

## **Bradford on Avon Area Board – 8 March 2017**

### **Some Achievements 2013-17**

#### **Children and Young People**

The community wanted to provide better facilities for young people and there has been support for a new community-based youth model with active involvement in the Local Youth Network and the Town and Parish Councils. The former Youth Centre building has been leased by the Town Council and hosts a range of youth and community events and services. The Colonel Llewellyn Palmer Educational Charity continues to provide important resources for the young people of the town, offering grants totalling £ 115,000 to youth projects over the past 4 years.

There are now youth clubs and workers in Bradford on Avon and Holt; young curators at Wiltshire Music Centre; student counselling at St Laurence School; schools involved in remembering the industrial heritage of the town; summer holiday activity programmes, World War 2 dancing; an annual youth forum; and support to a wide range of sports clubs. In response to the outcomes of a recent Youth Forum there are plans to create a youth café as an after school meeting place to get online and do homework in a supportive environment and to offer subsidised swimming sessions.

#### **Community Safety**

Further to a transport and accessibility forum held in 2015, action on traffic volumes and speed, traffic calming measures, safe routes to school, improved pavements and crossings in the town centre are all under way as part of efforts to make Bradford on Avon more “access friendly”. 20mph zones close to the schools will be established in Spring 2017. A documentary film has been made on the problems of getting around the town in a wheelchair and businesses are being encouraged to make efforts to improve accessibility to premises through ramps, bells, “click and collect” and other innovations in support of the elderly and the infirm. A feasibility study is being commissioned into the need to provide a safe river crossing, possibly through a new footbridge across the River Avon.

#### **Culture**

The area has a very active community and a plethora of events, societies and volunteers involved in all manner of activities. An annual programme of festivals is taking shape with arts, fringe, walking, cycling festivals and other regular events. In July 2016 a Civil War Re-enactment of the Battle of Bradford attracted thousands of visitors to the town.

The live-aboard boating community on the Kennet and Avon Canal provides a thriving sub-culture and the boaters and the canal give the area a distinct identity and contribute greatly to the visitor experience of the town.

A successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund and Arts Council secured resources to bring back to the town the first rubber rolling machine in Europe, known as the Iron Duke, restored and displayed on the site of the former Avon Rubber factory at Kingston Mills. The project has involved former factory workers, an education programme with the schools and a community programme featuring film, music, poetry and journalism in celebration of the town’s industrial heritage.

## **Economy**

The former chamber of commerce has re-invented itself as “BoA Business” to help promote the town and its commercial opportunities. It holds regular business networking events, has inaugurated a Business Awards competition, has supported a weekly market in Lamb Yard and sponsors events such as the annual Pancake and Duck Races.

It was felt by many that the town was not fulfilling its tourism potential and that more could be done to support tourism employment and to increase spending in shops and on local services. A project led by the Town Council with Visit Wiltshire has helped to develop a brand for Bradford on Avon and a focus on attracting day trip visitors from Bath; setting up a film office to promote the town as a filming location; and efforts to make more of the waterways through lighting up the river. The Tourist Information Centre has re-opened with a new Tourism and Events Manager and there are plans for new tourism literature, finger-post signage, interpretation boards and a twin-town link with China.

## **Environment and Transport**

Ongoing traffic and air quality concerns led Michelle Donelan MP to conduct a household survey on community priorities for action. The Town Council has followed up by discussing an action plan with Councillor Philip Whitehead, Cabinet Member for Transport, on issues including pedestrian safety, traffic congestion and car parking.

An Air Quality Action Plan has been published. Emissions are being monitored in real time, school travel planning is being locally supported and a study of traffic origin and destination has been undertaken. There has been local promotion of walking, cycling, public transport and electric vehicles initiatives

## **Health & Wellbeing**

Bradford on Avon’s retirement age population, as a percentage of its total population, is one of the highest in Wiltshire and the local community expects to make the right support available for vulnerable people. A Seniors Forum has been established with over 100 members. A Dementia Action Alliance has been set up, dementia information events have taken place, a memory café established and dementia-friendly status sought for the town. The Hub@BA15 project, in association with the Churches, is now an established local centre for the vulnerable offering a food bank, debt and housing advice and a job club.

A Health and Wellbeing Group has been set up in partnership with the local Health Partnership, Age UK, Seniors’ Forum, Churches Together, Azheimers Support, Dorothy House and others. The focus is on developing a programme of social prescribing activities and self-help - including a Leg Club, a Falls Clinic, a befriending scheme and a Mens Shed – and a new “Living Well” project will be established in 2017 to provide additional social care support to the vulnerable elderly in the town.

## **Community**

A programme of asset transfers to the Town Council has included Westbury Gardens, Barton Farm Play Area, Sladesbrook Recreation Area and Newtown and Budbury Car Parks to a residents’ association. The former Youth Development Centre is being managed on a lease by the Town Council as a “Youth and Community Centre” with an expanded range of activities from toddler groups to

luncheon clubs for the elderly. It is also hoped to transfer Culver Close playing fields and pavilion and other Wiltshire Council land as part of a “package transfer” so that local democratic organisations can manage local community assets to the benefit of the whole area.

After 3 years work, a Neighbourhood Plan for Bradford on Avon has been finalised and will go to its referendum in mid 2017.

## Grants

Over the past 4 years the Area Board has provided funding support to projects through its Community Area Grant (CAG) scheme and also in the past two years through the Local Youth Network (LYN) and in the past year through the Health and Wellbeing Group (HWG). These contributions total around £ 250,000.

Year	Project	Grant £
<b>2013/14</b>		
CAG	Holt Pre-school - ipads	353
CAG	Made in Bradford on Avon – fitting out new premises	5,000
CAG	Town Bridge Lock Up - enhancements	5,000
CAG	Model Railway Circle in Holt – new roof	346
CAG	Bradford on Avon Mini-Cricket - start-up costs	480
CAG	Holt Youth Club - Youth Worker costs	1,896
CAG	Historic Core Zone - street display	687
CAG	Wiltshire Music Centre - My Science Fair 2014	2,500
CAG	Staverton - replacement bus shelter	1,500
CAG	Wiltshire Music Centre - Light sculpture	4,000
CAG	Library books for Westwood with Iford Primary School	2,000
CAG	Friends of Palestine - exchange visit	3,000
CAG	Poultton Rec, Bradford on Avon – skate ramp improvements	2,850
CAG	Outdoor table tennis tables in schools	1,350
CAG	Dane Rise, Winsley - new bus shelter	4,000
CAG	Friends of Woolley - community noticeboard	500
CAG	Holt War Memorial - restoration	1,750
CAG	Jubilee Wood Scout Camp - kit and store	500
CAG	The Strips, Bradford on Avon - restoration work	777
CAG	Campus - community consultation	1,500
CAG	Barton Farm/ Victory Field - play area refurbishment	300
CAG	Masons Lane, Bradford on Avon - air quality analyser	1,000
CAG	BoACAN – community engagement and consultation	8,000
CATG	Newtown, Bradford on Avon - bollards	2,547
CATG	Limpley Stoke, Woods Hill and Midford Lane	2,245
CATG	Monkton Farleigh, A363 junction	1,023
CATG	Bradford on Avon – dropped kerbs, phase 2	3,760
CATG	Winsley Road/ Huntingdon Street, BoA – pedestrian assessment	350
CATG	Accessibility improvements, phase 3	1,860

<b>2014/15</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Grant £</b>
CAG	Disability Friendly BoA - film and access audits	3,000
CAG	Bradford on Avon Youth Centre - improvements	5,000
CAG	BoA Community Emergency Volunteers - storage	1,750
CAG	Town Bridge Lock Up - restoration	1,000
CAG	Winsley Cricket Club - equipment	1,380
CAG	Holt Multi Use Games Area – new surface	5,000
CAG	The Hub @ BA15 – furniture and equipment	5,000
CAG	Holt, Ham Green – new kerbs	1,455
CAG	West Wilts Esprit Gymnastics – changing rooms	1,000
CAG	Bradford on Avon War Memorial - re-dedication	645
CAG	South Wraxall – restoration of war memorial	3,500
CAG	Winsley – countryside access improvements	744
CAG	Women of World War One – community play	1,923
CAG	Winsley Social Club - car park refurbishment	4,000
CAG	Tour of Britain – promotional banners	2,000
CAG	BoACAN – community engagement and consultation	9,000
CATG	Palairt Close to Poulton, BoA - cycle link	1,540
CATG	White Hill, BoA – additional signs	4,047
CATG	Springfield to Woolley Street, BoA - kerb build out	2,389
CATG	Huntingdon Rise, BoA – concrete over-run area	2,178
CATG	Farleigh Rise, Monkton Farleigh – bar markings	100
CATG	Winsley Road/ Huntingdon Street, BoA – zebra crossing	3,500
<b>2015/16</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Grant £</b>
CAG	Holy Trinity Church – regeneration	1,000
CAG	Bradford on Avon Walking Wheel - waymarking	1,570
CAG	Deaf Friendly Swimming - equipment	750
CAG	Iron Duke - restoration	3,400
CAG	Wiltshire Music Centre - equipment	4,973
CAG	Culver Close, Bradford on Avon – re-opening toilets	700
CAG	Memory Cafe at Dog and Fox PH – start up costs	1,000
CAG	Bradford on Avon Cycling Festival – event costs	3,000
CAG	Bradford on Avon Bowls Club	1,594
CAG	West Wilts Esprit Gymnastics	1,000
CAG	Westwood Parish Rooms - transformation	5,000
CAG	Tourism and Branding	5,000
CAG	Highway priorities (transfer to CATG)	15,000
CATG	Upper Regents Park, BoA - railings	4,072
CATG	Wingfield A366, Loves Lane - footway	8,000
CATG	Woolley - 20 mph limit	2,411
CATG	Winsley/ Turleigh – 20 mph limit	6,685
CATG	Limpley Stoke - 20 mph assessment	2,500
CATG	Monkton Farleigh – 20 mph assessment	2,500
CATG	Bradford on Avon – 20 mph assessments	2,500
CATG	Huntingdon Rise, BoA - bollards	2,168
CATG	South Wraxall – traffic measures	482

CATG	Westwood – path by Post Office	750
CATG	Winsley Road, BoA – review of uncontrolled crossing points	1,000
LYN	Character Stage Company – Connecting Plays	725
LYN	Bobcats - girls rugby	4,500
LYN	BoA Air Cadets	4,500
LYN	Holt Youth Club - youth worker	5,500
LYN	1 <sup>st</sup> BoA Scouts – scout hut improvements	4,000
LYN	Wiltshire Music Centre - Young Curators	1,600
LYN	Wiltshire Youth Arts Partnership - Dance Back to 1914	2,750
LYN	Dorothy House	2,802
LYN	BoA Youth and Community Centre - improvements	5,000
LYN	Bradford Town Youth Football Club - equipment	5,000
LYN	Creative Youth Engagement	1,500
LYN	Relateen Youth Counselling	2,000
LYN	Holt Youth Club	3,000
LYN	Wiltshire Music Centre - Young Curators	1,200
LYN	Summer Holiday youth activities	2,000
<b>2016/17</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Grant £</b>
CAG	BoA Business Awards 2016 – event costs	2,000
CAG	Lamb Yard Events	3,000
CAG	Avoncliff – private car park set-up costs	5,000
CAG	Iron Duke – community engagement events	3,000
CAG	River Crossing Feasibility Study	2,500
CAG	Made in Bradford on Avon	1,000
CAG	Dementia Friendly BoA – awareness and events	5,000
CAG	Our Time – theatre and movement workshops for the elderly	3,000
CAG	Town centre benchmarking and signage audit	1,500
CATG	Wingfield – traffic management measures	4,039
CATG	South Wraxall – coloured surfacing	1,549
CATG	Hartley Farm, Winsley – junction footways	2,653
CATG	Monkton Farleigh 20 mph speed limit, option 1	5,500 est.
CATG	Highfield Steps, BoA – handrail and streetlight	3,300 est.
CATG	Limpley Stoke 20 mph speed limit	6,000 est.
LYN	BoA Guides	750
LYN	Relateen Youth Counselling	5,000
LYN	Wiltshire Youth Arts Partnership – dance project	4,251
LYN	The Last Baguette – Hallowe’en Workshops	495
LYN	Subsidised youth swimming	1,000
LYN	After-school youth cafe	1,490
LYN	Holiday youth activities	560
HWG	Living Well Project – social care for vulnerable elderly	6,000

**Report by Peter Dunford, Community Engagement Manager**

**February 2017**