



Bradford on Avon Town Council
Spring 2021



Committing to a greener future



Photo: Over the Top Drones

■ The Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy outlines Council plans for Bradford on Avon to 2025

specifically aimed at addressing the

afield who may bring specific expertise

Energy and the University of Exeter,

The Strategy identifies the importance



find out more about how the Town

Visit our website at www.bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk

Spending increase won't be passed on to householders

Wiltshire Council is currently consulting residents on the Wiltshire Local Plan, with 9 March as the deadline for submitting comments.

The Local Plan is a Wiltshire Council document that describes how housing needs will be met at both county and local level up to 2036. It provides an indication of the quantity of new houses that will need to be built, and possible sites that they could be built on. It will guide developers, Wiltshire Council, Town and Parish Councils, in assessing new sites and planning applications.

The Local Plan will directly affect how much additional housing Bradford on Avon is expected to accommodate within the town boundary over the next 15 years, and also in nearby areas such as Trowbridge and Hilperton.

As a resident, your views are important to that exercise; it's your town, and this is your opportunity to help decide how it will develop over the coming decades. Initial sites that Wiltshire Council has noted as potential development sites include Woolley Allotments, land adjacent to Holt Road, and the Golf Course. These areas differ from the areas of opportunity identified in the adopted Neighbourhood Plan.

You can submit comments to Wiltshire Council on the Local Plan via the Town Council website.

Working together

the budget for the financial year 2021-

households' Council Tax that is raised

Alex Kay, said: "I'm particularly glad to see a significant portion of this budget

yet unclear effects of the Brexit deal have

increased expenditures in previous years,

local taxation, when so many are already struggling financially."

Council Tax visit: <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/benefits-council-tax>

Let's GROW again ...



box at the top of Whitehill.

whether experienced or new to growing,

sufficiency. So it seems fitting that, as we

Funding boost for protected woodland

In April 2020, the Town Council facilitated and supported the purchase of Becky Addy Wood on behalf of the community. The wood is one of the few remaining ancient woodlands in the area and a refuge for many rare and protected species.

The project was initially brought to the attention of the Town Council by members of the Environment and Planning Committee and the Friends of Becky Addy Wood (FROBAW), and although the wood lies just outside the parish perimeter, it directly serves the community in terms of access to green space and is a valuable asset in terms of further increasing and protecting the biodiversity of the local area.

We are now thrilled to announce that we have been successful in our application to Caring for the Cotswolds; a grant scheme run by Cotswolds National Landscape. A grant of £2,480 has been awarded, representing 40 per cent of the project budget, to assist the Town Council and FROBAW to improve the wood, for nature and people, for the long term.

James Webb from Cotswolds National Landscape said: "We were pleased to receive this application, having provided advice in the past to help conserve the wood. Ancient woodland is the UK's most biodiverse habitat and every effort should be made to conserve what precious little remains. This was highlighted by the Caring for



Photo: Lydia Booth Photography

■ A grant from Cotswolds National landscape will help to improve and care for Becky Addy Wood



the Cotswolds Youth Panel, who helped review the recent round of applications. This project will provide immediate benefits, as well as helping to inform and facilitate future work."

The project entails the development of a management plan to protect the site whilst enabling access by the public, undertake tree safety surveys, provide tools for conservation tasks as well as necessary signs and furniture such as benches. FROBAW volunteers will be consulted and enlisted in implementation, continuing their much appreciated work to date.

A FROBAW spokesperson said: "With this grant from the Cotswolds National Landscape and additional funding from

the Town Council, we look forward to improving Becky Addy's Ancient Woodland habitat with bird, bat and mammal boxes, learning much more about the wildlife that is there, and being equipped with some tools so that, in due course we can help carry out further work on the ground."

Cllr Alex Kay, Chair of the Environment & Planning Committee, said: "Protection of Becky Addy Wood and areas like it is a key part of the Town Council's strategy to address the Climate and Ecological Emergencies, and this grant, as part of the wider project, will help us to understand and protect this habitat for future generations."

Community displays resolve and resilience

A message from the Leader of the Council, Cllr Dom Newton

#ShopLocal scheme and expanded the Explore Bradford on Avon website,

(see page 2)

by substantial time and financial

see these issues reflected in Wiltshire

Triple boost for skatepark plan

Photo: Lydia Booth Photography



■ Idris and Wren Jones were handed a cheque for £3,000 by Bradford on Avon-based AB Dynamics. Idris, Wren and their friend Kai (pictured on Idris' deck) kicked off the project in 2018 with their presentation to the Town Council

confirmation that the facility - to be built

technology firm, AB Dynamics.

explained why they have supported the

skatepark finally become reality will be a

ventures which benefit the development

experience placements, internships and

Work is now underway to finalise the

You can keep up to date with local news, and contact your Town Councillor, via our website at www.bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk

Hub co-ordinator is 2020's Shining Light

The past year stands out for many reasons, and though some we may not look back on fondly, the way members of our community have gone above and beyond has been phenomenal. And this has made the choice for the 'Shining Light of Bradford on Avon 2020' particularly challenging.

Nominees for the award, in its third year, came from businesses, charities and volunteer groups, all of which played a part in responding to Covid-19.

There had to be a winner though, and we are pleased to announce 2020's Shining Light as Avril Clarke, Volunteer Co-ordinator of The Hub, which has supported hundreds of families in the Bradford on Avon area and seen huge growth in demand over the past few months. Avril was awarded her Shining Light trophy by Deputy Mayor, Cllr Alex Kay, along with a huge hamper of goodies donated by the Bradford on Avon branch of Sainsbury's.



■ Avril, left, was awarded her Shining Light trophy by Deputy Mayor, Cllr Alex Kay

Photo: Lydia Booth Photography

Grants for bright ideas