



# the NEWS

Bradford on Avon Town Council  
Summer 2022



Inside: Bradford on Avon makes big plans for Platinum Jubilee weekend

Photo: Trevor Porter

## Town unites to support Ukraine



Since the beginning of the war, Bradford on Avon has shown unwavering support for the people of Ukraine. As refugees arrive in Wiltshire, Bradford on Avon is giving them a warm welcome.

The Town Council is supporting a regular Bradford on Avon Ukrainian Club. Initiated by Cllr Sam Blackwell, the club will help Ukrainians meet new people, learn English and get help with everyday tasks. It is held every Monday between 3.30pm and 5pm at the Hub.

A coffee morning was to be held at Holy Trinity Church on 14 May, to raise funds for those escaping the war: the Town Council is supporting the fundraising with a contribution of £2,500.

When Russia began a military invasion of

Ukraine on 24 February, people in Bradford were quick to respond. Cllr Blackwell approached the Town Council about collecting aid for those in need, and it was decided that the council would take in donations and pay for drivers and transport to Poland. Within an hour of the appeal for specific items to help refugees, the first residents began to drop off food, clothing and medicine at the Town Council offices.

Volunteers pitched up on 5 March to begin sorting and packing the donations ready to send - with boxes generously provided by Pickfords. By 7 March, there was enough to fill a van. The following day, Ukrainian volunteers, Dmytro and Vlad Sveato, began the long journey to the southeast border of Poland and Ukraine to deliver the aid.

## Traffic data analysed

The Future of Transport consultation launched in late 2021 as an exercise in collecting data and comments on traffic in Bradford on Avon.

The Town Council received over 2,700 responses to the consultation and the report identified three key priorities: pedestrian and cyclist safety, air quality and traffic volume.

On 29 March, the Sustainable Transport Committee, chaired by Cllr Tim Trimble, met to discuss the results of the Future of Transport consultation. During the meeting councillors voted to forward the report to Wiltshire Council's Highways team. Outgoing Mayor, Cllr Sarah Gibson, and Cllr Trimble have since met with Wiltshire Council's cabinet member for Transport, Waste, Street Scene and Flooding, Cllr Dr Mark McClelland.

Wiltshire Council is analysing the data, which will inform any future traffic scheme. The consultation results were compiled by Bristol-based Copper Consultancy, and can be viewed on our website at <https://bit.ly/3rV8Ra2>

## Talk of the town: news in brief

■ Climate Friendly Bradford on Avon is running an **energy survey** to build data on the gas, electricity and other fuels used in the town use. To take the survey, please visit: <https://bit.ly/3w8kKMM>

■ Across the country households are counting how much plastic they throw away in a week. This data will show why we need to commit to reducing plastic use by 50 per cent by 2025 with

options that work for everyone. More information on the **Big Plastic Count** can be found at [thebigplasticcount.com](http://thebigplasticcount.com) - and for some tips on cutting down on plastics use, turn to page 4.

■ Bradford on Avon Town Council offers a **memorial bench scheme** in the town. Benches are a popular way of remembering loved ones, as places for people to sit, talk and reflect. We

will purchase, install and maintain the memorial bench on your behalf. Contact the Town Council for more information.

■ Grow it and show it at this year's **Flower & Produce Show**, on Sunday 4 September in St Margaret's Hall. Pick up a schedule at the Town Council offices, at the Tourist Information Centre or online at the Town Council website.

# Jubilee programme

## Events for everyone

### Thursday, 2 June - Saturday, 4 June

#### Jubilee exhibition in St Margaret's Hall, 9am - 6pm

St Margaret's Hall will play host to an historical exhibition and celebration of Bradford on Avon. It will feature photos and stories, as well as film and audio, from some of the people who have shaped the town in line with the reign of Queen Elizabeth II. There will also be a traditional sweet shop stall and a bookshop stocked with books on the history of the town. The event is being supported by the Bradford on Avon Preservation Trust and organised by the Town Council.

### Friday, 3 June

#### Lions Club of Bradford on Avon Fun Day, Culver Close, 11am - 4.30pm

The Fun Day will include activities such as royal fancy dress, funfair rides, bouncy castle, trampolines, stalls, children's shows, donkey rides, food, ice cream, train rides, children's sports and much more. For more information, please visit [boalions.org.uk](http://boalions.org.uk)

#### Lions Club of Bradford on Avon Car Boot Sale, Victory Field, 7am - 4.30pm

Bradford on Avon Lions are hosting a giant jubilee car boot sale on Victory Field. Pitches, suitable for one car, cost £10.

### Saturday, 4 June

#### Tea Party, Holy Trinity Church, 2 - 5pm

The tea party is free for all to attend (donations to Save the Children are welcome) and will feature Mike Daniels' brass quintet and jubilee face painting. There will also be a host of traditional children's games including skipping, sack races and a crown making competition - to be judged by the Town Mayor. Bradford on Avon's Cake Architect is providing an extravagant jubilee cake. Great cakes available from Save the Children.

#### Live Music at Westbury Gardens & Lamb Yard, 2.40 - 10pm

There will be a mixture of live music across Westbury Garden and Lamb Yard. The venues have an exciting line up including The Pinkertons, Beetroot Jazz and Zoe Newton. Not one to miss for music fans. There will also be seven food and drink stalls in Westbury Gardens.

### Sunday, 5 June

#### Jubilee at The Hall, 2 - 5pm

Bradford on Avon Town Council in partnership with the Alex Moulton Charitable Trust is hosting a Jubilee at the Hall on 5 June. Attendees will be able to enjoy the music of Glastonbury Brass, entertainment from a traditional Punch and Judy show and the Wiltshire Jazz Academy, as well as food and fizz on sale from Cru Wines, Fresh Kitchen, Lacock Dairy and more. Tickets can be purchased at the Tourist Information Centre and online at [moultontrust.org](http://moultontrust.org) - adults £15/ children £10/family £45 (food and drink not included).

#### Live Opera at St Margaret's Hall, 7 - 10pm

To round off the jubilee celebrations, the Town Council is hosting an elegant evening of live opera at St Margaret's Hall. Two opera singers, accompanied by a pianist, will be a treat for music lovers to close the weekend. Tickets will cost £22.50 and will be sold through the Wiltshire Music Centre box office at [wiltshiremusic.org.uk](http://wiltshiremusic.org.uk)

- Pick up a full programme of events at the Town Council offices or the Tourist Information Centre, or online at [www.bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk)

### SHUTTLE BUS

The Town Council will be providing a free shuttle service on Saturday, 4 June. The shuttle will operate between 1.30pm and 9pm and will leave from the Westbury Gardens bus stop

# Council takes over town's weekly market



■ The Thursday market is now locally managed by the Town Council

Several services and assets in Bradford on Avon have been passed from Wiltshire Council to Bradford on Avon Town Council, giving the Town Council more say in how services are run.

The transfer means we will now take responsibility for grounds maintenance, such as grass cutting, and street cleaning services in the town, while also taking over several buildings, allotments, play areas, the town market, cemeteries and other public areas. We will have the autonomy to manage these services and facilities as we see fit, enabling us to focus on local priorities.

One of these assets is the treasured weekly market, which takes place every Thursday between 8am and 1.30pm at the Library car park. The market is an important part of the community and gives residents and tourists alike the chance to pick up quality goods at great prices and help local traders. If you are a market trader and wish to be part of the new locally managed market, please contact the Town Council.

Outgoing Mayor, Cllr Sarah Gibson, said: "Bradford on Avon Town Council is pleased to bring services such as grass cutting, the market and allotments under local management. Community asset transfer has been a lengthy process, but it has been great to work with Wiltshire Council to deliver a positive outcome for Bradford on Avon."

## We'll drink to that

Laser-cut plaques displaying the work of local poets have been installed on our three refill water fountains around the town.

Water-themed poetry by Carrie Etter, Dawn Gorman and John Hawkhead has been immortalised on the plaques for all to enjoy.

The bottle filling stations, installed in November 2019, can be found in Sladesbrook play area, St Margaret's car park and in Culver Close recreation ground, behind the pavilion.

Cllr Alex Kay (pictured below with poet Dawn Gorman) came up with the idea to help visitors and residents reduce single-use plastics.

"It is a pleasure to see these lovely eco-signs attached to each of the three drinking water stations in Bradford on Avon," said Cllr Kay. "I want to thank our poets and the generous donors for their support of this great community project."



## Town Council moves to new location

Bradford on Avon Town Council has moved into new offices at Kingston House.

The decision to move out of the current offices at St Margaret's Hall has not come easy, as we have been based there since 2003 when the extension was designed and built. However, the Town Council is entering a new era, having continually grown and gained new responsibilities, such as those taken over as part of the Community Asset Transfer.

The move will also allow better team working within the Town Council - which will in turn mean greater results for the people of Bradford on Avon.

Additionally, this will give us the opportunity to re-evaluate how we use St Margaret's Hall, including the possibility of better bar/café facilities.

The address for the new offices is Kingston House, 9 Kingston Road, Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire, BA15 1AB. The contact telephone numbers will remain the same.

## Best foot forward as Bradford welcomes walkers

Did you know Bradford on Avon is a Walkers are Welcome Town? One of over 100 such towns in the UK, Bradford on Avon offers something special for walkers.

Many will have heard of the Walking Wheel and maybe even trekked some or all of its 42-mile network of waymarkers. The Walking Wheel is a BoA Walkers are Welcome initiative, supported by the Town Council, West Wilts Ramblers and Wiltshire Council. It is a great asset for the town and the local area. Recently, the village of Atworth was added to the Wheel's Outer Circuit, which is now part of the BoA Community Area. The latest Wheel maps - updated on 7 December 2021 - show

this route change. For those with an older version the previous waymarkers will be left for a few months.

As well as the Walking Wheel, Bradford on Avon Walkers are Welcome offer two free guided walks each month which are open to all. There is also a three-day Walking Festival every September. More information can be found at [walkbradfordonavon.org](http://walkbradfordonavon.org)

Do you run a business in Bradford on Avon? Would you like to show that you welcome walkers by displaying one of its window stickers? If so, please email: [walkboa@gmail.com](mailto:walkboa@gmail.com)

## Duck race returns to River Avon



Photo: Trevor Porter

■ A thousand ducks were launched into the River Avon on Easter Monday

Thousands of people flocked to Westbury Gardens on Easter Monday to see the return of the Duck Race - sponsored by Puddle Ducks.

A decision was made on the day to move the duck launch site further downstream from Westbury Gardens, so as not to disturb or distress the nesting swans when 1,000 ducks were dropped into the river.

Outgoing Mayor, Cllr Sarah Gibson, said: "Unfortunately, with all the people around in the morning and all the activity, the swan got very upset. We couldn't risk the swan attacking our kayakers or that the pair became so upset they left the nest."

"It was noticeable which ducks were best trained - all of my efforts to train mine were a complete waste of time because one got stuck in the weeds."

"I'd like to thank everyone for coming and making this Duck Race a very special event. I'd also like to thank all those who helped put on the event and the community volunteers who helped marshal today."

The winners of the 2022 Duck Race were: 1st - The Bristow family (34); 2nd - Holly Raisey (353); 3rd - Martin Hinton (614); Lucky Duck winner - Amy Wakeman (429).

All 1,000 ducks were caught and returned by the Bradford on Avon Canoe Club.

Contact the Town Council by phone on 01225 864240

Email the Town Council at [office@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk)



# Pavilion plans go on public view

**H**undreds of local people have given their feedback on plans for a multi-use Community Pavilion in Culver Close.

■ Computer-generated image of the planned Community Pavilion

In September 2021, the Town Council consulted with the public and user groups on the position of the proposed pavilion.

The plans were presented at Town Development on 22 March and it was agreed that the Town Council hold exhibitions of the plans at the current pavilion. They were put on public view in two sessions - on 25 and 26 March, and 8 and 9 April.

Using feedback from visitors, combined with those who viewed the plans online and gave their comments virtually, the Town Council has collected 164 forms.

The Town Development committee was due to meet on 10 May to discuss the plans, and the mostly positive feedback.

## Panel response

**The Residents' Panel has completed its first survey, which focused on Town Council communications.**

**As a result of the response, the council plans to introduce an email newsletter which residents can opt to receive.**

**Results from the survey can be viewed at <https://bit.ly/3rZoiy6>**

## CONTACT your councillor

### North Ward

- CLLr **Sam Blackwell** [cllr.blackwell@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.blackwell@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk)
- CLLr **Alex Kay** [cllr.kay@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.kay@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk)
- CLLr **Simon McNeill-Ritchie** [cllr.mcneillritchie@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.mcneillritchie@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk)
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- CLLr **Katie Vigar** [cllr.vigar@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.vigar@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk)

### South Ward

- CLLr **Kate Bessant** [cllr.bessant@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.bessant@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk)
- CLLr **Emma Franklin** [cllr.franklin@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.franklin@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk)
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**PLASTIC FREE**

**BRADFORD ON AVON**

**SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE**

Plastic Free Bradford on Avon takes over our environmental action column in this issue, with some tips on cutting down your household's plastic habit

**Shop local** We are lucky in Bradford on Avon to have a number of independent businesses that are actively trying to phase out single-use plastic: we have a list on our website - <https://plasticfreeboawordpress.com/individuals/>

**Buy loose** Local greengrocers and vegetable box schemes use far less plastic than the supermarkets and often promote local and seasonal produce. Christine's Sustainable Supermarket offers a wide range of items, from washing up liquid and shampoo refills to loose dried fruit, nuts, pulses and pasta. Take your own containers - and always carry a reusable shopping bag.

**Buy milk in glass bottles** Local companies such as Milk and More offer a doorstep delivery in glass bottles - including non-dairy options. Christine's also has milk in returnable glass bottles.

**Clean up** Online supplier Smol offers cleaning products such as laundry liquid capsules and dishwasher tablets manufactured and packed without plastic: <https://smolproducts.com>

**Carry a refillable water bottle** There are three water fountains provided by the Town Council at Sladesbrook, Culver Close and St Margaret's car park. In addition, the town's refill scheme is backed by many local businesses who will refill your bottle free of charge. Details at <https://climatefriendlybradfordonavon.co.uk/refill-your-water-bottles-for-free/>

**Carry a reusable coffee cup** Despite many being promoted as compostable or biodegradable, most take-away drinks containers end up in landfill.

And finally ... **refuse, reduce, reuse, repurpose**, and if all else fails, recycle.

You can keep up to date with local news, and contact your town councillor, via our website at [www.bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk)