



Patchway Town Council

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023/2024



[www.patchwaytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.patchwaytowncouncil.gov.uk)  
[office@patchwaytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@patchwaytowncouncil.gov.uk)

Like us on 'Facebook' - Patchway Town Council

# REMEMBERING LEW

Patchway Town Council were extremely saddened to learn the news that Freeman of Patchway, Lewis (Lew) Gray had passed away.

Lew was a friend to many Councillors, past and present as well as staff on the Town Council. Lew was an extremely likeable character in our community and helped to shape Patchway Town Council for over 30 years, and it was Lew's proposal to name the Town Council offices 'Callicroft House'.



Lew was the fifth Chairman to Patchway Town Council, first being elected to the role in 1973. He served as Chairman for 10 years over a tenure that spanned more than three decades. Lew played an active role in the local community during his entire life and devoted so much time to helping the Patchway Community. Up until a year ago, Lew was long-serving Chairman of Coniston Community Centre. This centre was a project that Lew loved being involved with creating a new centre for the Coniston side of Patchway.

He was enthusiastic about Patchway's twinning links with France and Germany, where he used to refer to himself as "the Old Grey Mare"

On his passing, Mayor of Patchway, Cllr Dayley Lawrence stated 'Lew Gray was to anyone who knew him a kind and caring man. He dedicated his life to working for the betterment of others. He was one of the longest serving Councillors and Chairman of Patchway Town Council and certainly left big shoes to fill. Having known him for a number of years, this is also a personal loss. He will be missed by our council, staff, residents and not only his Labour Party family but many others across the political spectrum. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends at this sad time.'



# REMEMBERING LEW

Keith Walker has written the following for Lew:

In Patchway's heart, a soul so true, Lew, a stalwart, with work to do. Forty years of service, a legacy clear, A town's gratitude, whispers in the air.

Through seasons changing, like leaves that fall, Lew stood tall, answered the town's call. Public service, his compass, guiding light, In Patchway's story, he wrote each line.

From council chambers to streets well-known, Lew's dedication like seeds had grown. A silent hero, with deeds untold, In service to others, a story unfolds.

Through trials faced and victories won, Lew's journey in public service is done. Yet echoes linger in the town's embrace, His spirit lives on, a timeless grace.

In Patchway's memory, a chapter divine, Lew's legacy, a radiant sign. For every handshake, every smile, He served with passion, went the extra mile.

As the sun sets on this chapter's page, Lew's impact remains, an enduring stage. In the tapestry of Patchway's history, his name lives on, a cherished melody.



# A VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Dear resident,

I hope that my message finds you well. We are now coming to the end of another Council year. A year ago, in May 2023, we stood for election not knowing whether or not we would be here to serve our community. A lot has happened since the elections and I am going to my utmost to tell you what your Town Council has been doing right here in Patchway.



Not only was May 2023 the year of an election, it was also the year that Charlton Hayes formed a Parish of their own and meant that Patchway Town Council lost an overwhelming amount of residents who pay into the Patchway pot. This has created some difficulties for Patchway Town Council but we have stuck together and we have now come out on the other side, positively and now we are in the best position to serve you all.

We had many high points as a Town Council over the last Civic Year. In July 2023, as part of Patchway Town Council's 70th Anniversary, I had the great pleasure of formally opening the sporting developments at Norman Scott Park. We invited local sporting legend Geoff Twentyman to the proceedings and along with Cllr Roger Loveridge, who played an integral part of getting these facilities for Patchway, we formally opened the Norman Scott Park Pavilion, The Jason Franklin 3G Facility and the Twin-Lane Cricket Facility. I hope residents can see the benefit of having such high quality facilities right on their doorstep.

2023 was the big 70th anniversary of Patchway being a Parish in their own right and I would like to thank everyone who participated in the events whether that was through writing a Poem for Patchway or by coming to the Platinum Party in the Park. Your support has been hugely appreciated.



# A VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

In 2023, your Town Council has achieved a lot and this has been through close collaboration with our local community. I who'd like to extend my thanks and gratitude to my fellow Councillors and the Officers and Staff of the Town Council. Without this support, the Town Council could not have achieved what we have achieved. We now have a strategic 5 year budget plan, which will give residents more certainty of their Town Council Tax Precept and the way in which the finances of the Town Council are handled.



This will also coincide with our strategic aims over the next three years, which have been derived from the public consultation that we held with residents. Our aims are reviewed at every Full Council meeting and are titled as below:

- 1. Holding South Gloucestershire Council to account**
- 2. Improving the Parade**
- 3. Improving CCTV in the local area**
- 4. Communication with all households**
- 5. Youth Provision and Safety**

Towards the end of this report, we explain to you what these headings mean and how we measure the progress of them. Over the last 4 years, the Town Council has achieved a lot of key infrastructure projects and now over the next 4 years, we must maintain our assets, keep developing our Town but most importantly we want to place our residents at the forefront of everything we do. The Town Council is here for you and everything we do is for the benefit of the people of Patchway.

Over the next few pages, I will outline some of our biggest achievements as a Town Council and we hope that you, our residents, can see the merit in what we are trying to do within Patchway.

# A VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



Over the last Civic Year, Patchway Town Council has achieved:

We delivered a reduction in your Council Tax Precept of £11.86 per year (based on an average household) thus showing our commitment to lowering taxes as well as providing value for money.

Received a very positive Internal Audit report outline the strengths of the Town Council's financial procedures as well as the good structure of the Town Council's administration.

The Town Council agreed and signed up to the Society of Local Council Clerk's 'Civility and Respect Pledge'.

Installed an 'Older Persons hardcourt' area within Norman Scott Park with equipment being purchased for short tennis and pickle ball. This will be available to residents, free of charge, in the warmer months.

Installed three new pieces of large play equipment in Norman Scott Park including a new climbing apparatus which has been a hit with local children.

Purchased a new grass mower to ensure that Patchway's green spaces were being cut properly and efficiently. This has helped with the Town Council's Local Nature Action Plan, ensuring that local wildlife areas are maintained properly.

Funded £5000 towards youth work in Patchway. £2500 went to South Gloucestershire Playscheme for their summer scheme. The other £2500 went to FACE for improvements to Patchway Youth Centre.



# A VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



In a joint scheme with Almondsbury Parish Council, we have invested in the purchase of new land for Almondsbury Joint Burial Committee, protecting parishioners rights to be buried at a 'Parish Rate' within the local area.

We have reinstated the Alderman Scott Award. The award hasn't been presented for a number of years but will be presented in 2024. The presentation will be to a Year 11 pupil at Patchway Community School who has made a positive impact on their school life.

The Town Council agreed and signed up to the Society of Local Council Clerk's 'Civility The Town Council worked with Patchway Army Cadets to have a 'Mayoral Cadet' who would attend events ceremonially with the Mayor of Patchway.

We presented the Patchway Twinning Trophy to a young person at Coniston Primary School, who made good progress in Modern Foreign Languages. This was the first time the award had been made.

We provided over £1500 in community grant funding items such as community sports, youth work, Diwali events and community spaces.

We provided a number of events in Patchway, mostly free of charge to residents. These included a firework night, a Platinum Party in the Park, Twinning visits and a scarecrow trail. These events brought the community together and showcased the community spirit Patchway has at the heart of it!

The Town Council have created a newsletter delivery scheme, whereby Town Councillors deliver the local publication to your door.

# A VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



The Town Council also supported the first ever Brabazon Half-Marathon/10K with Scott Park being the start and finish point for over 500 participants.

Consulted residents on what they would like to see their Town Council do and as a result of this consultation, the Town Council has a three-year plan of direct actions. These are reviewed at every meeting.

Supported the Friends of Patchway Twinning and have been working on strengthening relationships between young people in Patchway and our Twin Towns of Gauting and Clermont l'Herault.

We have held South Gloucestershire Council to account on road-surfacing, changes in bus routes, the redevelopment of The Parade.

We bestowed the honour of Honorary Freeman of Patchway upon John Thomas for his outstanding devotion and work within the Patchway community.

We challenged South Gloucestershire Council on the changes they were making to the Library service and actively engaged with residents to ensure that they were aware of any proposed changes.

We have supported our Town Council's staff development by enrolling our Deputy Clerk on the Certificate in Local Council Administration and enrolled all of our Ground Staff on the Routine Playground Inspection Course. These investments show our commitment to the residents to be delivering the best service we can.



# A VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



We invested over £2500 to upgrade the CCTV that the Town Council owns on Rodway Road. This will provide more safety for our local businesses as well as extra security for our residents.

We consulted our residents on the lift at the Norman Scott Park pavilion and are working on a solution to make the building entry more cost effective for our residents.

With the help of a local business, we installed a 'Bleed Kit' in Norman Scott Park.

We have held South Gloucestershire Council to account on road-surfacing, changes in We have considered ways of safeguarding our youth work provisions for the future and are working with FACE to see how we can support Patchway Youth Work in the future.

We are working with South Gloucestershire Council on the 'Live Labs 2' project where they will be trialling different cutting methods on grass areas to see if it is more beneficial for local wildlife.

We have progressed works on the enlargement of Pretoria Road Allotments and are working closely with local stakeholders to ensure the site is future proofed and beneficial to the wider community.

We have set up a large number of events for 2024 including a Beacon Lighting Ceremony, a Throwback Festival and a Christmas Market.

We have further funded £7500 to youth and community organisations in Patchway. Including Turtle CYP and Patchway Community Centre.

# A VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

As you can see from that whopping list, the Town Council has delivered a lot over the last year and the majority of that, has been down to listening to our residents and implementing decisions that you have spoken to us about.

The Town Council will always strive for transparency and I am pleased to state that we have one of the most well-informed and updated website amongst other Town and Parish Council's. We work hard to try and keep residents as informed as we can. We now are live streaming all meeting's so that residents who want to keep informed can do without having to physically attend our meetings. We are also publishing our draft minutes for all meeting's within 24 hours of the close of meeting so that residents can access the information as to what decisions have been made in their Town.

I would like to thank you for taking your time to read this and I hope you find our Annual Report both interesting and insightful in equal measures.

Yours,

Councillor Dayley Lawrence

Mayor of Patchway

Chairman of Patchway Town Council - 2022 - Present





# IN THE COMMUNITY

In 2023/2024, Patchway Town Council awarded £1950 across six Community Grants for organisations providing a wide variety of positive, inclusive projects that are making great changes for people right across our community

North Bristol Rugby Club - Awarded £500 for the Star Scheme Project.

Southern Brooks Community Partnerships - Awarded £500 to support Diwali events.

Patchway Cricket Club - Awarded £250 for a new Boundary Rope.

FACE Charity - Awarded £250 towards kitting out a new chill-out room.

Mamas Bristol - Awarded £250 for inter-generational Christmas event.

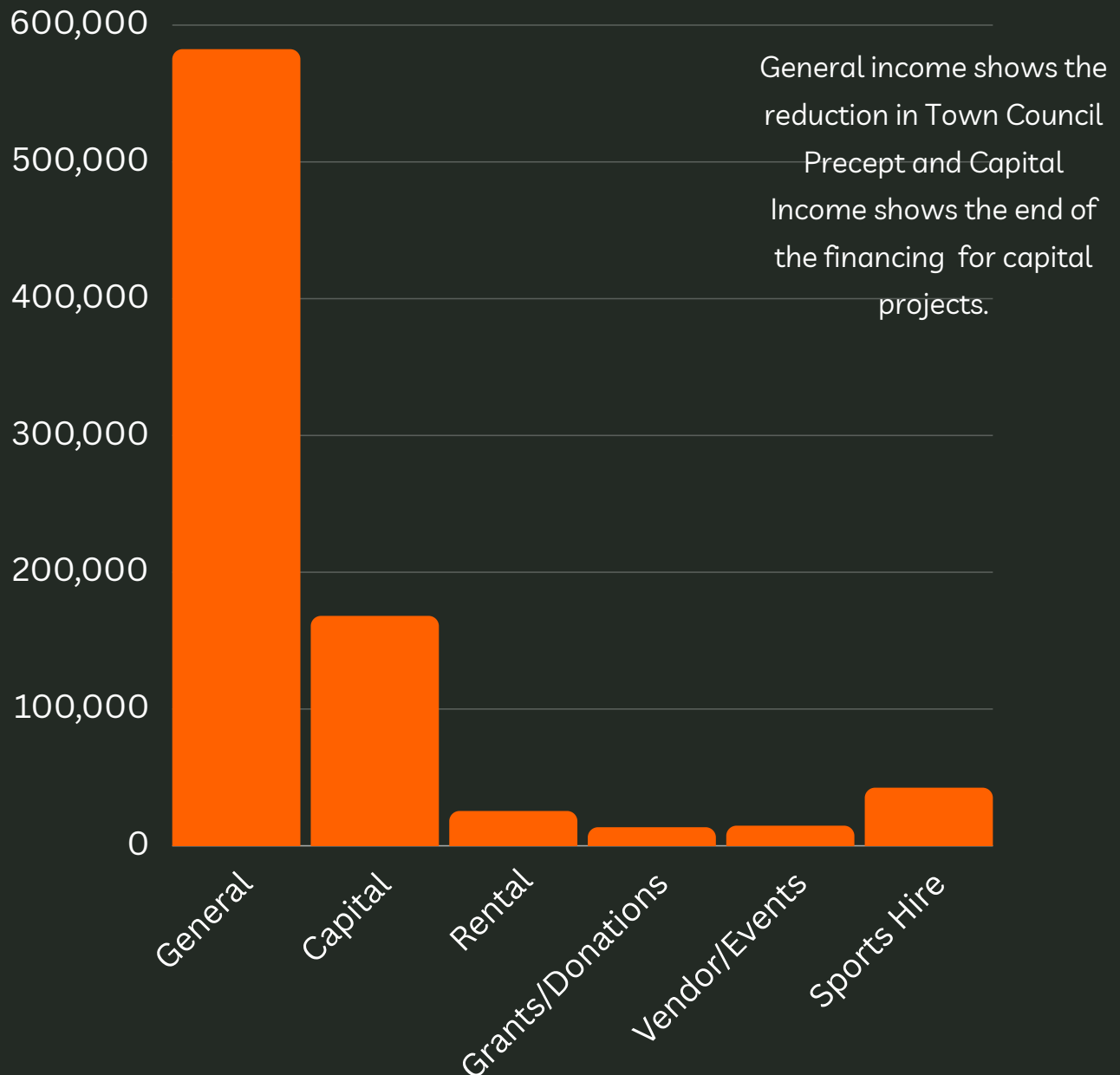
Coniston Community Centre Stay & Play Group - Awarded £200 to support establishment of the group.

Mayor of Patchway Cllr Lawrence said, 'I am delighted that the Community Grants have been used across so many different organisations providing such a diverse mixture of benefits for our residents. It is fantastic to see what can be achieved with funding and so much enthusiasm!'

Separately to the Town Council community funding, the Mayor's Charity fund for 2023/2024 helped another 7 local groups with funding of over £730 shared between them. Awards went to the Patchway Memory Cafe, Coniston Primary School, Patchway Centre Pre-School and Tots, Friends of Patchway Twinning, Mamas Bristol, Wednesday Lunch Club and residents of Charlton Court. These funds were raised during community events in Patchway.



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY - 2023/2024 INCOME



General Income - £582,426 (previous year £823,172)

Capital Income - 168,992 (previous year £623,404)

Rental Income - £25,449 (previous year £37,014)

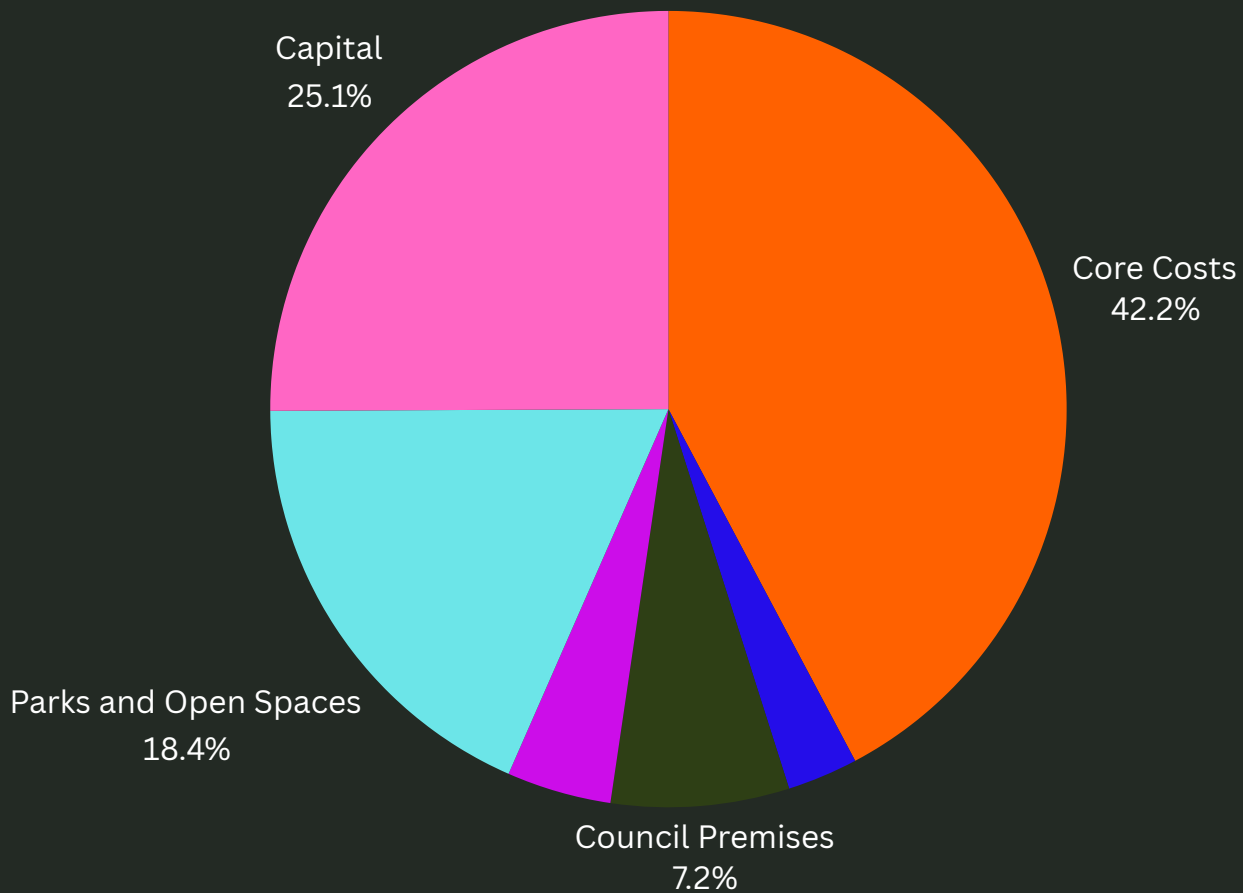
Grants and Donations - £13,571 (previous year £5,884)

Vendors and Events - £14,707 (previous year £7,288)

Sports Hire - £42,472 (previous year £36,450)

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY - 2023/2024

## EXPENDITURE



Core Costs - £273,946 (previous year £276,898)

Civic/Democratic - £18,606 (previous year £12,285)

Council Premises - £46,910 (previous year £55,089)

Youth, Community and Grants - £27,541 (previous year £28,718)

Parks and Open Spaces - £119,067 (previous year £116,268)

Capital - £162,616 (previous year £1,186,780)



# FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee of Patchway Town Council plays an integral part of shaping Patchway Town Council's future budgeting plans as well as giving direction on financial policy. The Finance Committee scrutinises the detail of the Town Council's accounts and makes recommendations for improving the financial outlook of the Town Council. The Chairman of the Finance Committee for 2023/2024, was Cllr Sam Scott and below is his report on the current Council year.

Over the last 12 months the finance committee has been committed to restoring prudence to Patchway following significant financial challenges such as the loss of Charlton Hayes as well as the conclusion of key infrastructure projects such as the redevelopment of Patchway Community Centre and the Norman Scott Park Pavilion development.

We were proud to reduce the per household cost of the Council Tax Precept to Patchway whilst continuing to deliver projects such as Community Grant Funding, wonderful events and the acquisition of land in Almondsbury for the burials. We have now implemented and agreed a five year strategic budget plan which sees Patchway developing a raft of reserves to be able to reinvest into the community with new plans for play equipment, litter bins, CCTV cameras and a commitment to all generations in Patchway.

Patchway has been put on a strong foot for the next 3-4 years with an increased financial capacity to deliver for residents, community groups and young people.

Let's keep moving forward, together!

Cllr Sam Scott

Chairman of the Finance Committee

South Gloucestershire Councillor for Charlton and Cribbs



# YOUR COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT FOR 2024/2025

**£11.76 decrease per year, per household.**  
(based on a 'Band D' Equivalent.)

## £501,638

Patchway Town Council's Budget 2024/2025.



### £10,000

Reinvested back into the community as part of our youth and community grant funding scheme.



### £250,593

To maintain and improve all of our open spaces and facilities in the Town.



### £10,000

To run community events throughout the whole year.



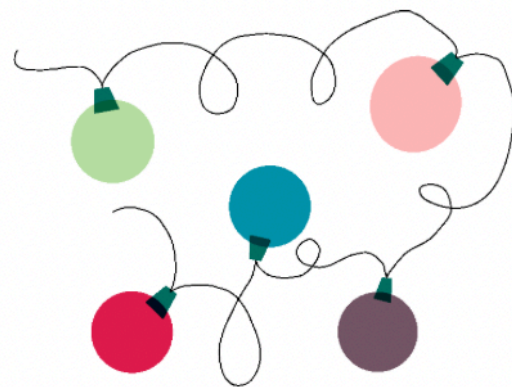
### £67,291

To deliver and finance our key projects across the Town.



### £14,750

Focusing on Green Waste Recycling and reducing our landfill waste.



### £10,500

To erect Christmas Light across the whole Town spreading festive cheer!

You can find out much more information about how the money raised through the Council Tax Precept is spent to benefit our residents at

[www.patchwaytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.patchwaytowncouncil.gov.uk)

# PARKS AND PLANNING

The Parks, Open Spaces, Planning and Transport Committee of Patchway Town Council plays an integral part of shaping Patchway Town Council's open spaces, commitment to biodiversity and leads the way on consulting on planning applications. The committee is chaired by Cllr Roger Loveridge and his report is below.

The Parks, Open Spaces, Planning & Transport Committee plays a pivotal role in enhancing the quality of life for residents within the community of Patchway. Through its multifaceted approach, the committee has successfully initiated and overseen several projects aimed at improving recreational facilities, green spaces, community infrastructure, and transportation.

One of the committee's notable achievements is the continuous development of Scott Park. Through the installation of cricket nets, a state-of-the-art 3G facility, and a new pavilion, the park has become a hub for local sports teams, fostering community engagement and promoting a healthy lifestyle. Additionally, the introduction of new play equipment, fitness facilities, and the Pickleball Court for Seniors has further enriched the recreational experience for residents of all ages.

The committee's liaison with the Patchway BMX Group has also been instrumental in enhancing recreational opportunities within the community. By collaborating with the group, Patchway now boasts a great BMX track, hosting major regional track events and attracting enthusiasts from across the region. This partnership exemplifies the committee's commitment to diversifying recreational offerings and catering to the varied interests of residents.





# PARKS AND PLANNING

The committee has been instrumental in the development and refurbishment of the Patchway Community Centre at Rodway Road, leveraging £1.6 million of funding. This initiative has significantly enhanced the accessibility and functionality of the centre, providing residents with a versatile space for social gatherings, events, and educational activities.

Through active participation in the planning process, the committee has effectively raised concerns regarding the proliferation of HMOs in Patchway, advocating for measures to mitigate the impact on residents. By engaging with South Gloucestershire planning authorities, the committee has demonstrated a commitment to safeguarding the community's interests and preserving its residential character.

The committee's involvement with wildlife groups and conservation projects underscores its dedication to environmental stewardship. Collaborating with organisations such as the Woodland Trust and the Patchway & Charlton Hayes Wildlife Wildlife group, the committee has facilitated the planting of hundreds of tree saplings within open spaces, contributing to biodiversity and enhancing the natural landscape.





# PARKS AND PLANNING

Additionally, efforts to restore the Living Landmark Trail and improve signage around Patchway demonstrate a holistic approach to environmental conservation and community engagement. This partnership with local wildlife groups highlights the committee's commitment to preserving and protecting the natural habitats within the community, fostering a sustainable environment for future generations.

The committee's proactive stance on infrastructure issues, such as road maintenance and public amenities, is evident in its advocacy for improved street care and the completion of underpass works. By liaising with relevant stakeholders and authorities, including Bromford, South Gloucestershire Council, and Southern Brooks, the committee has played a vital role in addressing concerns and driving positive change within the community.

In hope that you have found my report informative.

Cllr Roger Loveridge  
Chairman of the Parks, Open Spaces,  
Planning and Transport Committee





# UPCOMING EVENTS



**D-Day 80**

## Beacon Lighting Ceremony

Thursday 6th June 2024

The BMX Track at Waterside Drive, Patchway

FREE ENTRY from 6pm - 9:15pm

Live Music from  
Mini Concerts

Fish and Chips from  
Snack Attacks

Military Vehicle and  
Weaponary

Local Stalls and  
Information



Find out more information at  
[www.patchwaytowncouncil.gov.uk/events](http://www.patchwaytowncouncil.gov.uk/events)



## THROWBACK FESTIVAL

LIVE MUSIC FROM MINI CONCERTS INCLUDING:  
HEADLINED BY: FEARLESSLY TAYLOR  
THE SUNDAES (50'S + 60'S SWING)  
THE BEATLES STORY  
THEY WILL ROCK YOU  
ABBA TRIBUTE SET  
DISCO INFERNO

PLUS CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT, FUNFAIR, FOOD,  
STALLS AND SO MUCH MORE!!

START FROM  
12PM  
UNTIL  
9:30PM

JOIN US ON  
20TH  
JULY  
2024

NORMAN SCOTT PARK PATCHWAY  
BS34 5DQ  
FREE ENTRY FOR EVERYONE

## Fireworks to Music

SATURDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2024

EVENING STARTS AT 5.00PM

DISPLAY AT 7:30PM

NORMAN SCOTT PARK, PATCHWAY

INCLUDING:

CROLE'S FUNFAIR

MUSIC FROM MINI CONCERTS

OUTDOOR PERFORMERS

FOOD AND DRINK STALLS PLUS

SO MUCH MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED!



£5 ADULT / £3 U16 + BOOKING FEE

BUY ONLINE AT [WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/PATCHWAYTC](http://WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/PATCHWAYTC)

Patchway Town Council Presents

## CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON

FRIDAY 29TH NOVEMBER  
6PM - 10PM  
NORMAN SCOTT  
PARK, PATCHWAY

FREE ENTRY


OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS MARKET  
FESTIVE FOOD AND DRINK  
SANTA CLAUS  
LIVE CHRISTMAS MUSIC  
THE BIG PATCHWAY RAFFLE  
KIDS ENTERTAINMENT  
AND SO MUCH MORE!



# CONTACT INFORMATION

 [office@patchwaytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@patchwaytowncouncil.gov.uk)

 [www.patchwaytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.patchwaytowncouncil.gov.uk)

 07903 628 422

Callicroft House, 150 Rodway Road, Patchway, BS34 5DQ

