number of them to the Jubilee Centre where their concerns were heard. The Council does of course allow responsible pet owners to exercise their animals on the field at Bailey's Court and the sign has since been changed. Please do ensure you clean up properly after your pet and keep your animals off areas being used for sport.

Also deserving of a mention are the embryonic plans to enter the Royal Horticultural Society's Britain in Bloom Competition. Council have allocated a small amount of capital funding to help get this project off the ground and a public meeting was held in February. While many councillors are supportive of this project and want to be involved the aim is to establish a Britain in Bloom Group, independent of the council who will work to manage our involvement in this national scheme and raise funding from a variety of different places. If you'd like to be involved do get in touch with the town clerk and we will link you up with others already taking part.

On a personal note I'd like to thank my fellow councillors for their participation in our meetings and for electing me as chair. I have now had the honour of chairing each of council's three committees as well as full council and it has been a privilege to work with so many dedicated volunteers for the benefit of our community. Thanks also to the Clerk and office staff for their ongoing assistance in the daily running of our town and for their helpful responses to my many and regular enquiries.

*"We have also been fortunate to receive a number of third party presentations at some of our meetings with representations from the Post Office, Knightstone Housing and Glenside Bristol among others"*

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# Changes to Youth Work in Bradley Stoke

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*“From January 2013 South Gloucestershire and Bradley Stoke Councils have jointly funded a part time Youth Participation Worker whose role is to create a Bradley Stoke Youth Council”*

Over the last year South Gloucestershire Council have continued to undertake a review of Youth Services as part of a Transformation Review of services for children, families and young people. The purpose of the Review was to:-

- Better support children, families and young people who are most in need by:
  - o restructuring services so that they are more integrated and easy to access
  - o focusing on early intervention to prevent problems developing
  - o focusing effort on those who are most in need
- Allow local choice and style of provision by:
  - o Encouraging communities and other organisations to take a greater role
- Provide affordable services to children, families and young people by:
  - o delivering savings
  - o reducing the cost of some of the more expensive services by helping people earlier

As a consequence of the review South Gloucestershire Council have agreed to continue to fund a reduced level of universal youth provision from **Youth Centres in the six priority neighbourhoods**. Unfortunately, this means that the current Detached Youth Work programme in Bradley Stoke will not be directly funded by South Gloucestershire Council after the 31st March 2013. However, it is hoped to work with young people to raise additional funding for youth work, including applying to South Gloucestershire’s “positive activities subsidy”(see below), Bradley Stoke Town Council and other funding bodies.

## Allocation of a positive activities subsidy

South Gloucestershire Council have agreed to “contribute significant funding to support youth provision across the whole of South Gloucestershire by providing a positive activities financial subsidy, which will be distributed through the five Area Forums.”

## Bradley Stoke Detached Youth Work Project report 2012 -13

Over the majority of the past year the detached youth project has continued to deliver a varied programme to young people within the Bradley Stoke area. The project was designed to bring together young people from across the local area so that they could positively engage in a range of recreational and informal educational projects and programmes.

In essence the purpose of the detached youth work programme was to:

- provide fun, safe and challenging activities
- enable young people to explore and reflect upon their attitudes,
- provide a chance to develop and learn new skills
- enable them to gain knowledge and information and to make informed choices
- be educative and promote equality of opportunity
- be genuinely participative and for young people to have their voices heard

## Examples of weekly activities

**Young Women’s Project: Monday evening.** This was a single sex project which succeeded in building the girls confidence, positive self-image, self-esteem and self-respect through a fun and varied programme of positive activities.

**Bradley Stoke Music Project: Monday evening.** This involved young people from Bradley Stoke using the music facilities at Little Stoke Youth Centre with the support of youth workers and music tutors.

**Detached session at BS Skate Park: Tuesday evening.** With the support of Crazy Kranks this is a session that has promoted the safe use of the facility, the assessment of risk and the development of skills within a challenging environment. It is also a good location for issue based youth work, for providing information and supportively signposting young people to other agencies and resources.

**Detached session football project: Thursday evening.** Another popular session operates from the Jubilee centre hard courts. This involves young people actively engaging in sporting activity, managing conflict, developing skills, confidence and self-esteem. However, equally important is the youth work that takes place around the football, including, as above, advice and information work, issue based work, challenging anti-social behaviours, but also other fun activities, including occasional BBQs (weather permitting).

**Detached session: Friday evening.** This has been a generic detached session taking place at different locations and engaging young people in a range of positive activities, as outlined above. Over the summer months detached youth workers worked with young people on the open spaces at Bailey’s Court Activity Centre. In addition, detached youth work has regularly taken place at the Willow Brook Centre, the Skate Park, Jubilee Centre and other locations.

**School based work: Wednesday lunchtime.** Regular weekly lunchtime sessions have taken place in Bradley Stoke Community School to promote youth work programmes, signpost young people and deliver advice and information work.

**Participation work** has been a strong theme within the detached youth work project and has included supporting young people’s involvement in the SGC youth service consultation process and their engagement with local elected members. In addition, young people have been actively involved in consultations about the relocation and development of the Skate Park.

## Recent developments: Youth Participation Worker

From January 2013 South Gloucestershire and Bradley Stoke Councils have jointly funded a part time Youth Participation Worker whose role is to create a Bradley Stoke Youth Council. The Youth Council is an umbrella term for a range of youth democracy projects and programmes that will gradually enable young people to have a greater say in decision making and in the shaping of services and thereby enabling young people to become active citizens. The project will also enable additional funding sources to be identified and to support young people in the shaping of funding applications. The project will work closely with Bradley Stoke Community School, Bradley Stoke Town Council and with other local groups and businesses.

To help the project succeed Bradley Stoke Town Council has provided an initial working budget that will help provide:

- Regular “youth council” sessions to support a range of projects.
- Media and radio training that will help develop links to local groups, such as Bradley Stoke Community Radio, and give young people the chance to have their voices heard through different media.



## Changes to Youth Work in Bradley Stoke cont.

- Youth democracy training modules enabling young people to be involved in evaluating services, as grant givers, involved in recruitment, etc.
- Residential training enabling a potentially diverse group of young people to learn together effectively as a team/s.
- An opportunity for young people to gain accreditation for their involvement and also a chance for the Town Council to work towards accreditation as a council that actively listens to Young People.
- A small grant pot for young people to allocate to other groups of young people.

## Getting involved

If you are a young person living in Bradley Stoke aged 11 to 19 who would like to find out more or get involved please contact the Youth Participation Worker on 07900 253826 or email [graham.baker@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:graham.baker@southglos.gov.uk) Likewise if you are interested in volunteering with one of the youth democracy projects please use the above contacts.

# Avon and Somerset Constabulary



The past year has been a challenge for the Bradley Stoke Neighbourhood Policing team as we worked to bring domestic burglary back down. We saw an increase from 40 in 2010 to 51 in 2011 and made preventing burglary our priority.

Working with the emergency response officers we have seen the figure come back down to 35 in 2012, despite having 13 incidents in the last two months of the year. Five adult men were arrested in connection with these burglaries and are currently still under investigation for other offences in the force area and beyond.

We aim to prevent burglars striking twice by making home security visits to victims and carrying out high profile patrols of the areas where they happened. Vulnerable victims can have a visit by a specialist carpenter, employed by us, to upgrade locks and advise on other security measures.

Increased patrols in target areas and hard work targeting suspects by uniformed and plain clothes officers, is paying off. Police Community Support Officers continue to visit 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](http://www.immobilise.com). We also use the Vulnerable House Scheme, where patrolling officers and community volunteers identify potentially insecure premises and offer the householder.

Operations to reduce Anti-Social Behaviour, (ASB) continue. We know it is one of residents' biggest concerns and it remains part of our core business. There has been a large reduction in calls due to weekend operations and work around peak times like Halloween and Firework nights.

The last two quarterly Safer Stronger Community Group (SSCG) meetings have not identified any concerns for the police to act on, from local residents, however the Neighbourhood team will continue to work hard in the areas of normal concerns to make residents feel safe. Attendance and support of Community events, such as the Bradley Stoke Festival and fun run continues, as does other support such as Diwali and International Women's Day.

On 5th March all the team will be present at the Bradley Stoke Neighbourhood Watch Conference, at the Jubilee Centre, to liaise and support the 24 local watches and look to encourage new watches to form. They help to spread the message in crime reduction and are our eyes and ears in the community.

Bradley Stoke Neighbourhood Policing team now consists of two Police Constables, Claire Fletcher and Steven Palmer, supported by three PCSOs, Kirsty McKillop, Lucy Sparks and Ben Sheward. A weekly Beat Surgery is held every Wednesday afternoon at the Police Post at the Willowbrook centre, for residents to drop in for advice or help.

*"The past year has been a challenge for the Bradley Stoke Neighbourhood Policing team as we worked to bring domestic burglary back down"*



PC STEVEN PALMER



PC CLAIRE FLETCHER



PCSO KIRSTY MCKILLOP



PCSO BEN SHEWARD



PCSO LUCY SPARKS

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# Southern Brooks Community Partnership (SBCP)

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*“Bradley Stoke has a wealth of voluntary community groups covering all ages and interests.”*

## Community Grant Funding Report 2012

Southern Brooks Community Partnership (SBCP) were awarded community grant funding from Bradley Stoke Town council to support community development in the town.

There are 7 toddler groups in Bradley Stoke, supporting up to 120 families weekly. Six of these are run by volunteers. Several of the toddler groups have experience difficulties in recruiting leaders. This year three groups were supported to remain open. A community consultation was carried out in June to look at provision of services for children under the age of 5 yrs. It was found that parents were not always aware of activities. This was even more pronounced for new families moving into the town. Additionally, there were concerns about the impact that changes to the sure Start centre will have on provision, therefore some support was needed to enable individuals to set up toddler groups. As a result of this consultation a new under -5 leaflet has been created to include all under 5 provisions in the town as well as a toddler toolkit which will be distributed to all toddler groups supported by SBCP and available to those wishing to set up a group.

Bradley Stoke has a wealth of voluntary community groups covering all ages and interests. Several groups have contacted us needing support including support with grant funding, publicity, recruiting new members and in some cases dealing with conflict that arises when people have strong feelings about their organisations. Some groups were also supported in evaluating the sustainability of their group, this hopefully will enable these groups to grow and remain strong. After waiting several years we were very pleased to support over 20 local residents to have access to allotments.

Dreamscheme allows young people to choose activities they want to do that will benefit their town. By taking this format the young people build civic pride about their community and gain self-esteem. Previous activities have included bulb planting around the town, little picks at the Jubilee green, bag packing for local charity, and gardening work for the elderly. This year the young people wanted to do some community murals/graffiti art-work in the town. We worked in partnership with Bradley Stoke Community

school, Meadowbrook primary school, Knightstone housing association, as well as the PCSOs and several local volunteers to carry out two projects – one during the summer holiday and one over the October half term. Over 30 young people took part, working over 40hrs to design and paint the murals supported by a graffiti artist. They are sited at the skate park and in Jordan way. The young people enjoyed themselves and earned points for their reward which included water-sport and laser fusion.

To gain an insight into what residents of the town think about facilities and what might be needed in the future a community consultation was commissioned by the town council. This was available to residents on the internet via Survey Monkey and in paper format from the local libraries. Additional paper copies were sent to several groups. The survey was available from December 2012 to January 2013, over 300 people took part and we are currently analysing the results. This will inform us about what future work to deliver. The results will be published on our website.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who took time to complete the community consultation. For all the volunteers who have supported our work over the last year and for the local groups who year on year provide quality services to the wider community of Bradley Stoke.

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## South Brook Community Partnership (SBCP) cont.

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We have been supporting families throughout Bradley Stoke for the past 8 years. We work with families who may be going through a difficult time and may need some additional support or advice to get them back on track. Every family is unique and the challenges they face vary, so every family has a package of support that is tailored to their specific needs. This could be emotional support, parenting advice or simply information about what groups and activities are going on in the area.

In the past year we have supported over 30 families in the Bradley Stoke area. Working in partnership with other services in the area we always aim to ensure that we offer the best support possible to local families.

### Bouncing Babies

Bouncing Babies has been an active group in Bradley Stoke for the past 9 years. Supported by Southern Brooks it provides play opportunities to under 1's and a chance for their parents or carers to make new friends. It is usually the first social group the baby attends. Some parents are hesitant to take their baby to a Toddler group as they don't feel safe with the rough and tumble play of older toddlers. At Bouncing Babies parents can play with their baby in a comfortable safe environment.

For a first time mum the stresses and demands of a new baby can be overwhelming. Just getting out of the house can be an achievement in itself. Some of our mums were very isolated before coming to Bouncing Babies. They really value having someone to talk to who understands the huge change having a new baby brings to your life. We are the only group in the Stokes area that is specifically for under ones.

Our group is currently funded by Bradley Stoke Town Council and Knightstone Housing, it is great to have this backing as without it the group would not be able to run. The group provides an important service to local families in the prevention and identification of isolation and post natal depression. The group is a stepping stone into other community activities and toddler groups and can support in a family feeling part of a wider community.

### Christmas Hamper Appeal

For the past 8 years Southern Brooks has held a Christmas Hamper Appeal, providing practical support to vulnerable families through out the area. The project has grown year on year, starting in year 1 with 10 hampers, this year we were able to give out around 90 boxes to local families in need. The hampers make a huge difference to the families that receive them. Over the years, the Appeal has become embedded as an integral part of community activity during the festive season and Christmas 2012 has been no exception.

This year we were really grateful to receive the support of Bradley Stoke Evangelical Church, The Edge Church, Christ the King and Bradley Stoke Town Council.



*“Some of our mums were very isolated before coming to Bouncing Babies. They really value having someone to talk to who understands the huge change having a new baby brings to your life”*



# bradley stoke community festival

## 07 - 09 June 2013

**Arts & Craft stalls • Bed Race • Children's Games & Activities • Climbing Wall & Bungee Trampoline • Cricket Match • Dog Agility Display • Model Aircraft Display • Falconry Display • Football Tournament • Land Train • Local Bands & Dance Groups • Rides & Inflatables • 10k Race.**

### Friday 07 June

The Picnic in the Park starts at 09.30a.m until approximately 1.00p.m at the Jubilee Centre, for Parents/Carers and Toddlers/Babies. Professor Panic presents his range of circus skills in the Big Top, alongside Steve the Bubbleman and bouncy castle. Refreshments will be served. The Friends of Jubilee Green will be running a family Treasure Trail during the morning.

### Saturday 08 June 11.30 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.

The demonstration area in Jubilee Green this year features a Model Aircraft Display, a Falconry Display and a Dog Agility team. Music is provided by local bands; Astral Toasters, Obsidian, Goodnight Lois, Resplendent, Gecko Blasters and the Bradley Stoke Community School band; performing alongside local dance groups and associations. Fun rides for the children include trampolines, inflatables, football games, activities, longbow archery, mini quads and the Vertical Xtreme climbing wall. Bristol Zoo will be providing a "tropical" collection of bugs and insects, with a storytelling session for the younger children from the BS Library. South Gloucestershire 2013 Legacy, Run, Jump & Throw Road Show for people of all ages to test their skills and abilities across the range of athletic competition in a safe environment, participants will receive a record of their achievements with the top five in each event being invited to a finals event in September. Sideshows, arts & crafts and community stalls will offer a wide range of local products and novelties. The Bradley Stoke Youth FC Football Tournament for Year 1 Boys starts at 10.30 a.m. on the top soccer pitches.

### Sunday 09 June

A 10K multi terrain race organised by the Sole Sisters starts at 09.30 a.m. and finishes at the Jubilee Centre. 500 Competitors are expected. At Baileys Court an outdoor Church service starts at 11.00a.m. with competitions and entertainment and the first running of the **Bradley Stoke Bed Race** which will start at 1.00p.m. The BS Cricket Club will provide a BBQ + bar from 12.00 noon with a Mayor's XI v a BSCC XI starting at 2.p.m. finishing with evening entertainment in the clubhouse. The BS Bowls club will provide roll up demonstrations throughout the afternoon.

### Taking part

**If you would like to enter the Sole Sister's 10k Run, the Bed Race or book a stall, please go to the web site [www.bradleystoke.gov.uk](http://www.bradleystoke.gov.uk) or contact BSTC on 01454 205020**



For full details please call 01454 205020  
or visit [www.bradleystoke.gov.uk](http://www.bradleystoke.gov.uk)