



# the NEWS

Bradford on Avon Town Council

Winter 2023



## Traffic modelling results due soon

In the autumn newsletter, we reported on the traffic modelling underway in Bradford on Avon. The results are expected shortly and we hope to have the report available to read on the town council website by Christmas

The modelling exercise follows the Future of Transport consultation held in late 2021/early 2022 and is looking for ways to address the key priorities that emerged from that report: traffic volume, pedestrian and cyclist safety and air quality.

A public presentation to give residents the opportunity to ask questions and make comments on the outcomes of the report will be held in the new year.

An additional, complementary, project is looking specifically at ways to improve safety for people crossing the river in the town centre - whether by the existing town bridge or via a new pedestrian bridge. This project will also involve engagement with residents.

■ Keep an eye on our website, social media or sign up for our fortnightly e-newsletter for updates and the dates of consultation events.

## Doctorate for Alice - at 102



■ Dr Alice Moody: changing lives

Long-time Bradford on Avon resident Alice Moody has been awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Greenwich, for services to education. Born in Bermondsey, East London, Alice studied for her teacher's certificate at Avery Hill Teaching College, now part of the University. During the war, she was evacuated to the west country, where she met and married Leslie Moody. Over the next 13 years, she taught in Bradford on Avon and Trowbridge, becoming head of Staverton Primary School in 1960, and remaining there until her official retirement.

In her acceptance speech, Alice said: "Being brought up in the East End of London I saw first hand that many adults were unable to read or write. This in turn had the effect of depriving them of the pleasures that life had to offer.

"This was to become one of my driving forces - to enter into a life of teaching - to change lives."

## Talk of the town: news in brief

■ We would like to thank everyone who signed our petition opposing the closure of the local railway ticket office. We sent off over 3,300 signatures to Great Western Railway - and learned on 31 October that the government has scrapped all plans to close ticket offices, following the largest ever response to a public consultation.

■ The town council is organising film afternoons starting from Sunday 3 December at St Margaret's Hall. There will be more information on our website

and social media - so keep your eyes peeled.

■ Wessex Water has now started its nearly £2m works, which will see a storm overflow tank installed beneath Victory Field. It is hoped that this will reduce the amount of overflow discharge which goes into the river following heavy rainfall.

■ Christmas is the season for giving... so why not shop local and give yourself a treat? From 1 December until Christmas Eve, Explore Bradford on Avon will be

running its annual Shop Local Advent Calendar. Check out the Explore BoA social media every day over the festive period to see new and exciting Christmas deals and offers from some of your favourite local businesses.

■ The town council has agreed to submit a planning application for cricket practice nets at Culver Close. This followed a unanimous council vote to support the project, allowing the club to practise year round.

Season's Greetings to all our readers



■ The recent low energy cooking event held at St Margaret's Hall featured cookery demonstrations using pressure cookers, air fryers and slow cookers

## Low energy cooking initiative lets you try before you buy

Bradford on Avon Town Council is collaborating with Climate Friendly BoA on a low energy cooking appliance loan scheme.

Early this year Climate Friendly and the town council bought 3 air fryers, 3 slow cookers and a pressure cooker for residents to borrow. These low energy appliances are available to borrow from the town council for up to a month - on payment of a refundable £20 deposit.

As we continue to address the climate and ecological emergencies, every effort counts - and this innovative scheme aims to encourage more people to make the shift towards making mealtimes as affordable and energy-saving as possible.

The loan scheme was launched in October at the Climate Friendly Low Energy Cooking event. Held in St Margaret's Hall, the event included cookery demonstrations, tastings and

advice about growing your own food - all of which received a lot of interest from attendees.

So if you are thinking about making a sustainable shift in your cooking, look no further than this incredible project.

● In a related move, we'll soon be launching an electric bike (e-bike) loan scheme, so people can try out an e-bike for 7 days before making a decision on buying one.

Riding an e-bike is a fun and sustainable way to travel. However, there are some key differences between the electric version and a regular bike, and some people need more than one ride to get the hang of it. Keep an eye on our website for more information on the scheme and how to hire.

**Climate Friendly  
BRADFORD ON AVON**

## Town vision is taking shape

Over the past year, councillors have been talking to people and groups in the town about topics including business, young people, green spaces and travel.

These conversations and discussions have helped to shape and inspire our vision for Bradford on Avon.

You can read our vision - which explains our hopes and aspirations for the town - on the town council website.

**Have your say on the town vision**  
We're sharing the draft vision with the

people and the groups that we talked to in the first place. At the same time, we're asking for comments and questions from everyone in the town. The deadline for people to comment and ask questions is **Monday 11 December**.

After that, we'll consider what people have said and asked - and we might make some changes to the vision.

Depending on how many comments and questions we get, we'll bring our vision to the Full Council meeting in either January or March - and councillors will vote then on whether to adopt it.

## Fighting the freeze

If this winter is anything like last year, we could be in for another spell of freezing temperatures and icy conditions on our roads and pavements. Responsibility for keeping roads and paths clear and safe for traffic and pedestrians is divided between county and town councils.

Wiltshire Council is responsible for the highway winter service in Wiltshire - including gritting and maintaining most of the road network in and around Bradford on Avon. The major exception is the A36, which is looked after by Highways England.

Wiltshire Council also manages most of the town's pay and display car parks.

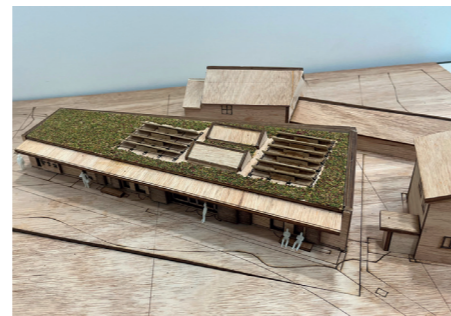
The town council, through the Town Wardens team, is responsible for keeping most of the town clean and tidy - including clearing fallen leaves.

We also look after most of Bradford on Avon's parks and green spaces. In winter, one of our priorities is to make the key routes in and around these spaces as safe as possible, as quickly as possible.

The Town Wardens will also try to clear snow from footpaths and pavements, and will aim to do this as quickly as they can.

For more information, please visit our winter weather advice page: [bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk/winter-weather-advice/](http://bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk/winter-weather-advice/)

## Planning application in for new pavilion



■ A model of the proposed new pavilion at Culver Close

Councillors unanimously agreed to submit a planning application for a new pavilion at Culver Close.

The new design will be built on the footprint of the current pavilion and will provide a much needed update to the facilities.

Keep an eye on our website for more information and updates on the project.

Photo: Dave Pegg



## Skatepark opener is jam-packed

The opening jam of the new skatepark at Poulton Park was a massive success, with around 300 people coming out for an afternoon of skating, scooting and BMXing organised by Maverick Skateparks and Team Rubicon.

Everyone at the event was wowed by the pro demonstrations, competitions and everything else on offer.

But most importantly, lots of young people - skaters or not - had a brilliant afternoon.

SkateBoA raised £450 at the event through a combination of donations and t-shirt, tote bag and hoodie sales.

These funds could help to run more skate jams in the future - and deliver skate park ranger sessions to volunteers who want to help take care of the skatepark.

## Call for sites for Neighbourhood Plan

We're currently reviewing Bradford on Avon's Neighbourhood Plan - and we would like to hear from people with details of sites that might be suitable for residential and commercial development in the future.

Once we've received submissions, we'll consider the sites put forward as part of the

Neighbourhood Plan review. This work will include carrying out assessments of the sites submitted to determine their suitability for development.

**How to submit a site** To submit a site for consideration and assessment, we're asking people to complete our Call for Sites submission form, which is available to download from the town council website.

Alternatively, you can obtain a paper copy of this form from the town council's Kingston House office.

The deadline for completed forms is Monday 11 December.

**More information** There's more information about the Neighbourhood Plan review and our call for sites on the town council website.

## Seniors' forum

A new group for our older residents?

Are you interested in forming a group in Bradford on Avon to be a voice for older people?

The town used to have a Senior Forum which spoke up for older people and represented their views to councils, health services and the local MP. That group disbanded some time ago but left funds - held by the town council - that could be used by a new group with similar objectives.

If you would be interested in setting up such a group, please let the town council know and we can offer some initial support. Contact us at [office@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk) or call 01225 864240.

## Departures and arrivals

Most people who have used St Margaret's Hall for classes or events over the past 15 years will know that recently we said goodbye to our Deputy Hall Manager, Keith Draper. We're sure you will join us in wishing Keith all the best for the future. Good luck, Mr Draper.

We've also welcomed 2 new members of staff, recently.

Tracey Morris joined the town council in September as our new Events Assistant. She will be helping to organise and manage town council events, as well as other community events we support.

We'd also like to offer a warm welcome to Mark Jones, who has joined our Town Wardens, so you are likely to see him out and about with the grass cutting team.

## Take your litter home

Some of you may have noticed that the Canal and River Trust (CRT) has recently removed all the bins along the canal towpath, as a cost-saving measure. If you are walking along the towpath, please make sure you take any litter away with you. To contact the CRT about this, you can email them at enquiries.walesouthwest@canalrivertrust.org.uk

## Becky Addy Wood

For updates on the ongoing legal situation concerning Becky Addy Wood, please see the town council website - [www.bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk)

## Town wins silver gilt at South West in Bloom

We've had the results from our South West in Bloom entry, as well as the In Your Neighbourhood category.

Bradford on Avon was awarded a silver gilt at this year's award ceremony. The judges were impressed with the projects and progress in the town - and hopefully next year we'll be on our way to

another gold!

We also want to say a massive congratulations to the In Your Neighbourhood category entries from this year. Holy Trinity Church, the station garden, Three Horseshoes and Wiltshire Heights all got the highest grade - outstanding. Secret Gardens achieved a thriving grade - the second highest.

# Canoe Club celebrates big wins



■ For the first time since 1997, Bradford on Avon Canoe Club won the south west championship. The club also finished 2nd at the Hasler finals, a national canoe marathon club championship. We're sure you'll join us in applauding the whole club - especially since so many medals were won by junior members who attend St Laurence School.

## Youth service flourishing at Frome Road

Bradford on Avon is one of the few towns in Wiltshire to have retained a youth service - BoA Youth - based at the Youth & Community Centre on Frome Road. BoA Youth runs the Summer Holiday Club and various activities for young people.

"We now run 2 youth clubs during school term time," said Youth Support Co-ordinator David Lloyd. "We are keen to involve the children and young people in the running and development of what is on offer and to encourage parents to participate.

"We have general themes for each month and aim to offer variation in each of the

3 activity areas. Activities include art, sport (basketball and indoor football) and gaming (electronic, board games etc). There is also a kitchen for cooking light snacks."

Sessions for 8 to 12-year-olds run on Tuesdays from 5pm to 7pm. Thursday sessions are open for teenagers and take place from 6pm to 8.30pm. For both sessions there is a suggested donation of £1.

If you are interested in your child joining any of the sessions, please contact: davidl@communityfamilycare.co.uk

## Visit celebrates German twinning link



■ Chairman of the Norden twinning group, Hans-Enno Schepker, and Bradford on Avon Mayor Katie Vigar exchange gifts at the reception

In October we hosted a civic reception for guests from Norden - Bradford on Avon's German twin town. Norden and Bradford on Avon have been twinned for over half a century, and the German group's last visit to our town - pre-Covid - was to mark the 50th anniversary in 2019.

During this year's afternoon tea reception, chairman of the Norden twinning group, Hans-Enno Schepker

presented a framed photo, taken during the 2019 visit. The photo will be displayed on the twinning wall in the town council offices. We also gave the Norden twinning group a picture to take home: an art print of Bradford on Avon town centre.

Bradford also has twinning links with Sully-sur-Loire in France and Elblag in Poland, and a friendship link with the West Bank town of Tubas.

## Save the date

**Town Council meetings**  
at 7pm in St Margaret's Hall

**Town Development**  
Tuesday 28 November

**Environment & Green Spaces**  
Tuesday 5 December

**Resources**  
Tuesday 12 December

**Full Council**  
Tuesday 9 January

**Town Development**  
Tuesday 16 January

**Sustainable Travel**  
Tuesday 23 January

**Community & Wellbeing**  
Tuesday 6 February

**Environment & Green Spaces**  
Tuesday 20 February

**Full Council**  
Tuesday 5 March



### What's on this winter?

**Winter film St Margaret's Hall,**  
Sunday 3 December, 2pm

**Nature Volunteers @ Barton Farm**  
Country Park Saturday 9 December,  
10am

**Nature Volunteers @ The Strips**  
Sunday 10 December, 10am

**Wednesday Matinee Club presents**  
**Barbie (2023) St Margaret's Hall,**  
Wednesday 13 December. Doors  
1.30pm

**Sleep Beauty St Margaret's Hall,**  
Thursday 21 December, 2pm.  
Tickets available from Wiltshire  
Music Centre.

**Winter film St Margaret's Hall,**  
Sunday 14 January, 2pm

**Winter film St Margaret's Hall,**  
Sunday 28 January, 2pm

**Tea Dance St Margaret's Hall, every**  
Thursday, 2pm



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

Sign up to BoA Snippets, our email newsletter, at <https://bit.ly/3zkl6Rb>