



Bradford on Avon • Holt • Limpley Stoke  
Monkton Farleigh • South Wraxall • Staverton  
Westwood • Wingfield • Winsley

*a local voice for local people*

## **Bradford on Avon Area Board, 14 May 2014** **BoACAN Work Priorities and Core Funding Bid for 2014/15**

BoACAN's areas of interest over the coming months and years reflect the priorities identified at the JSA event – entitled What Matters to You in the Bradford on Avon Community Area? – held at St Laurence School, Bradford on Avon, on 5 February 2014.

The meeting was attended by around 110 people representing a wide range of stakeholders across Bradford on Avon and its surrounding villages. After group discussions on the evidence base of information followed by voting from all attendees, the meeting came up with a number of desired actions on a range of issues including: Children & Young People; Community Safety; Culture; Economy; Environment; Health & Wellbeing; Housing; Leisure; Transport, and Community.

From the evidence and discussions BoACAN and the Bradford on Avon Area Board have identified three overarching themes which will inform their collective endeavours over the next two years. These are:

- 1. Vulnerability**
- 2. Health and Wellbeing**
- 3. Economic Development**

Support from BoACAN will be provided to key projects to address these priorities, including:

### **a) Campus – second phase**

In late summer 2013, BoACAN facilitated public consultation on phase one of the campus project, raising awareness of what a campus of public services could look like, and identifying what people wanted to see included in such a facility to serve the Bradford on Avon community area. The three most popular services that people wished to see included were:

- Improved swimming pool (health & wellbeing)
- Gym (health & wellbeing)
- Improved/enlarged Museum/Heritage Centre (economic development)

As part of BoACAN's continuing involvement in phase 2 – including the site search - we will be placing a particular focus on the wants and needs of young people, working with the schools and Youth Advisory Group and taking forward the recommendations of the recent Review of Youth Services by Wiltshire Council.

BoACAN will support the work of the Bradford on Avon Neighbourhood Plan, including with joint consultations and communications around the campus project.

### **b) The Hub @ HSBC**

Following facilitation work by BoACAN, a joint initiative with Wiltshire Churches Together, St Thomas More Catholic Church and Bradford on Avon Town Council will see the former HSBC building in Church Street being developed as a Community Hub, hosting a food bank, credit union, debt advice services, meeting rooms, exhibition space and other voluntary community services.

As part of its commitment to addressing issues of vulnerability, BoACAN will be a key partner on the steering group and will be involved on an ongoing basis once the Hub is up and running.

As a background to the operation of the Hub, BoACAN is making a bid for external funding to investigate in some detail the incidence of poverty and deprivation across the community area.

### **c) Air Quality Alliance**

BoACAN helped facilitate the establishment of the AQA and its action plan as part of its commitment to improve health & wellbeing by making our streets safer for pedestrians, creating a people-friendly environment and improving air quality.

We will be part of the team scoping actions in response to the AQA Action Plan and the Traffic Study of Bradford on Avon, to include facilitating public discussions and project groups as necessary.

### **d) Town Centre Vitality and Benchmarking**

In order to encourage economic development by bringing more people into the town centre and improving the visitor experience for both locals and tourists, BoACAN supports work carried out under the auspices of Action for Market Towns through mapping town centre businesses, customer/visitor footfall, car parking and business confidence.

The current health of the town centre is of concern, with recent flooding and road closures exacerbating an already difficult economic climate and resulting in a spate of shop closures. BoACAN will work with the Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Working Group to establish a Town Team and a town centre action plan, including supporting investment through the Historic Core Zone project.

As an example of its commitment, BoACAN was instrumental in the establishment of Made in Bradford on Avon by taking a lease on its shop unit in Lamb Yard and has supported its growth and move into new premises in the Vaults through negotiations with Linden Homes.

### **Engagement**

BoACAN's responsibility for engaging with the local community and acting as a link between Wiltshire Council and local people remains a core priority for the coming year.

We are developing new networks, including a Culture and Heritage Alliance.

We have an online presence, and use social media, as well as print and broadcast media to raise awareness and keep people informed.

### **Funding**

External funding is being sought to secure BoCAN's core costs and future sustainability in the face of possible reductions in grant support from Wiltshire Council. Project funding has been secured from the Colonel Llewellyn Palmer Educational Trust for a film about the lives and aspirations of young people in the community.

A financial account summary of activities in 2013/14 is appended.

### **A Network of Networks**

Through these headline initiatives BoACAN has built a robust network of action with the vast majority of community organisations across BA15. We are engaged in background support and cross-sector alignment of a variety of issues and challenges on a continuous basis. It is this interlinking of shared priorities which forms the bedrock of our efforts to provide "a local voice for local people" and become a genuine platform for community participation, engagement and governance.

We will shortly be inviting community groups across the community area to become signed-up BoACAN "supporters". We hope this will underline our growing credibility and visibility as an independent 'go-to' service in the community.

**Jim Lynch**

**Co-ordinator, BoACAN**

## **Appendix 1: JSA priorities for 2014/15 (from “What Matters To You in Bradford on Avon Community Area” event, 5 February 2014)**

### **Children & Young People:**

- Engaging with young people in order to understand what they want
- Setting up a 'one stop shop' for youth, to provide information, what's on etc.

### **Community Safety:**

- Improving road safety
- Raising awareness of vulnerable people at home

### **Culture:**

- Promoting tourism and the local economy
- Local social history and community integration and engagement

### **Economy:**

- Rebranding the town: quirky, independent, close to Bath
- Introduction of Superfast Broadband
- Town Team and Town Centre Action Plan

### **Environment:**

- Focusing on traffic solutions – including sustainable transport options
- Flooding

### **Health & Wellbeing:**

- Caring for the vulnerable people in our community
- Tackling loneliness and social isolation

### **Housing:**

- Identifying need and encouraging more affordable housing provision, especially in the villages

### **Leisure:**

- Improving the swimming pool
- Providing a gym
- Providing more facilities for skateboarders/youth shelter/cafe

### **Transport:**

- Promoting and supporting provision of public transport
- Supporting the Historic Core Zone's aim of making the town safer for all

In addition, attendees considered:

### **Community:**

- Promoting understanding and co-operation between people from different backgrounds, and with different and sometimes contradictory interests

BoACAN is committed to publicising, promoting and supporting these priorities, on behalf of its members – groups and individuals – and the wider community of Bradford on Avon and the villages of Holt, Limley Stoke, Monkton Farleigh, South Wraxall, Staverton, Westwood, Wingfield and Winsley.

**Appendix 2:**  
**BoACAN FINANCIAL ACCOUNT SUMMARY AT 31 March 2014**

A] SPORTS FESTIVAL & TORCH DAY EVENTS MAY 2012

<b>Sports Funds in hand [for "Ping" tables] at 23 April 2013</b>	<b>4,018.67</b>
Received: Wiltshire Council grant	1,350.00
<b>Sports Funds in hand [for "Ping" tables] at 31st March 2014</b>	<b>5,368.67</b>

B] VIDEO PRODUCTION: "THE VOICE OF YOUTH IN BRADFORD ON AVON"

Received: Col Llewellyn Palmer Charity	1,600.00
<b>Video Project Funds in hand at 31st March 2014</b>	<b>1,600.00</b>

C] WILTSHIRE COUNCIL CAMPUS CONSULTATION PHASE 1

Received: Wiltshire Council grant	1,500.00
Costs: Events, materials & promotion	1,553.00
<b>Shortfall on Campus Phase 1</b>	<b>53.50</b>

D] BOACAN FINANCIAL YEAR 2012-13

Opening Balance	5,403.08	
Received from: Area Board	9,403.00	
Town Council	1,200.00	
Sales Receipts	20.00	
Interest	13.59	<u>Sub-total 16,039.67</u>
Costs: Core expenses	10,291.00	
Project assistance inc. Web	4,359.51	
Shortfall on BOA Summer Event	131.08	<u>Sub-total 14,781.59</u>
<b>Funds in hand at 23 April 2013</b>		<b>1,258.08</b>

E] BOACAN FINANCIAL YEAR 2013-14

Opening Balance	1,258.08	
Received from: Area Board	9,415.00	
Sales Receipts	20.00	
Interest	18.35	<u>Sub-total 10,711.43</u>
Costs: Core expenses	6,796.25	
Project assistance inc. Web	992.34	
Shortfall on Campus Phase 1	53.50	<u>Sub-total 7,842.09</u>
<b>Excluding Petty Cash, Funds in hand at 31st March 2014</b>		<b>2,869.34</b>