

Emersons Green Town Council

Community Collaborations



Following the success of our Annual Town Meeting, which took place on 30th April 2025, Emersons Green Town Council is pleased to share some of the key highlights. We encourage all community groups to use this booklet as a tool to foster collaboration and help advance our shared community goals.



Get in touch

Tel:
0117 3026989

Email:
clerk@emersonsgreen-tc.gov.uk

Emersons Green Town Council,
Westerleigh Road,
Emersons Green,
BS16 7AN

The Town Council Chamber

The Council Chamber is always open to the public at the times and dates listed on this website for our meetings.

The Town Council Office

To avoid disappointment, if you would like to visit the office it is always better to make an appointment by emailing us first.

However, we are generally open during the following days/hours:

Monday to Friday – 9:00am – 3:00pm

Our Meeting Rooms

Our Council Chamber is available to use on request. Please get in touch for more details.

Friends of Emersons Green Park

www.friendsofemersonsgreenpark.com



Graham Johnson Chair



"The group exists essentially to promote the park's natural beauty and to encourage a strong sense of community, which is obviously a key priority for the Town Council. Although the park itself is managed by South Gloucestershire Council, Emersons Green Town Council has also been involved, and most of the park's activities and care are driven by local residents.

I'm not sure how much you already know, but there's a community orchard in the park, which is one of our main projects. It's located in the south-west corner of the park, near the watercourse. You've probably also noticed the willow dome and the dinosaur sculptures that we've installed over the past few years. There's now also a new fern garden and an additional dinosaur sculpture.

In previous years, we've created a wildlife garden in the far corner of the park, and we're working on a sensory garden near the hall. We've also repaired the dry stone wall down near the Langley Arms.

Some of our work is a bit less visible — like regular litter picking — and with the dry weather recently, we've been retrieving a surprising number of shopping trolleys that have resurfaced in the watercourse. Another example is when invasive plants like foxgloves die back — we're the ones lifting them up and replanting native species.



We also collaborate closely with the Town Council.

Environmental Services Manager, Paul has been a great help — he's supplied us with lots of woodchip, which has made a huge difference during muddy times. Without that, I think the park would've been nearly unusable this year.

We don't only focus on the main park area. Just along the edge is Green Lane, which borders one side of the park. That's a longer-term project of ours: we're working to make it more accessible and more inviting for both people and nature. One of the biggest challenges there has been keeping it dry in the winter months — that's where a lot of that woodchip has gone! A few years back, we built a small bridge over one of the worst muddy sections, and with Town Council funding, we've also helped repair two gates between the park and the adjacent play area.

We're also involved in some local heritage projects. For example, we built planters outside the school for the children to use, and they've been growing things there this spring. For the past few years, we've also been maintaining the school pond. It had become a bit overgrown, but we're now doing annual maintenance to keep it healthy.

Another key area is the planters on Emersons Way. Twice a year, we remove the old plants, save any that can be reused elsewhere, and replant with fresh flowers. If you've passed by recently, you may have seen the new display we put in.

And finally — probably the biggest event from the Town Council's perspective — is the annual Earthfest. This year will be our fifth. It's a community festival celebrating our connection with nature. It typically ends with a big gathering in the park, with music, art, and food. Emily here has helped out in the past, and last year Chris Sunderland created the "Earth Trail," which will return in a new form later this year. Earthfest is made possible with support from South Gloucestershire Council and Emersons Green Town Council, both of whom have contributed significantly this year — thank you. We also rely on collaboration with many local people and organisations who help us with planning and running the event. This year, several people have stepped forward to support us, and we're really grateful for that.

So, just to wrap up — I want to say thank you again for the funding and for your continued collaboration. It really does make a difference."



**EARTHFEST
2025**

email: friendsegpark@gmail.com

Green Community Travel

www.greencommunitytravel.co.uk



Lauren Allen Deputy Manager



"Green Community Travel has been incredibly fortunate to have been supported by Emersons Green Town Council for many years now.

We are a community transport operator based in Yate, and part of our operating area is Emersons Green. In a nutshell, we provide door-to-door accessible and affordable transport using our various services.

The Town Council has given us many grants to cover the cost of things such as advertising and equipment. What is incredibly valuable is the growing relationship that has developed over many years. We are very fortunate to benefit from the Town Council's support. All of the town council staff are incredibly helpful and will contact us with any queries. For a couple of years we have been delighted to have been given some calendars featuring photos taken by residents to sell to our passengers to help with our fundraising.

The Town Council also share information on social media. The assistance and support from the Town Council gives us is unprecedented and is a fantastic example of how Town Councils can work alongside community groups.

Over the past year we have provided over 500 journeys for people living in Emersons Green, which is around 40 journeys per month. Our biggest challenge is still volunteer recruitment as we are seeing such an increase in demand for hospital transport.

So the help the Town Council gives us with advertising is a really great way to get the word out and everyone at GCT is incredibly grateful so thank you."

Tel: 01454 228706

email: admin@greencommunitytravel.co.uk

Emersons Green Village Hall

www.egvh.org.uk



Catherine Lombardo Chair of Trustees

Joined by Nikki Frost
Events Manager



"It's fair to say that Emersons Green Village Hall and Emersons Green Town Council have worked together for a long time. The focus over the past 12 months has been on partnership activities and events, us being a service provider for Emersons Green Town Council, and information sharing.

The best example I can give is the weekly coffee mornings where we provide the venue, the tea/coffee and the volunteers; and the Town Council provide the cakes/biscuits and an attending Councillor. It's free for the community to attend and its great whether you want somewhere warm to go in winter, if you want advice from the Town Council or Citizens Advice, or you want to meet new people. There's always a warm welcome.

We are very grateful that Emersons Green Town Council chooses to make use of our charity with a multitude of events for the community. Sometimes we will offer free room hire to the end user but Emersons Green Town Council actually pays for that. This year, South Glos Parent Carers arranged for Sirona to come in and local school SENCOs came in for some training on a new neurodiversity profiling tool, which has helped to support our local children in new ways. Inclusive change came in to run a series of sessions on neurodiversity and gave some ideas on adjustments that we can make to include neurodivergent people in all parts of the community.

Last but by no means least we share information with the Town Council and work together to benefit the community. Overall it's been a very constructive and productive partnership the past 12 months which we are looking forward to continuing this year and hopefully beyond."

Weekly coffee mornings

Emersons Green Town Council organises a Free Coffee Morning every Thursday at 10am in Emersons Green Village Hall. Designed to create a safe space for our community to connect and seek advice, this friendly gathering offers a relaxed environment where residents can enjoy a free hot drink and delicious cake while engaging in conversation and sharing experiences.

Working in partnership

EMERSONS GREEN TOWN COUNCIL

EMERSONS GREEN VILLAGE HALL

Coffee Morning

EVERYBODY WELCOME

catch up with friends meet new people

citizens advice visit the CAB

talk with a local councillor

FREE Refreshments Donations to Emersons Green Village Hall welcome

warm space

Every Thursday
10-12pm service
12-1pm drinking-up hour

email: manager@egvh.org.uk

Ham Farm Festival

www.hamfarmfestival.com



Emily Correa Joint Founder and Trustee

"Ham Farm Festival is a local charity that began as a music festival in our Emersons Green garden, near Vinnie Green. Now in our fifth year, my husband and I — both professional musicians — aim to bring world-class live music to the community, making it accessible to all and attracting new audiences.

We've since expanded beyond the summer festival. We now host concerts throughout the year, including one this Saturday at St. James's Church in Mangotsfield, featuring nine young performers (ages 8-17) followed by professional musicians. We also work with four local schools to bring live music directly into classrooms, ensuring all children, regardless of background, can experience music.

Emersons Green Town Council is our primary funder and has supported us for four years. Our events are hyper-local: 80% of attendees are from BS16, walking or cycling to the venue, and our planning aligns with the council's objectives — like promoting arts, culture, and youth engagement.

Youth involvement is central to our work. We collaborate with the local music hub to feature young performers from South Glos Rock and Pop School. We also offer paid work experience for teens: from 14-year-olds distributing flyers to older teens working as festival stewards and front-of-house staff. Last year, we hired ten out of over 100 applicants — helping them build confidence, earn money, and gain valuable experience.

We also serve broader age groups, hosting inclusive events attended by people from babies to those in their 90s, including special SEND-accessible performances. While the music industry faces major cuts and closures, Emersons Green stands out. Thanks to the council's support, we're delivering high-quality, affordable live music — comparable to venues like St George's Bristol — right here in our community. It's a cultural success story in challenging times."

HAM FARM FESTIVAL
25th - 27th July - Emersons Green

All kinds of music
with all kinds of performers
for all the community

3 days and evenings of music
4 evening concerts (folk, blues, world and more)
4 daytime concerts (including perfect for families)
3 workshops for all ages and abilities (including SEND specialist)

Individual, intimate world class concerts and workshops
outdoors in beautiful gardens.
Come and be inspired by music and culture

www.hamfarmfestival.com

Flamenco Fusion

Ham Farm Festival is an exciting annual festival with music for every taste in a stunning half-acre private garden in Emersons Green. 2025 will be the fifth year of the Festival. Ham Farm Festival is a charity, and is run on a voluntary basis by two local professional musicians Emily and Francisco Correa.

email: hamfarmfestival@gmail.com

Citizens Advice Bureau

www.southgloscab.org.uk



Chantal Watts Chief Executive Officer

"We launched an outreach service at Emersons Green Village Hall in April 2023, which was so successful that the Town Council expanded it to Lyde Green in April 2024. Emersons Green has now been running for two years, and the Lyde Green Community Centre for one.

Over this period, we've supported 209 clients, with the majority seeking help with Personal Independence Payment (PIP) issues. This is unusually high for South Gloucestershire, where PIP is typically not the top concern. We believe this rise is due to cost of living pressures, leading more households to seek benefits they hadn't previously claimed. We're prioritizing new PIP claims and appeals. Mandatory reconsiderations rarely succeed (around 18.9%), but tribunal appeals have about an 88% success rate, so we focus resources where they make the most impact.

We're also seeing many initial Universal Credit (UC) queries. While there's a Help to Claim team, many people still come through our open-door service for guidance.

Managed migration (from ESA to UC) is another growing issue. ESA clients, often disabled and long-term claimants, are now being asked to engage with DWP and submit documentation — something unfamiliar and anxiety-inducing for many. We've started weekly appointments to support them.

Debt is another key issue. The government's Breathing Space scheme allows us to contact creditors on a client's behalf, giving 30 days where they aren't contacted. This provides space to assess finances and make a plan, especially helpful for non-homeowners or those without assets.

Client demographics differ by location:

- Emersons Green: Skews older, with more clients aged 65–69.
- Lyde Green: Younger clients, more representative of wider South Glos trends.
- Across both: 43% have long-term health conditions; 40% are not in employment; 17% are disabled. The majority are White British.

Face-to-face drop ins

**FACE-TO-FACE ADVICE
OPENING TIMES FROM JULY 2025**

Yate Office, Kennedy Way, BS37 4DQ
Monday 4.00 pm – 6.00 pm, Tuesday 10.00 am – 3.00 pm
and Friday 10.00 am – 1.00 pm

Bradley Stoke, Jubilee Centre, BS32 8HL
Wednesday 10.00 am – 12 noon

Cadbury Heath, Juice Project, Newton Road, BS30 8EL
1st & 3rd Monday 10.00 am – 12 noon

Emersons Green, Village Hall, Emerson Way, BS16 7AP
Thursday 10.00 am – 12 noon

Lyde Green, Lyde Green Community Centre, BS16 7GW
Monday 10.00 am – 12 noon

Staple Hill, Page Community Association, Page Road, Staple Hill, BS16 4NE
Friday 10.00 am – 12 noon

Thornbury, The Town Hall, High Street, Thornbury, BS35 2AR
Tuesday 10.00 am – 12 noon

Stoke Gifford, The Community Centre, Little Stoke, BS34 6HR
2nd & 4th Monday 12.30 pm – 2.30 pm

Telephone Advice - Freephone 0808 278 7947*
Monday to Friday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm excluding Bank Holidays

Web-chat Service
www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/
contact-us@web-chat-service/

citizens advice South Gloucestershire
www.southgloscab.org.uk

We're also reviewing clients from outside our open-door services (e.g. phone support), to see if they're aware of their local advice outlets. This helps direct people to use the funded services available in their area.

Emersons Green is notably busier than Thornbury, despite Thornbury having two advisors compared to one at Emersons. This raises questions about resource allocation moving forward."

email: bureau@sgloscab.cabnet.org.uk

**Telephone advice line during weekdays
0808 278 7947 (9-5pm)**

Carsons and Mangotsfield Cricket Club

carsonsmangotsfield.play-cricket.com



Andy King Chairman

"Hi everyone, I'm Andy King – Chairman of the Cricket Club. I also help with a bit of coaching and captaincy – I like to keep myself busy!

Reflecting on what we looked at last year, particularly around the council's objectives, youth engagement came up as a big priority for us. I wanted to share how we've responded to that and how our club is really thriving as a result.

We now run the All Stars program, starting with kids as young as age five. From there, we cater to Under 7s, 9s, 11s, 13s, 15s, and 17s – so we've really got full youth coverage. It's something we're very proud of.

What's especially encouraging is how much the senior side of the club has grown too. We've gone from having just one midweek team to now two T20 midweek teams, four Saturday sides, and a Sunday team – plus all those youth teams.

What's even more rewarding is seeing how our youth players are progressing. Last Saturday, of the 11 players in our 1st XI, 9 came through our youth system, and 6 are still under 18. In the 2nd team, 9 had also come through the youth ranks, and in the 3rds, 10 were youth graduates. That's testament to years of commitment from coaches, volunteers, and families – and it's paying off.

Last year, we were very grateful for the Town Council's support – thank you. You helped us tick off items from a long shopping list. We carried out essential net repairs costing £12,000, and thanks to fundraising and sponsorship, we were able to cover it. That included repairing netting damaged by vermin, and providing coaching bags and equipment. I now turn up to sessions with proper gear – as do all the coaches – and it makes a real difference, both on training nights and match days.



Some of you may remember attending our T20 evenings with cheese, wine, BBQs – thank you for that support too. Sponsorship has since grown and we've now reached £20,000 in the club's account, although £12,000 has already been invested back into facilities, especially the nets – which are being fully refurbished and should be finished this week.

Beyond cricket, we're proud of being a community-focused club. One of our former youth players sadly passed away a few years ago from cancer. In his memory, his parents set up a charity, and we've since raised over £1,000 for it. We're not just a club that plays cricket – we support our own, and we support causes that matter.

Many of our former youth players are now coaching here – it's like a big family. We might not always be the best cricket team in Bristol, but our goal is to be the best club in Bristol – a place where kids can grow, develop, and feel part of something meaningful.

We want to celebrate their success – whether it's on the field, or later at the clubhouse with a drink (when they're old enough), a game of darts, or just being around friends.

And who knows – maybe some of these players will be standing here in years to come, sharing their journey and asking for your support, just like I am today.

Thank you."

email: andrewzkings@sky.com

Paul's Place

www.paulsplace.org.uk



Sophie Kinsman

Trust and Grants Fundraiser



"It's been great to be here — I've learned so much about what's happening locally, and it's been lovely to connect with others in the community. I've also gained a better understanding of what you do, which has been fantastic. A big thank you to Emersons Green Town Council for your support.

At Paul's Place, we're a charity supporting physically disabled adults and people with complex needs. Our mission is to help people live life to the fullest — through friendships, fun activities, building skills, and developing independence.

What makes us different is that we're led by the people we support. We respond to what they want — not what we think they need. Many are hesitant to join a day centre, especially if they've felt sidelined or isolated in the past. At Paul's Place, we turn that around.

We started over 30 years ago as a social club formed by friends who had become disabled. We became a registered charity in 1997 and have grown steadily since. We're not a statutory service, but we work closely with local authorities and welcome self-referrals, as well as referrals from families and the NHS. People can use direct payments or local authority funding to attend.

Around 83% of our members became disabled later in life, and many have experienced long-term isolation. Thanks to your support, 14 members in the Emersons Green area have enjoyed a range of activities — based on what they want to do.

For example, Animal Interactive has brought in owls, snakes, and more — right into the centre! We've also hosted money management workshops, baking sessions, gardening, arts activities, and day trips to Castle Combe, Cribbs Causeway, the Bristol Hippodrome, Slimbridge, and even harbour cruises with Wetwheels.

For many, these moments are deeply meaningful — like being able to buy a Christmas gift for a loved one, or just enjoy a day out again.

One member summed it up perfectly: "We do what we want — and that's what makes us feel better."

This year is a big milestone for us — our 30th anniversary — and we're finally moving into our own home. We've been based at the Cricket Club in Coalpit Heath since 2007, but it hasn't been ideal. We've now secured the former Shireway Community Centre in Yate and are converting it into a fully accessible, purpose-built centre. We move in this August, and we're thrilled.

Thank you again for your support. It truly makes a difference."



Watch our impact video by scanning the QR code or clicking [here](#)



email: info@paulsplace.org.uk

Lyde Green Community Association

www.lydegreenca.org



Helen Crew Charity and Community Centre Manager



"I manage the charity on behalf of our trustees, and I also run the Lyde Green Community Centre — our biggest and most vibrant hub. If you haven't visited yet, I'd really encourage you to pop in. It's a bright, modern, airy space with so much going on — activities for all ages and interests. It truly is the heart of our community.

At the association, our mission is simple but powerful: *community*. I know that word gets used a lot, but it really is at the core of everything we do. Tonight, hearing from so many others, I've been reminded of just how much is happening across Emersons Green and Lyde Green — things that often go unseen or unheard. It's inspiring, and I'm now more determined than ever to connect with more of you, your projects, your stories. So, please — come and see me at the Centre, let's have a chat, and see how we can work more closely together in the future.

Now, speaking of partnership, I want to say a special thank you to Emersons Green Town Council. One of our trustees, Kelly, put it perfectly earlier today — she said: "It's amazing when you feel like someone else is helping you with your mission and your goals." That's exactly how we feel about our relationship with the Town Council. You've been incredible supporters, not just financially, but through your time, your advice, and your presence.

Together, we've achieved some amazing things — some planned, and some that just sprung up organically. One standout example was last year's "Christmas for Kids" project. When our health visitors and midwives — who work from the Centre — told us how families were struggling with the cost of living, especially around Christmas, we acted fast. We held an emergency meeting with our trustees and created a pop-up gift service for families. No referrals, no eligibility checks — just come if you need support. Families could choose gifts, get them wrapped, or take them home to do it themselves. We expected a few hundred people. We had 1,200 last year.



That initiative wouldn't have been possible without Emersons Green Town Council's support, or without volunteers — many of whom came through Sovereign Housing's volunteer platform. From legal firms in Bristol to local residents, people came together, wrapping gifts for hours on end. One woman told me she spent six straight hours wrapping — just amazing.

And it doesn't stop there. One of our most exciting recent developments is the appointment of Max, our new Community Connector — again made possible thanks to funding from the Town Council and housing associations. Max has only just started, but his mission is already clear: to build a volunteer network that makes getting involved easy and accessible. We've learned that the word "volunteer" can scare people off, so we talk about "micro-assists" — simple, small ways to help, like manning a stall for an hour, delivering leaflets, or litter-picking your street. Every little bit counts, and Max is here to help coordinate and celebrate those efforts.

Another key project we're proud of is the Lyde Green Partnership Meeting, which we host quarterly. It brings together councillors, the community association, local businesses, and residents — all invested in making Lyde Green better. Sometimes the solutions are simple — graffiti, path issues — but they matter, and your support has been instrumental in getting things sorted quickly and efficiently.

So from all of us at Lyde Green Community Association, I want to say a heartfelt thank you to Emersons Green Town Council — for your funding, yes, but more importantly, for your belief in us and your continued presence.

Please feel free to reach out any time. Whether it's next week, next month, or just a quick visit to the Centre — I'd love to connect, share ideas, and work together. Let's keep building something special, together. Thank you."

email: helen@lydegreenca.org

Other community groups we work with



Kingswood Scouts

Emersons Green Library

Staple Hill
Royal British Legion

St Peter's Hospice

Save our Green Spaces

Stitching Together

Mangotsfield Secondary
School

Barley Close Community
Primary School

Mangotsfield Festival

Mangotsfield Residents
Association

Creative Youth Network

Youth Workers engage with young people at various locations across the town, with venues and times changing from week to week.

CREATIVE YOUTH NETWORK

Supported by
EMERSONS GREEN TOWN COUNCIL

YOUTH CLUB IN EMERSONS GREEN

A youth club for young people aged 11-16 in and around the Emerson's Green area. This is a safe and welcoming space for young people to spend time with friends, make new ones and get to know our team of experienced youth workers.

Opening times:
Mondays from 6-8 pm

For up-to-date information on weekly sessions, please visit:
www.creativeyouthnetwork.org.uk



Youth Liaison

The Town Council recognises that youth provision within our boundary is currently limited. We're pleased to announce the appointment of a new Youth Liaison Officer, Shea Stew, who is passionate about expanding and enhancing opportunities for young people in our community.



Email: shea.stew@emersonsgreen-tc.gov.uk

Thank you



“Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Annual Town Meeting — for your inspiration, your ideas, and for sharing what’s going on in your corners of the community. It’s truly amazing to hear what other groups are doing, and it’s sparked ideas about what we might take back and use within our own group.

The past year has been a really inspiring time for Emersons Green Town Council. Jo joined us as the Town Clerk at the start of the year, and it’s been wonderful having her on board.

This year, we’ve awarded over £60,000 in grants to support fantastic projects and organisations, including Green Community Travel, St. Peter’s Hospice, Paul’s Place, and Earthfest — which was beautifully put on by Friends of Emersons Green Park. We also supported events like Armed Forces Day and the Mangotsfield Festival.

We’ve worked closely with Emersons Green Village Hall, Lyde Green Community Centre, and the local library to deliver essential services. Councillors have made it a priority to attend regular coffee mornings and community drop-ins, making ourselves accessible to residents and offering a direct connection to the council.

We’ve strengthened our staff team — we’re especially grateful to have our community caretaker, Darryl, on board. Thanks to his efforts, a lot of our maintenance is now handled in-house, which is a great step forward.



Some memorable moments from the past year include the unveiling of a commemorative plaque on Rodway Common for the Queen’s Memorial Avenue of lime trees, and — and a slightly different kind of highlight — a rather dazzling fashion show at Emersons Green Village Hall in January. That event was the start of our focus on sustainability and the impact of our clothing choices. It even featured a clothes swap!

Our Planning Committee has been actively engaged, including responding to the South Gloucestershire Council Local Plan Consultation. Our Finance and Partnership Committee continues to work hard to improve transparency and streamline our processes.

Youth provision remains a key focus for us. We’re delighted to have Shea on board as our Youth Officer — welcome, Shea!

Our Christmas Lights competition has now closed, and we’ll be announcing the winners shortly.

The photography competition for our community calendar is still open until the 30th of June — so grab your cameras and capture the nature and beauty of the area!

There’s so much happening in our community — some of it you may not have seen yet, or might not even know about — but it’s all part of what makes this place so special.

So finally, thank you. Thank you for coming, for everything you do for our community”.

Bobbie Sunderland
Deputy Mayor





☎ **0117 302 6989**

📍 **198 Westerleigh Road, BS16 7AN**

✉ **clerk@emersonsgreen-tc.gov.uk**

🖱 **emersonsgreen-tc.gov.uk**

📘 **facebook.com/EMERSONSGREENTOWNCOUNCIL**

📷 **instagram.com/emersonsgreentowncouncil**

✂ **x.com/emersonsgreentc**

📘 **[EGTC Community Caretaker Page](#)**

📘 **[Emersons Green Youth Page](#)**

