

Welcome to the Summer Newsletter from BAG

Welcome

Following our first edition, BAG thought it prudent to have at least a quarterly newsletter to provide an update to the local community of BAG's activities and plans, as well as those of fellow community organisations. This will be shared in our Facebook Group, emailed to Members and letter box delivered for those without email. **We welcome to hear any views on how this can be developed, or if would like to contribute, please do let us know, (see contact details at the end of this newsletter). We shall be pleased to hear from you.**

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BRADWAY FUN DAY - SATURDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

This will be held on the usual date, i.e. the first Saturday after the schools have been back a week. Please make a note in your diaries. So far we have been lucky with the weather; let's hope that continues. Planning is under way; traders - old and new, are confirming their attendance. There will be a Battle of Britain Memorial Flight (BBMF) flypast (plane to be confirmed – probably an Avro Lancaster), plus the games and dog show!

However, please note the following important requests:-

❖ **Adult Tombola**

We are running the tombola again so we need prizes!

Anything you may have been given as a gift but don't want, bottles of spirits you'll never drink or things you bought and never used! No books though please - see below.

Anything you may have to donate, please can you let Nancy Maitland know and/or drop off at her house 192 Twentywell Lane. Her number is 07837 650671.

She works from home most of the time but if not in, please feel free to leave on the doorstep.

Many thanks for your support.

❖ **Bookstall**

If you have any books that you no longer need but which deserve to be read by someone else, we would welcome their donation. The Books can be delivered to Frank & Jackie Richardson at 17 Longford Crescent after July 16th. The stall will be primarily for reading matter, but CDs, DVDs and jig-saws are also acceptable.

❖ **Help**

We are totally reliant on volunteer help to setup, operate and clear up the day. Do please let Anne know if you can assist in any way, else it all falls on the usual very few suspects to make it happen. **It is fair to say if we do not receive more help we may have to consider stopping it.**

OPEN SPACES

'Friends' groups are essential across the city for looking after the huge amount of green spaces that the city is so fortunate to have. It is a stark reality that the council's Parks & Countryside department simply do not have the wherewithal to undertake anything above the basics after losing £5m pa out of an £8.5m pa budget 10 years ago. So it is up to us to try and maintain and improve those spaces within our patch, which comprise of The Village Green, The Recreation Ground, Poynton Wood (including the railway triangle), Clay Wood and the various public rights of way.

Village Green

To be honest, there is a mixture of good news and bad news.

First, the 'Good' news.....

The new Village Green sign has been installed and looks very smart.

The broken bench on the left hand side has had a new top installed and looks suitably solid and 'rustic'.

The lower margin at the foot of the green has been left un-mown at our request, to provide an improved habitat, a transition to the hedge line and reduce stress on what can become a very boggy area.

We submitted a request to the councils SW Local Area Committee for funds towards a vandal proof picnic table to replace the decrepit 'fixed' wooden one just outside the play area. However, we were unsuccessful at this attempt. As BAG fully funded the new table inside the play area last year, (and these things don't come cheap!) we thought we would have had a good case. A new Ward Pot funding stream opened, so we re-applied. We have just had positive response this time that we will receive part funding. The order is going through and we hope to have something in place before the end of summer and the Fun Day.

The Green as a general rule remains pretty well litter free and reasonably clear of dog poo. We were worried about the rise of fish and chip wrappers, but this is usually put in the bins. So a 'thank you' to those of you who are disposing of it properly and a special 'thank you' to those of you who go clearing up after everyone else (not just here but across the piece).

However, the 'Bad' news.....

It is summer and unfortunately vandalism has started. This time some of the posts of the parallel bars next to the play area have been broken off and thrown into the undergrowth with the bar nowhere to be seen. This has only just occurred and we need to agree next steps with the council. We have asked the local community before what should be put in place for older children and teenagers to complement the play area geared for the younger ones. However, constructive responses have been sadly lacking. **So can we have some please!**

We have asked for quotes for replacing the all weather pitch and play area surfacing. They are life expired and probably poorly prepared and laid in the first place. As this is council owned land we have to go through official channels and use council approved contractors, so these things don't move as fast as some of us would like.

Recreation Ground

A larger area was rotavated for the wildflower meadow this year and both Y3 classes from Bradway Primary were involved in seed sowing mid May. We hope we will see an even bigger display than last year's, which provided a lovely picture right through to the autumn and provided a great habitat. However, it's not looking great at the moment!

We previously stated that one of our aims is to further improve the biodiversity of this whole area, being mainly sterile grassland. The upper field has had wider un-mown margins left at our request, whereas the main field at present is mainly used for Junior Football, thus giving less opportunity for such. However, we were hoping to have a site meeting with the council ecologist to see what improvements/changes can be done to address the boggy area at the foot of the steps from Twentywell Lane. Unfortunately due to prolonged sickness and demands on other staff, that hasn't happened yet.

The same applies with the patch of council owned open space on the west side of the junction of Bradway Road and Beauchief Drive, by the lodge house. Ourselves and our neighbours Greener Greenhill and Beauchief Environment Group have a shared interest here. There are undoubtedly habitat improvements that could be undertaken on part of this and a bench or two would be welcome too, but we cannot progress without a prior study.

Poynton Wood

We have had to chase up the council to establish next steps following the report by the departed Woodlands Officer, whom was not directly replaced at the time. We have started clearing out beech saplings as requested, when we are available and not engaged on other priorities. Our initial exercise was

cut short by a biblical downpour! We can start to address clearing holly from September (which is going to be significant long term undertaking given years of neglect) and together with the beech removal, this will provide areas for improving ground cover, sowing mixed woodland species. We also hope to put in more bird boxes in time for next year. **If you have a particular interest in this, please contact John.**

SCC will receive funding from the sale of the bottom section of the railway triangle to Network Rail. This funding will be reutilised in the local area as improvements for Poynton and Ladies Spring Woods, such as better signage and access and ideally placing a bench at the top of the steps, so we need to ensure we are part of the process there.

Clay Wood

We suspect many are not even aware of where this is. It's the patch of woodland on the steep hillside between Queen Victoria Road and the Sheaf Brook. It is owned by the council and has a couple of little used footpath crossing it, one from Queen Victoria straight down to Laverdene and another joining at right angles from further east along Queen Victoria. Neither are greatly used, as apart from residents on parts of Queen Victoria itself, there are easier alternative routes down to Totley Rise. The wood is not in great shape, too many unsuitable beeches for a start, so it suffered badly in the snow and we had to clear the paths a couple of times from fallen trees. Apart from that we haven't been able to pay it much attention as we don't have the time with current active members and there are other priorities.

FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

Maintaining these is an on-going process, especially as brambles grow a few feet a week! So we would welcome extra help, so if you can provide assistance, usually on Thursday mornings, but really this could be any time to suit, **please do contact us.**

Looking ahead, some of the key improvements should be as follows:-

- The steps to the railway triangle. VolkerStory had agreed to install intermediate steps to address the existing risers that are too high along with the provision of a continuous handrail. They have just advised that they haven't forgotten us and plan to start at the beginning of July.
- Across the triangle, VolkerStory are committed to make good the path when the works have finished. They have also supplied us with gravel to improve the path between the foot of the steps and their work area.
- The path between Twentywell Road and Beauchief Drive has suffered severe erosion and has turned into a steep gully. We (BAG & BEG) had a site meeting with the SCC Rights of Way Officer and agreed the approach we should take. This is within BEGs normal work area, but we have offered to help as it will be a significant piece of work.
- Totley Lane Bridleway. We have continued to monitor and clear the culvert at the foot of the bottom section by Mickley Lane and sweep back material washed out from the bridleway in the downpours. We had a site meeting with the SCC Rights of Way officer; he is pushing Amey to get the final section suitably covered with tarmac and will also provide us with aggregate at some point to address the muddy sections. As mentioned, the top section between Longford Road and Tinkers Corner suffers particularly from a spring in the bank half way along. A drain has collapsed below this and SCC needs to draw up a revised solution. In the meantime, we'll just have to keep an eye that too. A large branch came down in a recent storm behind Longford Crescent, blocking the route. We partially cleared this, but the Rights of Way team are aware and their contractor will address fully. This looked like residual damage from the March heavy snowfall that was finished off by the deluge!

A request please. If you have a boundary hedge abutting a public right of way, please keep it trimmed back and not blocking the paths. The path between Kenwell and Bradway Drive is a very well used example that suffers a lot in this respect. This should be wide enough for 2 buggies to pass, but only in a few parts is this possible, given encroachment over the years. We will prune back particularly nasty brambles and thorns that are frankly dangerous, especially given the children using it, but we shouldn't have to! The same applies to leaf fall from hedges; it's your hedge so it's your mess to clear up I'm afraid. Again not something we should have to do! The School have been asked to address the hedge on their side.

ENCOURAGING WILDLIFE

Given the current state of things, it is vital that we ensure our gardens are as welcoming as they can be. This doesn't require a great deal of effort or cost as some simple actions can have important consequences. Together with our neighbours Greener Greenhill, we are shortly having a discussion with Ian Rotherham, (whom some of you will know from his various media presentations), with the view to holding an event in the autumn to give guidance to those wishing to make such improvements. This will be held either at the Community Hall or Greenhill Library depending on availability. He is very informative, engaging and entertaining, so watch this space!

In the meantime, to reiterate, there are many places to find such information and we encourage you to peruse them, the RSPB in particular have some good guidance - www.rspb.org.uk. Their specific gardening for wildlife guidance can be found at [Gardening For Wildlife - The RSPB](#).

In particular, we recommend you sign up to the Peoples Plan for Nature, a UK-wide initiative powered by WWF, the National Trust and the RSPB, where everyone can take part - www.peoplesplanfornature.org

PLANTERS

We have replanted those outside the Twentywell Shops with summer bedding and weeded out the ones at the end of Bradway Drive. **Please help us keep them looking good and let us know if any problems.**

DEFIBRILLATORS

We are looking at providing appropriate training to be provided locally, so if you are interested, **please let us know.**

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Bradway Buses - Andrew Cullen

Under the current operational model, bus services fall into one of two categories - Commercial and tendered. Commercial services are put on by private companies as a business venture at their own financial risk whilst tendered services are specified and subsidised by the local authority (in our case the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority) with the bus company providing the service under contract. Tendered services are designed to fill gaps in the commercial network and are routes that aren't financially viable but politically judged as important to the local community socially or economically.

The main bus service in Bradway, the 25, is provided by Stagecoach on a commercial basis. It runs between 5am and 8pm Monday to Saturday and 9am to 6pm on Sundays with buses departing up to every 15 minutes Monday to Saturday daytime, less frequent at other times. We currently have no evening service since First bus pulled their commercially operated route 24 out of Bradway last October. Currently the nearest stops to Bradway are Abbeydale Road South (97, 98 or 218) or on Hemper Lane (76).

New contracts for tendered services start from 24 July. There is some good news - the return of local minibus service M17 which will once again shuttle between Jordanthorpe (for the medical centre), St James Retail Park, Greenhill village, Lowedges, Bradway (including St Quentin Drive and Twentywell Road), Totley, Totley Brook and Dore. It will run 6 trips a day Mondays to Fridays and 4 trips a day on Saturdays with the first buses from Bradway being 09:52 to Dore and 10:25 to Jordanthorpe. The new operator is TM Travel. As with all other local buses, the fare will be £2 a ride this summer.

More good news is the introduction of evening journeys on TM Travel service 218, funded from Derbyshire County Council's Bus Service Improvement Plan which successfully attracted a government grant. Bus 218

runs from Sheffield to Bakewell via Totley and on the new timetable the last bus from Bakewell to Totley and Sheffield will depart at 22:40, passing through Totley at 23:06.

The 725 school bus begins a new contract in the new school year in September and it will be operated by First bus. There is a slight change to the timetable with it leaving the Old Mother Redcap terminus at the new time of 07:56, setting off back from Meadowhead School at 14:50. Don't forget young people aged over 11 can only benefit from the discounted fare of 80p (or the various child season tickets) if they hold a "Zoom" concessionary pass, this can be applied for online at travelsouthyorkshire.com, please allow plenty of time for processing and postage.

Two open top bus services are operating in the Peak District this summer, both of which can be joined in Baslow if you are using the 218 bus from Totley. Hulleys of Baslow are running their "Breezer" open top service between Baslow and Castleton via Grindleford, Hathersage and Hope every 90 minutes at the weekend, also weekdays in the school holidays, this is operating as a normal local bus service so the £2 a ride deal applies, as does the Derbyshire Wayfarer all day unlimited travel passes. Stagecoach are running a "Peak Sightseer", this is a circular hop-on-hop-off tour between Bakewell and Chatsworth House, special tickets apply to this service as it is classed as a tourist service, it is an all day ticket for £6 adult, £4 concessions or £15 for a group ticket valid for 5 people.

More information

Local bus timetables and live tracking map: <https://bustimes.org/localities/bradway>

Stagecoach Peak Sightseer open top bus tour: <https://www.stagecoachbus.com/promos-and-offers/yorkshire/peak-sightseer>

Hulleys Breezer open top bus route: <https://www.hulleys-of-baslow.co.uk/breezer>

Travel South Yorkshire including concessionary pass applications: <https://travelsouthyorkshire.com/>

Railways –

Update on our station developments from Friends of Dore & Totley Station (FODATS)

Chris Morgan—Chairman

The current work down at the station is now well underway. Planning started about 1995 and was originally due for completion 2003-4. We're assured it will be finished and operational for 1st April - an auspicious date?

The existing platform is about to be extended and the new platform constructed. The second track may be there by the time you read this. The foundations for the footbridge and lift towers are proceeding and all should be completed by 1st November when the car park will fully reopen.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - LES DAY .

Illness has impacted recent communications, but the main problem we have is that we have lost our source of regular communication regarding reported crime from South Yorkshire Police. We argue that it is really important that people are kept informed of activity in their area, so that they can take appropriate defensive measures as it were. We are continuing dialogue with them and hope this can be re-instated as soon as possible.

Local Social Media seems to have quietened down with respect to crime, so we are hoping that's a true reflection of events. With car theft for example, perhaps owners have finally got the message that keyless entry cars (especially but not exclusively the top end models) are an open invite unless measures to shield the fobs are undertaken.

We do hold stocks of various anti-theft measures such as card shields, window and door alarms etc. If you are interested in any of these or would like to discuss what measures to undertake, please ask.

Website - [Home | S17 Neighbourhood Watch Association | Sheffield \(s17nwa.co.uk\)](https://www.s17nwa.co.uk)

Facebook Group – S17NWA NHW Group

SCOUTING - FRANK RICHARDSON

Plans for a Group Camp at the Spring half-term break finally came to fruition, and a long week-end held at the Girl Guide owned Glenbrook site, between Hathersage and Castleton. The summer camp is planned at Walesby for the first week of the school summer holidays.

The expensive work needed this year for the minibus to pass its MOT revealed that a similar cost is likely next year, so we are now considering whether to keep the bus for more than another 6 months.

The Group remains well supported and resourced and is keen to provide adventurous activities for young people in the community and deliver programmes designed to deliver Skills for Life. **However, as always there are plenty of opportunities for adult volunteers either assisting with Sections or supporting in non-uniform roles.**

COMMUNITY HALL

Bradway Community Hall is situated on Bradway Road, (next to Dore & Totley Golf Club). The small hall was originally built in 1866 as a school for the children of navvies building Bradway Tunnel, (it runs under the Hall). The new hall was built in 1952, and the kitchen extension in 1965/66. Various refurbishments have taken place, and the halls are well maintained and equipped to a high standard.

Both halls are used to run various activities throughout the week. Details of the activities can be found on the website <https://bradwaycommunity.wixsite.com> They are also listed on the notice boards outside the Community Hall, or on the community notice board at Twentywell Lane, (next door to Hairy Hounds)

The halls are available for hire, either individually or together. They are ideal for group meetings, parties and celebrations. Enquiries can be made via the website or please contact the Bookings Officer on 0114 2369876.

BRADWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Can you spare some time to support our local school?

READING IN CLASS

Some children need more support with school work, especially reading. One-to-one dedicated reading sessions help to build their confidence and the reward is fantastic. Providing this support allows the teacher and classroom assistant time to concentrate on the class, knowing the children are being supported.

GARDENING CLUB

The school has a dedicated garden area for the Gardening Club, where they plan to grow fruit, vegetables and flowers. This project is overseen by two teachers who need help from green-fingered adults.

Do you have green fingers? Could you give an hour a week on Wednesday afternoon, 3.20 p.m. - 4.20 p.m.?

Also, the school are keen to get volunteers to come in and water the crops during the summer holidays. INTERESTED?

If you are interested in any of these, please contact the school office - 0114 2363723 or email enquiries@bradway.sheffield.sch.uk

Both of these support sessions will require any volunteer to complete a DBS, (Disclosure and Barring Service), check. It confirms you are safe to work with children. This is a simple form which can be completed at school or at home. The form is then verified by the school and submitted. Any fees are covered under the education umbrella. THANK YOU

A Fond farewell

Our long standing Head Teacher, Mr Stockley, will be retiring at the end of this Summer term. He has been Headteacher at Bradway Primary School for 21 years. The School thought it would be a wonderful idea to hold a celebratory picnic on **Wednesday 19th July at 2.30pm**. During the event, there will be music, readings and performances from the children. Parents and carers are warmly invited to share in these celebrations and to join with us in this community event. FOBPS will be selling refreshments to parents and carers or you are welcome to bring your own. The children will be with their classes until home time and picked up in the usual way. We very much hope the celebrations will continue long after 3.20 p.m. Please spread the word in the Bradway Community.

VOTE FOR US AT TESCO

We are delighted that an application to the Tesco Community Grants Scheme has been successful and our School Community Garden Project will be put forward to a customer vote in Tesco stores. Voting will commence in store from the first week of July 2023 until the end of September 2023.

The Bradway Primary School Community Garden Project is a new outdoor learning space benefiting children and the local community, providing gardening activities and shelter.

The project with the highest number of votes across your region will receive £1,500, the second placed project £1,000, and the third placed project £500.

Please see below a list of stores taking part in the voting on your project.

6153	Sheffield Birl Rd Exp	S12 4WG	Small unit
5202	Totley Sheffield Exp	S17 3LP	Small unit
4517	Sheffield Beighton Ex	S20 1EA	Small unit
3181	Sheffield Abbeydale	S7 2QB	Large unit

BRADWAY PUBS

Andrew Cullen used to provide an update on these in the Bugle. So we have resurrected it. Here is the latest update.

The Castle Inn continues to be a popular destination for dining out and often runs offers midweek whilst weekends see themed dishes on the specials board. Keep an eye on their Facebook page for details. The Shepley Spitfire also offers food although more a value pub grub offering and caters more for drinkers, it has a programme of live entertainment and community events, shows sport on the TV, has a pool table and fantastic beer garden. The Cross Scythes in Totley has reopened as part of Stonegate Pub Company's "Pub & Dining" chain, meanwhile down the road at Totley Rise shops, the Tunnel Tap micropub closed temporarily for a refurbishment to take on board feedback from customers since they opened. This will increase capacity for seating and standing both upstairs and downstairs and will move all the draught products onto a "tap wall" behind the bar, check out their social media accounts for more about this.

AND FINALLY

Throughout this newsletter we have requested your ideas and support. Ideally, if you are not already a member, please do consider joining us if you want to make an active contribution to supporting our community. We really do need input and engagement from the wider community and have a couple of vacancies available on the committee if you wish to play a role in shaping the group.

Contact can be made via :

Our website - [Bradway Action Group - Home \(weebly.com\)](http://Bradway Action Group - Home (weebly.com)) – use the Contact tab.

The Bradway Action Group Facebook group.

Post to – 38 Longford Crescent, Bradway, Sheffield S17 4LL.

Email to :-

Chair – John Sharpe – john.c.sharpe54@gmail.com

Membership & Events Secretary – Anne Sharpe - annesharpe09@gmail.com