

Stoke Bishop Neighbourhood Plan



2022 - 2032



For further information please visit the Stoke Bishop Neighbourhood Plan website.

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Introduction:

Stoke Bishop is a community that resonates with a rich tapestry of history, a vibrant present, and a promising future. With its quaint streets, verdant parks, and a sense of camaraderie that permeates through its alleys, Stoke Bishop stands as a testament to the enduring spirit of community living.

As we plan for the future, it is imperative that we chart a course that not only preserves the essence of our neighbourhood but also propels it towards greater heights of prosperity, sustainability, and inclusivity.

Stoke Bishop was formally designated as a Neighbourhood area by Arlen Hill Council in late 2022. This plan sets out planning policies which aim to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development for the Neighbourhood area.



1. *Designation of Local Green Spaces:*

1.1 - Stoke Bishop is blessed with an abundance of green spaces that serve as sanctuaries of tranquility amid the bustling urban landscape. From pocket parks adorned with vibrant flora to sprawling meadows that invite leisurely strolls, these green oases enrich the fabric of our community.

1.2 - In order to safeguard these invaluable assets, we propose the formal designation of specific areas within Stoke Bishop as local green spaces. Through meticulous mapping and community consultation, we shall identify these areas, ensuring their protection from the encroachment of urban development.

1.3 - These green spaces shall serve not only as havens for biodiversity but also as communal gathering spots where residents can reconnect with nature, engage in recreational activities, and forge lasting bonds of friendship. Moreover, we shall endeavor to implement sustainable management practices, including habitat restoration initiatives and the promotion of native plant species, to enhance the ecological resilience of these cherished landscapes.



2. Influence Education and Medical Provision:

2.1 - Education and healthcare are pillars upon which the foundation of a thriving community is built. In Stoke Bishop, we are committed to ensuring equitable access to high-quality educational and medical services for all residents. To this end, we shall work closely with local educational institutions to assess the evolving needs of our community and advocate for the establishment of schools and educational facilities that cater to diverse learning styles and preferences.

2.2 - Furthermore, we recognize the importance of accessible healthcare services in promoting the well-being of our residents. As such, we shall collaborate with healthcare providers to explore opportunities for the establishment of clinics or medical centers within Stoke Bishop, ensuring that essential healthcare services are within reach for all members of our community. Additionally, we shall champion initiatives aimed at promoting health literacy and preventive care, empowering residents to take control of their health and well-being.



3. Encouragement of Sports and Leisure Facilities:

3.1 - A vibrant community is one that provides ample opportunities for its residents to engage in recreational activities and foster a sense of belonging. In Stoke Bishop, we envision a landscape dotted with sports fields, playgrounds, and community centers, where residents of all ages and abilities can come together to pursue their passions and forge lasting connections.

3.2 - To realize this vision, we shall prioritize the development and enhancement of sports and leisure facilities within our neighbourhood. This includes identifying suitable sites for new facilities, revitalizing existing infrastructure, and fostering partnerships with local clubs and organizations to expand recreational programming. Moreover, we shall seek to promote inclusivity and accessibility in our recreational offerings, ensuring that all residents have the opportunity to participate in and enjoy the benefits of sports and leisure activities.



4. Introduction of Transport Policies:

4.1 - Transportation plays a pivotal role in shaping the livability and sustainability of our community. In Stoke Bishop, we are committed to promoting sustainable transportation options that reduce congestion, improve air quality, and enhance mobility for all residents.

4.2 - To achieve this goal, we shall implement a comprehensive suite of transport policies that prioritize active travel, public transit, and the reduction of traffic congestion. This includes the development of pedestrian-friendly infrastructure, such as sidewalks and crosswalks, to encourage walking and cycling as viable modes of transportation.

4.3 - Additionally, we shall work with local transit agencies to improve the frequency and reliability of public transportation services, making it easier for residents to access essential destinations within and beyond our neighbourhood. Furthermore, we shall explore innovative solutions to reduce traffic congestion, including the implementation of congestion pricing schemes and the promotion of carpooling and ridesharing initiatives. By fostering a culture of sustainable transportation, we aim to create a neighbourhood where residents can travel safely, efficiently, and sustainably.



5. Preservation of Heritage Assets:

5.1 - Stoke Bishop is steeped in history, with a rich tapestry of heritage assets that reflect its storied past. From historic buildings and landmarks to cultural sites and archaeological treasures, these assets serve as touchstones to our collective memory and identity.

5.2 - In order to preserve and celebrate this rich heritage, we propose the implementation of strategies to identify, protect, and promote our neighbourhood's historic resources. This includes conducting comprehensive surveys and inventories of heritage assets, establishing formal designation and protection mechanisms, and fostering community engagement and stewardship efforts.

5.3 – We shall seek to integrate our heritage assets into the fabric of our community, incorporating them into placemaking initiatives, cultural programming, and educational outreach efforts. By preserving and celebrating our heritage assets, we honour the legacy of those who came before us and ensure that future generations will continue to cherish and appreciate the unique character of Stoke Bishop.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Neighbourhood Plan for Stoke Bishop represents a bold vision for the future of our community, one that is grounded in principles of sustainability, inclusivity, and stewardship. By embracing these five key pillars - from the designation of local green spaces to the preservation of our heritage assets - we aim to cultivate a neighbourhood that is not only a place to live, but a place to thrive. Together, let us work towards a brighter, more vibrant future for Stoke Bishop and all who call it home.