



# ***PRESS RELEASE***

**2 March 2009**

## **Mayor demands Apology over Regional Development Agency Slur**

The Mayor of South Gloucestershire Town, Bradley Stoke has reacted angrily to the South West Regional Development Agency's criticism of a new town planned for Ashton Park, South of Bristol.

RDA Chairman Ian knight is quoted in today's Evening Post (Monday March 2<sup>nd</sup>) as saying, "no one wants to see a Bradley Stoke Mark Two,"

However Cllr Robert Jones has hit back saying. "Bradley Stoke is a fantastic place to live with a strong community, If I were building a new town I'd be happy if it was just half as good to live in as here."

Adding "Mr Knight's comments show that he is living in the past and he owes the residents of Bradley Stoke an apology."

Bradley Stoke which was founded in the late eighties now boasts a population of around 20,000 and modern facilities including a Swimming Pool and the multi million pound Willow Brook Centre which opened last year.

A Channel 5 TV programme, last year ranked the town as the 3<sup>rd</sup> best value place to live in the country and Cllr Jones says residents are rightly very proud of their town

He Comments: "It may have taken time to mature but Bradley Stoke has really come of age. As Mayor I meet many residents who always tell me how much they like living in Bradley Stoke, good people, who the RDA could really benefit from talking too."

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For further info or to arrange interview contact:

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