Bradpole Parish Council ~ An Action Plan for the 2020's

Introduction

During the past decade Bradpole Parish Council (BPC) maintained an Action Plan based upon the 2011 Parish Plan, the 2016 Parish Plan Review and subsequent consultation responses.

The Parish Plan Action Plan was last reviewed in December 2022.

Aims and Actions that have since been either completed or have become established into the Council's routine activities have been removed from this update.

This review of the Bradpole Parish Council Action Plan covers the period 1st January 2023 to 31st March 2024 and will be the final review as Bradpole Parish Council will be dissolved from 1st April 2024 following the Dorset Council Community Governance Review which will see Bradpole Parish become a Ward of the newly expanded Bridport Council.

Parish Council Resilience	*This section updated* with 2023/2024 action highlighted ↓	

Aims & Actions	Priority	Partners & Solutions	Status	Annual Monitoring Review
To ensure that Bradpole Parish Council (BPC) has the resilience to provide a high level of service to residents	High	Parish Clerk, Councillors, Dorset Council, residents. Ensuring that BPC has the necessary level of clerical support. A continual advertising /communication campaign to attract the co-option of volunteer residents to fill the specific councillor roles required to	Ongoing	A Deputy Clerk was appointed in early 2021 to accommodate the additional responsibilities that Dorset Council anticipated would be devolved to Parish Councils. July 2023 saw the appointment of a second Vice Chairman to ensure the resilience of the Parish Council during a period of transition (CGR) and the commitments of the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

		maintain an efficient level of service to all of the communities within the civil parish. This has been extended to include Ward elections to be held in 2024.		September 2023, an additional Councillor was co-opted to Bradpole Parish Council bringing the Council up to a full complement of 10 Councillors.
To ensure that BPC transacts its business in a transparent and proper manner for the benefit of its electors.	High	All stakeholders. By ensuring complete adherence to all protocols and the Nolan Principles of public service.	Ongoing	Councillors were reminded of their responsibilities and received appropriate training. Councillors adopted a revised Code of Conduct and Councillors registers of interests were digitalised and updated. A quarterly newsletter was published on parish council notice boards. Council meetings were held via ZOOM during the first half of 2021 but then returned to face-to face meetings. Weekly reports to councillors were initiated and are published on the **Council's Website** for public transparency. Dorset Council, under a Community Governance Review, determined, contrary to the expressed views of Bradpole residents, that Bradpole Parish Council should be abolished and converted to a Ward of a new Bridport Council in April 2024.

				Councillors met with representatives of Bridport Town Council to achieve the best possible outcomes for Bradpole's residents. Website posts regularly and transparently produced information as this evolved.
To ensure that each area of the Civil Parish is represented	High	Councillors have responsibilities for the whole civil parish but will also be allocated individual areas of the parish on a geographical basis.	Completed	Councillors were allocated specific areas of responsibility around the Civil Parish.

Community: Safety, Services and Activities				
Aims & Actions	**Priority**	**Partners & Solutions**	**Status**	**Annual Monitoring Review**
To arrange meetings with Police and other stakeholders to deal with safety issues.	Medium	Local Councils, Police, Schools, residents' groups, Dorset Councillors for the Bridport Area.	In process	Parish councillors held on site meetings with Dorset Council flood officers, & residents and other agencies. Following pedestrian safety concerns on Pymore Road outside St Catherine's School, the Parish Council liaised with both the school, Bridport Town Council and Dorset Council on the issue.
To support the installation of defibrillator apparatus at key	Medium/High	Village Hall Trustees, Bradpole Fete committee, residents, charitable organisations.	Completed	The defibrillator installation at the Village Hall was completed during 2021 and community training has been provided by the Parish Council.

points in the Parish			Ongoing	Local residents continue to assist with the management of this facility. We have continued to look for other locations within the Parish.
Provide for emergency situations in the Parish	Medium/High	Stakeholders, residents. Create an Emergency Procedures Plan. Encourage volunteers Flood Wardens.	Ongoing	An Emergency Procedures Plan was published, and local organisations were engaged. Resident volunteer flood wardens were sought in line with the Bradpole Climate Plan. Councillors were involved in helping residents deal with flooding issues in various locations in Bradpole Parish and the Clerks liaised with residents, Bridport Town Council and Dorset Council.
To support, protect and retain local Post Office, Shops, Pubs, and other community services	Medium/High	A Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan (BANP) objective. BPC, Dorset Council, other stakeholders.	Ongoing	BPC supported campaigns to retain services and responds appropriately to any consultations. Unfortunately for a combination of reasons the proprietors of the Village Stores and Post Office were unable to continue operations.
To protect and enhance existing community facilities.	Medium/High	BANP objective. BPC. Matched funding opportunities.	Ongoing	In line with BANP policies & project # 8. Funds included in the 2022/3 budget to replace and enhance facilities at our Green Spaces. **Earmarked reserves** were held by BPC.

				During 2022 a new, well used, Fitness Trail was installed at the Gore Cross Recreation Area. This was achieved with financial contributions from some local businesses. The Fitness Trail was extended in October 2023 to include an accessible piece of fitness equipment. During 2022 the swings, together with the safety ground cover, at the Pageants Play Area were replaced. Ease of access works to Pageants Field Play Area and Gore Cross Recreation Area were completed in July 2023 with an additional ease of access entrance added to Gore Cross Recreation Area in November 2023 to assist those using the accessible fitness equipment. An accessible pathway from the new entrance is to be installed in early 2024. Accessible picnic benches are also to be located at each site along with a “Coronation bench” to be located at Pageant’s Field “King’s Copse” to mark the King’s Coronation in 2023. Funds received from Community Infrastructure Levies relating to development within the parish have contributed to these developments.

Provide support to the Trustees of the Bradpole Forster Village Hall	Medium/High	Trustees, Charity Commission, Residents.	Ongoing	A new team of trustees was elected by residents in October 2020. BPC has been able to offer help and advice to the new Trustees and provide publicity platforms via the Parish website, social media, noticeboards etc. Financial contributions have been made during 2023 and the Parish Council has suggested that future Ward meetings are held in the Hall thus contributing to the Hall's income.

Planning and Development				
Aim & Actions	**Priority**	**Partners & Solutions**	**Status**	**Annual Monitoring Review**
To obtain and respond to the views and concerns of residents	High	Residents and other stakeholders Consultations at community events. A new Parish Plan consultation to be undertaken when circumstances allow.	Ongoing	The Parish Plan was completed in 2011 and a review based upon housing needs was undertaken in 2016. A new Parish Plan was to be considered in the future but given proposed Council re-organisation no funds will be spent on this for the time being. Bradpole Parish Council held a stand at the Bradpole Fete in June 2023 to provide residents with updates and respond to concerns on the CGR and Council re-organisation.

To obtain views of residents on the use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CiL) funds	Medium-High	Residents and other stakeholders Consultations at community events.	As and when a levy is receivable	CiL Funds received during 2023 contributed to the new facilities at Gore Cross Recreation Area in line with Parish Plan objectives. CiL funding remains under review by H.M. Govt.
To promote the views of local residents in Consultations for the Dorset Local Plan	High	Dorset Council & Councillors, Residents. BPC to ensure the views of the residents are reflected in responses and to consider ways of updating the Parish Council's understanding of residents' views.	Ongoing	Following the 2019 unification of District Councils to form Dorset Council a new Local Plan was to be completed by 2024. The 1st consultation on the new Local Plan was undertaken in early 2021. Bradpole Parish Council submitted a **response**. In answer to responses received, and for other reasons, the Dorset Local Plan process has now been extended for proposed adoption in 2027.
To communicate information to residents relating to the Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan (BANP)	High	BANP participating Councils BPC has an active web site, social media platforms and notice boards spread around the Civil Parish to share information.	Ongoing	BANP was adopted at Referendum in Feb 2020 There is an official Joint Councils' Committee (JCC) comprising of participating councils which monitors the BANP. A Bradpole Parish Council BANP Monitoring Report was published during 2023. More about the Neighbourhood Plan can be found on the **Parish Website**.

To improve information distribution and consultation in respect of local planning issues	Medium/High	BANP objective. Links to all current planning applications on the Parish Website at: **https://bradpole.org.uk/**	Ongoing	To further inform residents a Bradpole Council Facebook page was opened in 2017 at: **https://www.facebook.com/BradpoleCouncil/** Following the CGR, the Facebook page has been transferred to a Bradpole Community page. H.M. Govt. continues to review the planning system.

The Environment & Heritage Assets				
Aims & Actions	**Priority**	**Partners & Solutions**	**Status**	**Annual Monitoring Review**
To create and implement a Bradpole Climate Change Plan to reflect growing local, national and international concerns.	High	BANP objective. Adjoining parishes, BANP, Dorset Council. Local Schools/Academy, Parish-based employees. Community Groups	Commenced	A Bradpole Climate Action Plan was adopted in March 2020. A 2nd review was undertaken during 2022. A CLIMATE CHANGE website page was established to inform residents. Social media posts and community events were used to increase public awareness. An amount was been included in the annual budget to cover implementation and monitoring costs and support for community groups.

				In conjunction with celebrating the King's Coronation on 6th May 2023, Bradpole Parish Council donated fruit trees to three local schools. Working with the Buzz Group, the Parish Council agreed a tree planting proposal for Pageants Field which will be planted in 2024 with the trees being supplied by the Bridport Tree Planting Group. This, together with a new "Coronation bench" will form the "Kings Copse".
To keep verges, hedges, and ditches, footpaths, gates, and stiles better maintained.	Medium/High	A BANP objective. Bridport Town Council's "lengthsman scheme". Dorset Council, & Landowners. The Lengthsmen carry out general maintenance around the civil parish e.g. cutting hedges, clearing pathways, emptying rubbish and dog bins.	Ongoing	BANP project #13 BPC, being part of the Bridport lengthsman scheme, paid Bridport Town Council an annual fee for services to Bradpole Parish. BPC also had a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Dorset Council Rights of Way to maintain footpaths etc. BPC continued to work with landowners to install additional dog/rubbish bins.
To ensure the routine maintenance of roads, pavements and drains.	Medium/High	Dorset Council and residents. The Parish website has links to online reporting pages which may be used by members of the public to report issues direct.	Ongoing	BPC and residents reported to the appropriate authority e.g. Highways, and were pleased with the quick responses often seen. Volunteer flood wardens were sought for both Pymore and Bradpole.

				Heavy rain throughout 2023 and early 2024 required Bradpole Parish Council to liaise with Dorset Council on a number of occasions to request the jetting of drains and road cleaning following flooding.
To protect and maintain heritage assets in Bradpole Civil Parish	Medium	BANP objective. Land and property owners, planning and conservation officers, other stakeholders.	Ongoing	The Railway Crossing Gate located at Railway Crossing Gardens was replaced in September 2023 and an interpretation board was installed in early 2024.
To ensure our community spaces are protected and available for enjoyment by the public.	High	BANP objective. Fields in Trust, Dorset Council, maintenance contractors. Bradpole Fete Committee and other Community Groups & residents.	Ongoing	BANP, adopted in February 2020, provided additional protection to that already provided by *Fields in Trust.* Active community groups helped achieve the Aims & Actions and received support from the Parish Council.

Traffic and Transport				
Aims & Actions	**Priority**	**Partners & Solutions**	**Status**	**Annual Monitoring Review**
To investigate ways of encouraging cycling and walking in and around the Parish increasing connectivity for all.	Medium	BANP objective. Dorset Council, Residents Groups, Road Safety partnerships, Sustrans , WAYTAG, adjoining parishes.	Ongoing	Discussions were held within the BANP and with other adjoining councils e.g. Loders Parish Council. A round Bradpole walking route was established and published on the **Parish Council website.** Hard copies available from the Clerk This route liaises with the **Round Bridport Green Route.**

				Both routes are in line with project 13 of the adopted Neighbourhood Plan**.** Ongoing discussions were held with the Dorset Rights of Way and the Monarchs Way long-distance walk teams to improve signage and mapping information. In April 2023, the Dorset Council Right of Way team carried out improvements to the RoW between Happy Island Way and Willow Way and the Gore Wildlife Corridor improving access for all.
To improve bus routes and services	Medium/High	BANP objective. Bridport Town Council, Dorset Council, WAYTAG	Ongoing	BANP project #12 BPC promoted usage of the Round Bridport Community Bus. The bus shelter on the A35 Lee Lane was refurbished in early 2024 using CIL funding.

Updated by Bradpole Parish Council March 2024.