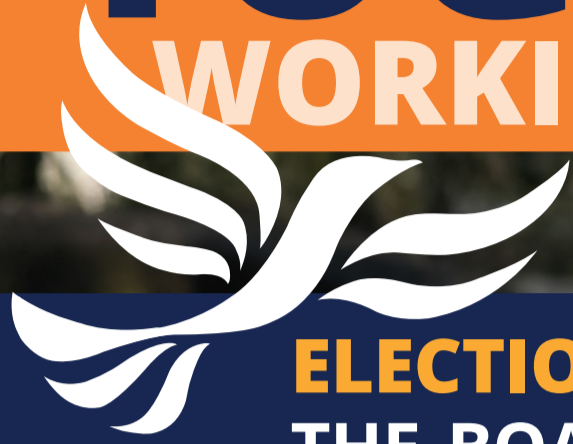


# WORKING TOGETHER

## WORKING WITH YOU



**ELECTION NEWS FROM GEORGE SIMMONDS AND THE BOA SOUTH LIBERAL DEMOCRAT FOCUS TEAM**  
[www.boalibdems.org.uk](http://www.boalibdems.org.uk) • [www.facebook.com/boalibdems](https://www.facebook.com/boalibdems)

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### Factfile

**When are the elections?**

Thursday 1st May.

**What are we voting for?**

Wiltshire Council and BoA Town Council. Bradford South Ward has one Wiltshire Councillor and six town councillors.

**How do I vote?**

You can vote on the day at a local polling station or by post. To register for a postal or proxy vote contact Wiltshire Council 0300 456 0112 or <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/elections-register-to-vote>

**Who runs the councils at the moment?**

Wiltshire Council is Conservative run with the Liberal Democrats the largest opposition group. Bradford's current two Wiltshire Councillors are Lib Dem. The current town council is formed of seven Liberal Democrat councillors and five Ideal Bradford councillors.

**What do the councils do?**

Lots of things that affect our daily lives! Wiltshire Council is responsible for social services for adults and children, roads and pavements, rubbish collection and recycling, planning, housing, special educational needs provision, transport, libraries and more. The town council is responsible for our play areas, parks and other green spaces, buildings such as St Margaret's Hall, the youth centre and public toilets. Its role includes the youth service, events, encouraging tourism and allocating grants.

## George Simmonds

**is standing to be your next Wiltshire Councillor in the elections on May 1st. He is also standing for the town council.**

### About George



George has worked in finance for over ten years and specialises in ethical investments.



George was previously elected to Chippenham Town Council, where he persuaded the council to switch into ethical funds. He scrutinised budgets to ensure best value for money so that residents' money was well used.



As a member of the World Wildlife Fund and World Animal Protection, George is keen to protect our local natural environment for wildlife.

**George says: "Bradford needs councillors who understand the big picture we are all part of, who think globally and act locally. My aim is to represent the town by caring deeply about what happens outside it, as well as within it."**



George Simmonds (right) with Sam Blackwell (left), Wiltshire Council candidates for BoA South and North



## Update on traffic

**Wiltshire Council, responsible for highways, has now said that any one-way system for traffic in Bradford must maintain Silver Street as two-way for buses.** Last autumn the whole town council agreed a motion asking Wiltshire Council to introduce a new traffic system with wider pavements in the town centre. The response from Wiltshire Council, in a briefing note issued just before Christmas, also said a detailed technical study will be needed to investigate the viability of a bus contraflow system, without which one-way will not be acceptable. The town council has asked Wiltshire Council to proceed with this study.

Jack Vittles says, "Traffic is a decades-old problem in Bradford on Avon, and the safety of pedestrians has been our top priority throughout our discussions with Wiltshire Council - who are the highways authority. Following the town's past decisions not to go ahead with an historic core zone, we have now succeeded in bringing Wiltshire Council back to the table. Repeated changes of Cabinet member for Highways at Wiltshire Council haven't made it easy, but we have kept them engaged. If re-elected to the Town Council, I will work tirelessly to get the best deal for our town."

## Progress on a new pedestrian bridge

Last year, the town council sent Wiltshire Council the strategic outline case for a new pedestrian bridge. Wiltshire Council has now responded offering engineering and bid support to help the project progress and secure funding. Local MP Brian Mathew has written to Wiltshire Council offering to help progress the project. **Ben Reed says, "It's good news that the town council has won this support from Wiltshire Council and our MP. A new bridge will make it safer to cross the river and help keep the town connected when it floods."**



Local MP, Brian Mathew is backing a new pedestrian bridge.



# Our campaign team in Bradford on Avon South



JACK VITTLES



KEVIN ELLIOTT



ALISON POTTER



BEN REED



GEORGE SIMMONDS

## Lifelong Bradfordian runs for council

New to the team, Kevin Elliott is a lifelong Bradfordian and standing for election to the town council. He says, "This town is home to me and always has been. I love the history of it, the layout of the town, the spectacular view of the hillside. It's unique."

Having seen how the town centre thrived in the past with shops serving the factory staff walking to and from work, Kevin is keen to see our town centre thrive in new times. He says, "We've got good independent shops and we don't want to see them shutting down. But we benefit from a good market too, and I'd like to help expand it further in a way that attracts more people from outside town to come here and use our shops and restaurants as well."



Kevin at the regular Thursday market.

## A record of action, a promise of more...

The Liberal Democrat led town council and our Wiltshire Councillors have worked on many projects over recent years, including:

- >>> Getting the skatepark built
- >>> Introducing a subsidised summer club
- >>> Refurbishing Poulton play park
- >>> Planting over 3000 trees
- >>> Introducing 'Snippets', an email newsletter
- >>> Initiating and supporting the Men's Shed project
- >>> Campaigning to protect the old golf course
- >>> Completing the living green wall
- >>> Expanding the youth service and supporting the Aldhelm Court 60+ Club
- >>> Developing a new music festival and taking on the fireworks displays
- >>> New litter bins with recycling sections
- >>> New noticeboards at the top of Whitehill and at Poulton
- >>> Setting up an e-bike loan scheme
- >>> Setting up a consultative residents' panel
- >>> Buying a speed indicator device
- >>> Extending re-wilded areas, having taken on grass cutting from Wiltshire Council
- >>> Introducing live-streaming of full council meetings

Alison Potter says: "Thanks to the joint efforts of councillors, staff and many wonderful volunteers, we have managed to achieve a great deal over recent years. I look forward to seeing what we can do next as a community."



## Practical politics

The local Lib Dems promote people to be town councillors who prioritise practical politics over party politics. Many of our candidates were not Liberal Democrat members before deciding to stand for the council. Our councillors are not told how to vote but share values of community, freedom and equality of opportunity. We care about our environment and believe in the importance of decisions made locally. We stand candidates for the town council to contribute to our local democracy, provide choice and because we believe in supporting people to become involved in decision making.