



Downend & Bromley Heath Parish Council: Business Plan 2024-2027

1. Who We Are

Downend and Bromley Heath Parish Council was set up in May 2003, following a special review and consultation. The Parish has two wards, Downend and Staple Hill. There are currently 12 councillors, from a wide range of backgrounds, all of whom are up for re-election in 2027.



Janet Biggin Chair



Phillip Abbott Vice Chair



James Griffiths



Mike Richards



Matt Pitts



Ben Burton



Stephen Pick



Raj Kumar Sood



Terry Meech



Dave Somers



Jacky Dockerty



Sam Burch

2. Mission Statement

"To seek to improve the quality of life and the local environment for all the residents of Downend & Bromley Heath. To provide a voice for all the residents of the Parish through consultation and participation"

3. Our Priorities

Investing in the health and wellbeing for the future

Your parish council will continue to invest and monitor our open spaces to ensure they are maintained and offer great facilities. We will continue to work with the various Friends' Groups and residents to ensure these open spaces continue to thrive and deliver for the community.

We have purchased and installed 4 defibrillators and bleed kits to various locations around the Parish and will ensure they are maintained correctly and continue to invest in them where required.

Holding South Gloucestershire Council accountable

Your parish council will effectively work with South Gloucestershire to ensure issues that affect you are dealt with. South Gloucestershire Council have a responsibility to maintain your roads, road signs and hedges; tree cutting; provide services such as the library and waste and recycling. We will work with them to reduce fly tipping and graffiti, and we will ensure residents are equipped with the correct tools and knowledge to be able to help us, help you.

Hub For the Community

We will rebuild King George Pavilion as a multi-functional community facility. This will include changing rooms for local sports teams, a cafe for residents' use, a hall that can be hired and office space for the PCSOs and the parish council.

Biodiversity and Sustainability approach

We will deliver projects to support our Local Climate and Nature Action Plan. We will continue to work with Downend in Bloom to approve new planting schemes and maintain the existing displays around the Parish and with South Gloucestershire Council to ensure the grass verges and trees are maintained.

We will continue to support the activities of the 'litter busters' by providing equipment and high viz jackets. The parish aspires to minimise its carbon footprint, fostering a collective effort to safeguard the Parish from the impending climate catastrophe. For more information about our LCNAP please visit our web site <u>downend_lcnapv2.pdf (dbhparishcouncil.uk)</u>

Support our Local Economy

We will continue to purchase Christmas trees for around the Parish and erect lights in the centre of Downend during the festive period. We will actively support the Downend Partnership working group, and will continue to support activities around the Parish including the Easter Egg trail, Bees and the yearly firework display which attracts over 10,000 people.

4. Financial Information

The Parish Council's main source of income is through the Parish precept. The yearly council tax demand itemises the exact contribution of each property towards the Parish Council's upkeep and activities.

Other income sources for the Parish include: Bank Interest, Grants, Donations, Community Infrastructure Levy and income from running sports activities.

The main items of the ongoing Parish Council expenditure are: office administration; parish staff employment costs; ongoing maintenance of items owned by the Parish Council (e.g. bus shelters, play equipment, playing fields, tennis courts); any projects that the Parish Council decide to invest in.

We display all accounts on the web site under our 'Transparency' Link. We currently hold 3 months in reserves to cover unexpected events or expenses. This is as per the Avon Local Councils Association recommendation. We also reserve money for up-and-coming projects.

5. Website

The Parish Council has its own website at <u>https://www.dbhparishcouncil.uk/</u> where you can find lots of information about the history of the Parish, the local area, and the Parish Council's activities. This website is regularly updated so that you can see exactly what is going on.

5. Map of Downend & Bromley Heath

