



**Bradford on Avon
Town Council**



**LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
QUALITY GOLD**

Minutes of the Environment & Green Spaces Committee meeting of
BRADFORD ON AVON TOWN COUNCIL held
on Tuesday 26th July 2022 at 7.00 p.m. in St. Margaret's Hall

Attendance – Town Council

Cllr K Bessant
Cllr E Franklin
Cllr S Gibson (Vice-Chairman) Chaired
Cllr T Trimble
Cllr K Vigar
Cllr J Vittles

I Brown (Director of Operations)
C Hogg (Green Spaces Officer)

Members of the Public: 9

See Appendix 1 for public comments

Apologies- Cllr A Kay (Chairman), Cllr A Potter

12. Declarations of interest- None

13. Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Vigar and seconded by Cllr Bessant, with all in favour, it was **RESOLVED:** to accept the Environment & Planning committee minutes held on 7th June 2022.

14. Chairman's report (As attached)

Cllr. Gibson standing in for the chair outlined the main points from the report which is attached to these minutes.

15. Great Big Green Week Events (GBGW) (Schedule attached)

Cllr Gibson outlined the events in the schedule, which is attached.

Cllr Vigar mentioned that there is a low cost/low carbon Recipe Book being produced with the proceeds from sales being donated to the skatepark.

16. Residents' Panel: Environment-Focused feedback from May results

At the request of the Community and Wellbeing Committee held on 28th June 2022 the environmental aspects of the Residents panel were shared it was noted that this panel had an improved response rate, 79/100.

17. Green Space update

The Green Spaces Officer provided a verbal update on the recent Southwest in Bloom judging, which included a walking tour from the cemetery into the town centre, explaining the result would be announced in October.

Updated that the tree grant works would happen over the winter period, starting in December. He also confirmed that following an audit of the litter bins, ten would be replaced by the end of the financial year, with dual, waste and recycling bins. He also reported that volunteer capacity was slowly building, particularly in the country park.

18. Living Wall

Cllr Gibson reported that the wall was in the process of being built and should be completed by Thursday 28th July. Stating it had been a long time coming and congratulating all involved.

Stephanie Edwards from the public congratulated the committee, Cllr Kay and Councillor officers for seeing this project to completion.

19. Lighting Strategy

The finalised draft report was presented to members, a couple of minor typos were noted, and it was proposed by Cllr Gibson and seconded by Cllr Franklin, with all in favour, it was **RESOLVED:** to adopt the Lighting Strategy.

20. Play Areas

The first meeting of the new Working Group was held today, 26th July 2022, the Director of Operations reported that the working group would break the work into two streams, i) looking at the priorities and ii) looking at the individual areas at the point of repair/replacement.

Cllr Bessant reminded the committee of the need for a landscape plan for Poulton Field to ensure the skatepark, tree planting, paths and play areas were planned and it was agreed that the officers would discuss this with the Chair on her return and update t next meeting.

21. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is arranged for 4th October 2022.

The meeting closed at 7.47pm

Appendix 1

Members of the public who spoke at the Environment & Green Spaces Committee on the 26th July 2022

Kate – Is the council aware that Himalayan Balsam is in the town.

CH: This is an invasive plant along the river, the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust have some grant funding. They are expected in the town on 9th August 2022 and the following two Tuesdays.

Liz – Enquired about the pricing of charity stalls at the Thursday market. The charge is £20, the RSPB man has said this is the highest charged rate that he is aware of.

Gillian – Is there a facility for people to drop off apples etc. there is the opportunity to have a community 'juicing'.

The community fridge was mentioned as a suitable drop off point.

Andrew – Lighting strategy doesn't have a text layer which means its inaccessible for blind people, which is breaking our policies, and this has been the case with other documents, agendas, and minutes in recent months, I have raised this before. Is there an IT programme that I don't know about that is underway that is going to fix this and when can we all access all the agendas and minutes for all previous meetings.

Neighbourhood plan 2013 -2026 was adopted in 2017 which is about 4 1/2 years after it started, if we want a plan to be ready for 2022 – 2035 we need to start working on its this year. Has the council the intention, bearing in mind the four-year lead time.

Lighting strategy, I think is a start, too bog standard, doesn't have high enough aspirations. Can we take the lighting strategy as a point of departure when we frame policies in our next Neighbourhood plan in responding to the bio-diversity emergency.

Jeremy – Lighting strategy the search box opens but doesn't seem to work, section 2.6 has an error.



Alex Kay, Environment & Greenspaces Chairman's report for Tuesday 26/07/22

1. **Drinking water stations** with signs and poems: walk with poets on 10 June.
2. **Community Fridge is now open!** So far so good.
3. **CF Sustainable** Food Group meeting 7th July 7.30pm. Questionnaire being prepared for businesses incl. Fairtrade and Plastic-free, Bbut is now designed as a sustainability improvement plan. Suggested launch during the Great Big Green Week.
4. **SW in Bloom judging day:** 12th July.
5. **New bench installed for Dennis in BCP:** 11th July
6. **Great Big Green Week Planning:** 24/09-02/10 to be discussed/developed.
7. **Natural Environment Summit, at Wiltshire Council:** 15 July; attended by Mayor, GSO and Alex.
8. **Bradford on Avon Rowing & Kayak Club** planning river litter clean-up 30th July. May be joined by Plastic-free off-water clear-up team and plastic-free picnic (tbc).



Alex Kay, Environment & Greenspaces: THE GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK

update 15/07/22

Focus for GBGW events:

1. Biodiversity: light strategy, green corridors, bat-friendly plants, trees, soil
2. Food: local, waste minimisation, source local: comm. fridge, compost, green food webinar, litter pic, plastic-free picnic...
3. Domestic heating: questionnaire results, heat surveys, case studies, house-specific advice...

Note: all activities shared, but pale green boxes indicate largely BOATC led and pale blue CFBOA led.

Schedule so far

Date	Day	Time	Project	Location	Responsible
24/09/22			Repair café 10-1 (if change of date agreed by organising group)	Wallington Hall?	Ian Benford to discuss with group
			Afternoon: Nature walk led by Roger Jones, ending at Frankleigh field to see new planting; drinks and biscuits provided by Rachel	Library	Roger to design route, and timing
			Library display on biodiversity ALL WEEK		Liz Stephens
24/09/22	Sat	7.30-8.30pm	Bat Walk: Dark/Green Corridor walks Biodiversity walk, torches required, bat-friendly plant seeds, try out bat monitors; finish at Barton Bridge and drink in Lock Inn?	var	CH

			PROMOTE BOATC LIGHT STRATEGY		
25/09/22	Sun	3-7pm	Eco Film Festival: invite people to enter short (5 min max) eco project films ... prizes: show all or best selection ... also inside stalls?	SMH	AK et al
26/09/22	Mon	Pm	How Green is your diet? Webinar 7.30 CFB webinar, on food and climate QMH booked, speakers lined up but confirmation awaited as to date – if not 26 then 19 September.	QMH+zoom	Ros Edwards organising, Jill Johns willing to help with technology, along with Klaus Huber
27/09/22	Tues	7pm	Sustainable Travel Cttee Special	SMH	TimT
28/09/22	Wed		PresTrust Panel: improving the fuel efficiency of older houses	Priory Barn tbc	JP, RachelB, SG (AK)
29/09/22	Thur	From 7pm	Domestic Heating: Poster exhibition to show case examples so far, insulation vendors, doors/windows, special info on Old Building from PresTrust Share residents' heat trace survey results so far WC Warm Homes & Solar programmes Announce houses to get funded Heat trace surveys to develop BoA database Arrange cash bar CONTACTED SELWOOD HOUSING, ASHFORD HOUSING	SMH	AK, SG, SF, CHEESE + AsBuilt (both invited)
29/09/22 to 1/10/22	Thur to Sat		Plastic waste exhibition	Council Chambers by SMH	John Pearce, CFBOA, AK?
30/09/22	Fri	pm	Sustainable food event? Create a community greener recipe book PROMOTE COMMUNITY FRIDGE, GROWBOA, ALLOTMENTS	tbc	KB KV, AP, AK
1/10/22	Sat	10am-3pm	Biodiversity event: bat plant, roosting boxes, compost demos, soil quality, winterising garden, etc ... Stalls INVITED: Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, Woodland Trust,	WHG, YC	TC/Katie P to arrange? AK, CH, Tim?

			<p>Avon Needs Trees, RSPB, Bristol Avon Rivers Trust, Bristol Avon Catchment, Canal Rivers Trust, Butterfly Conservation, Plant Life, Bug Life, Ellie (Eco Youth) Others/Vendors: Beekeeper, Mushrooms, plants sellers, plant/seed which encourage bats, bees, etc. Incl. Men's Shed,</p> <p>(See stall spreadsheet)</p> <p>BOATC COMMUNITY COMPOST, FRIDGE, GREEN- SPACE PLANS, REWILDING, LIGHT STRATEGY/GREEN CORRIDORS</p>		
1/10/22		<p>Morning</p> <p>Afternoon:</p>	<p>A half day art workshop for children/families, using natural objects - leaves, fruits, seeds etc, on Saturday 1st October, morning etc</p> <p>Soil Explorers: practical soil activities</p> <p>(Maybe river water sampling? BART?)</p>	<p>WHG SMH/CC? Library?</p> <p>?BCP/WHG/ Bearfield/ Sladesbrook</p>	<p>Eunice to organise: Alex Kay and Alison Potter offered help.</p> <p>Liz Stephens working with Alex Kay, Jonathan Francis, Chris Hogg to arrange site and activities</p>
2/10/22	Sun	<p>10-2?</p> <p>Pm</p> <p>am</p>	<p>Roger Jones to lead another nature walk</p> <p>Maybe Cemetery biodiversity walk?</p> <p>Eco Harvert Festival tbc</p>	<p>tbd</p> <p>HTC</p>	<p>Roger designing route and meeting place</p>

Note: Garden Produce Show and Secret Open Gardens 3-4 Sept
 Also Walking Festival first w/e Sept, bat walk 2nd Sept.
 SWinBloom can promote Green Week activities (and vice versa)

BOARC have confirmed that they can do neither weekend for a litter pick along the river as they have races and the water level is likely to have risen and be non-optimal for collecting litter. **Will do one on 30th July** instead, potentially with a Plastic-free picnic. tbc