

What Bradley Stoke has to offer?

When Bradley Stoke was first developed it had a lot of good things to offer.

In Bradley Stoke there is a wide range of modern newly houses with good facilities inside. Bradley Stoke has the great advantage of the motorway, which makes it quite an accessible place for commuters who want to go to London or Bristol. There is a regular bus service, however, it is quite slow due to the system of the roads. There's also a lot of open space, which is used as woods or cycling paths. It is quite close to many ancient monuments such as the Roman City of Baths. There are many opportunities for business. There is a library and a large youth hostel along with an indoor leisure complex complete with cinemas. There are many more things that are available.

However due to poor funding it has been difficult to maintain or run some of these facilities.

Has Bradley Stoke been a success?

There are two views to this question. Some people say yes while others say no. There are many different opinions about why Bradley Stoke is a success or a failure.

It's a Success

Below is a list showing some of the reasons why people think that Bradley Stoke is a success:

- It's a very accessible place by the motorway.
- Not many noisy neighbours.
- No graffiti problems.
- There is a wide range of houses to choose from and they all have modern facilities.
- Near to the countryside.
- Good to cycle or walk through open spaces.

It's a Failure

Below is a list showing some of the reasons why people think that Bradley Stoke is a failure:

- Children have to travel quite far to go to a secondary school.
- There is only one primary school.
- There aren't many leisure facilities. Some people have to go to Bristol for a swim
- Not many sports grounds or sports facilities.
- No place for young people to meet and have fun.
- There are burglar problems.
- Too much noise from the traffic of the motorway.
- A lot of construction work going on here.
- Poor public service. Too many cars on the roads.
- The developers hoped that there would be a wide range of age group. However majority of the people are young as shown by the population pyramid on the page opposite:

Is there a bright future for Bradley Stoke?

Bradley Stoke's future lies in the hand of the people. So, if the people aren't quite satisfied then Bradley Stoke won't be such a successful place. When the houses were built they were quite expensive and the value of land was rising quite rapidly. This attracted many people who thought that the prices would keep on increasing and so many people bought houses here.

However all was not good and the prices eventually fell. There was a negative equity as if people sold their houses then they would get less money than they bought the house for. This caused a big problem as less people than the developers had hoped moved in, which meant that not many shops or play areas could be built due to the poor funding. This made the people who were already living in Bradley Stoke unhappy.

But things are slowly improving. The prices of the houses that had slumped have now risen to a reasonable value.

Some General Questions Asked

Q: When you first came to Bradley Stoke did you experience any difficulties in living?

A: When I came life was very difficult, job wise and family wise. You have to travel quite far to get certain things. There aren't many things here for my children to do.

Q: Is the Job status good in Bradley Stoke?

A: Jobs in Bradley Stoke are reasonable and the wages are slightly higher than Bristol. However, you have to work longer as there are less people here.

Q: Is the quality of schools and hospitals good:

A: There is one health clinic and a few doctors' surgeries, which means that we have to travel to Bristol for a proper hospital. The current situation for the schools here is that there is only one primary school. Plans are being made to include more schools but Bradley Stoke in my opinion is not a place for your children to study.

Q: What type of family would you recommend Bradley Stoke?

A: Not a single man, but a family with younger kids who go to primary school.

Editor's Words

Well my final conclusion of Bradley Stoke is that it hasn't been a success. The only part that has worked out is probably the housing, however, the rest hasn't quite been that successful as there are no community buildings, very few leisure facilities and nothing to do for the older kids here. You can't live permanently here; it can be used for a temporary house. It's disappointing because it has been planned using a computer so it should be perfect but it hasn't worked out. Not only has it wasted money but also valuable green space.

If you have any queries concerning Bradley Stoke you may visit the Bradley Stoke website:
www.bradleystoke.co.uk or you can email me at arif@bradleystoke.co.uk