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# WORKING TOGETHER WORKING WITH YOU



## OUR LIBERAL DEMOCRAT TEAM

See inside for details of our candidates for Bradford on Avon North

### Our plan for Wiltshire

- ✎ Joined up health and social care, working with the NHS
- ✎ More affordable housing with the right facilities
- ✎ Introduce food waste recycling and do more to protect wildlife
- ✎ More pothole repairs

### Our plan for Bradford on Avon

- ✎ Upgrade more play areas
- ✎ Progress towards a new pedestrian bridge
- ✎ Create more meadows and wildlife habitats
- ✎ Support volunteering with a volunteers' bulletin



## YOU'LL NEED PHOTO ID

Don't forget to take photo ID when going to the polling station. Permitted ID is passport, driver's license, blue badge, older person's bus pass and disabled person's bus pass. For more info see: <https://www.gov.uk/how-to-vote/photo-id-youll-need>



# Please support the Lib Dem team





# YOUR LIBERAL DEMOCRAT CANDIDATES IN BRADFORD ON AVON NORTH



## Sam Blackwell

As a town councillor for four years, Sam has led the council's support for the Ukrainian community, worked to set up the summer club and bring the youth service in-house. He has helped organise two successful fireworks displays. He is standing to be Wiltshire Councillor for Bradford North, as well as town councillor.

Sam says: "The Lib Dem manifesto for the town contains several ambitious projects, including progressing plans for a new pedestrian bridge and improvements to pedestrian safety. An effective link between the town and Wiltshire Council will be crucial to delivering these." Sam has worked as a researcher in the public and private sector. He has a young son, is a keen cyclist and is a trustee of the Mount Pleasant Centre.

## James Atkinson

James has retired as a teacher in state secondary schools. He loves Bradford on Avon for its history, views and access to the countryside. A keen walker, he says, "the walking wheel map was the best £5 I ever spent." He volunteers with LINK as a hospital driver, with Community Speed Watch, the Wiltshire Music Centre and Dorothy House Hospice.

James says: "I like to put back into the community and if elected, it would be a new challenge and great opportunity."

If elected, James is especially keen to get involved in addressing problems that affect pedestrians from minor issues such as uneven paving, dog waste and untrimmed hedges to major hazards such as safety on our narrow pavements.



## Ghika Savva

Ghika moved to Bradford in 1996 and has lived, worked and raised her children here. She says: "I grew up in the north of England and when I moved to Bradford it felt like home very quickly because of its very friendly community."

Ghika loves nature and has walked the outer circle of the Bradford on Avon Walking Wheel in both directions. She has worked in the education and charity sectors. As a parent, she supported the parent association at Christ Church School, writing a successful funding bid to a local trust for interactive white boards.

Ghika says: "If elected, I would bring my skills in working on successful and positive projects and experience of public relations and fundraising. I'm also interested in protecting our green spaces, improving our roads for pedestrians and in getting involved in the project for a new pedestrian bridge."



## Katie Vigar

Katie has been a town councillor since 2021 and is a trustee of the Mount Pleasant Centre. Over 27 years in the town, her community activity included the parent associations of both Christ Church and St Laurence schools and time as a governor at Christ Church.

Katie has served two years as town mayor working across the council's key projects and representing the town in the wider area. She worked to set up the residents' panel and with developing the events programme including the new live music festival.

She says: "One of the strengths of Bradford on Avon is its strong sense of community. People enjoy living here and taking part in the activities we have on offer. Volunteering is a great way of contributing and brings so many benefits. If re-elected, I'd like to do more to promote volunteering."



## Chris Spence

A self-employed IT consultant, Chris is keen to see Bradford on Avon be a place where businesses of all kinds flourish. He has a young child and is also keen to see the town provide opportunities for young people growing up here.

He says: "We moved here seven years ago. We feel invested in the town as the right place for our family. Of course there are challenges: environmental, economic and social and if I can help people here and the town, I'm willing. To be on the town council would provide that chance to do more."

If elected, Chris would be especially interested in supporting businesses and working with the Environment Agency on better protection from flooding in the town centre.



# A town council for the whole community

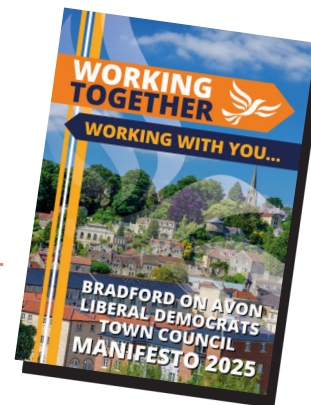
We believe that the council should foster a strong community with:

- 🦅 residents being able to benefit from what the town has to offer
- 🦅 residents being able to contribute to the life of the town
- 🦅 residents being able to take part in decisions that affect the town

Since 2021, we have led the town council working with volunteers and staff to deliver a range of practical projects (see back page).

As councillors we will prioritise projects **to benefit all generations**, that **promote volunteering**, and we will **listen to what you say**.

## Our manifesto for Bradford on Avon



## A FLOURISHING COMMUNITY

### We will:

- 🦅 Extend community sports events, for example a junior 'park run'
- 🦅 Keep community events such as the fireworks and music festival free of charge
- 🦅 Complete phase 2 of Poulton Park play area, and upgrade more play areas
- 🦅 Support volunteering and create a volunteers' bulletin email to publicise opportunities
- 🦅 Install outdoor gym equipment and a table tennis table at Poulton Park.

## A THRIVING TOWN

### We will:

- 🦅 Progress the new pedestrian bridge project and seek funding, working with Wiltshire Council
- 🦅 Work for the best deal possible for the town from Wiltshire Council on a traffic scheme that improves pedestrian safety
- 🦅 Continue the push for more 20mph zones and a lower weight limit on the town bridge
- 🦅 Work with the Environment Agency to improve flood resilience in the town centre
- 🦅 Expand the market to bring more visitors to our town, to support all town centre businesses
- 🦅 Work with the museum to find improved premises
- 🦅 Complete the review of the Neighbourhood Plan so that we can influence development in the town
- 🦅 Refurbish the youth centre
- 🦅 Enhance the cemetery with more memorial benches, an area for reflection and better use of the chapels

## A GREENER PLACE TO LIVE

### We will:

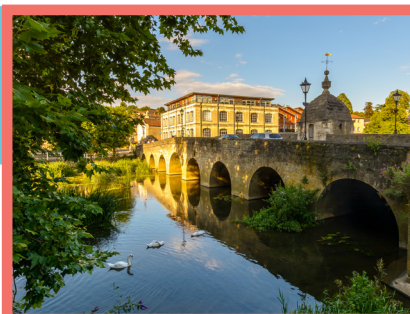
- 🦅 Extend areas of meadow and provide more wildlife habitat features
- 🦅 Review town council finances to ensure our money is ethically invested
- 🦅 Ask residents where more trees can be planted
- 🦅 Continue to support community involvement in looking after our green spaces through groups such as the Nature Volunteers
- 🦅 Work to improve the attractiveness of the town and access to green spaces for walkers
- 🦅 Seek to develop other eco projects, for example a clothing upcycling group
- 🦅 Seek to apply sustainable principles in our building and renovation projects

## AN ENGAGED TOWN COUNCIL

### We will:

- 🦅 Develop the Residents Panel to include more residents
- 🦅 Continue to develop methods of consultation that engage as many residents as possible
- 🦅 Involve all councillors in the work of the council as we develop projects, liaise with Wiltshire Council and plan our events.
- 🦅 Continue to improve income for the town council revenue from venue hire, grants and events
- 🦅 Create a new volunteers' bulletin.

To read our town manifesto in full:



Our team working for you





# Over the past four years,

your Lib Dem led town council has worked on projects, big and small, that make a difference. Working with the whole council, with staff and volunteers, we have:

## A FLOURISHING COMMUNITY

- ✧ Expanded the town council's youth service
- ✧ Set up a town council run subsidised summer club
- ✧ Built the skatepark
- ✧ Refurbished Poulton park play area
- ✧ Created the BOA live music festival, a dog show, shown winter films, and taken on the fireworks
- ✧ Provided new noticeboards at Poulton and the top of Whitehill, new bins and refurbished picnic tables

## A THRIVING TOWN

- ✧ Worked towards a new pedestrian bridge
- ✧ Consulted on traffic and negotiated with Wiltshire Council on a future scheme
- ✧ Secured road and pavement safety improvements including:-
  - o 20mph speed limits on all residential roads in the northwest of town
  - o Road safety improvements on Berryfield Rd and around Christ Church School
  - o A speed Indicator Device and Auto Speed Watch camera
- ✧ Supported businesses with 'Shop local' initiative and extending the Christmas lights
- ✧ Worked to protect the old golf course

## A GREENER PLACE TO LIVE

- ✧ Planted over 3000 new trees
- ✧ Taken on grass cutting from Wiltshire Council and now manage our green spaces for biodiversity
- ✧ Piloted a community compost scheme
- ✧ Installed new bins including a recycling section
- ✧ Introduced 'Try before you buy' schemes for electric bikes and eco cooking equipment
- ✧ Won awards including the Gold Award in the Preece Cup for the South West in Bloom

## AN ENGAGED TOWN COUNCIL

- ✧ Set up a consultative Residents Panel
- ✧ Worked effectively and collaboratively as a whole town council
- ✧ Introduced live streaming of all full council meetings
- ✧ Introduced the E-mail newsletter 'Snippets'



For more of our achievements see:  
<https://www.boalibdems.org.uk/achievements.html>