



AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

Avonmouth and Kingsweston Neighbourhood Partnership

3rd December 2013

Report of: Johanna Holmes, Neighbourhoods & Communities

Title: Area Coordinators Report

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RECOMMENDATIONS

- To note the contents of this report

1. Lawrence Weston Youth Centre: Community Asset Transfer - Update

The submission date for expressions of interest was 4th November 2013. Following consideration, one organisation has been invited to proceed with Stage 2 of the council's Community Asset Transfer Policy, for each of the facilities.

On submission of their full business case, a full evaluation will be made by a panel that includes community representatives. A decision will be made by Bristol City Council by 30 May 2014.

2. Neighbourhood Forum Dates

The new Neighbourhood Development Officer April Richmond is reviewing and evaluating the Neighbourhood Forums during the current round. If you would like to speak to April about the Forums or any other local priorities please feel free to contact her on 9223221/ april.richmond@bristol.co.uk

Avonmouth Neighbourhood Forums (6.30pm)

- 10th February 2014 at Avonmouth Com Centre

Sea Mills Neighbourhood Forums (6.30pm)

- 11th February at Highgrove church

Lawrence Weston Neighbourhood Forums (6.00pm)

- 27th February at Lawrence Weston Youth Centre

3. Lawrence Weston College Site

The former college building has now been demolished and contamination works are currently being carried out. The site will go on the market in the next few weeks aimed at a possible future food store and 100 residential units.

The section of the site for the community facility is being dealt with separately and Ambition Lawrence Weston and local councillors are working on behalf of the community to negotiate the best possible outcome.

4. Snow Wardens

Bristol City Council (BCC) are looking for community spirited people to volunteer as snow wardens to help out in the event of snow this winter. The major routes are prioritised for gritting, but the gritting lorries can't get to all the minor roads, steep hills or tricky junctions that can prove difficult to pass in wintry conditions. This is where BCC need the help of the local community to help keep these areas clear.

What you would need to do

By volunteering, we would ask you to:

- Clear some snow from the footways to help people to get about.
- Spread grit to prevent ice forming.
- Encourage a neighbourly attitude to vulnerable people in the area.

The 2013 / 14 proposed dates for Community Snow wardens are

- 21st Nov 2013
- 18th Dec 2013
- 16th Jan 2014

All at the City Hall, College green

All sessions commencing 1830 hrs. and finishing at 2000 hrs. latest

Volunteers should be aware that they will have a large shovel plus some other bits of kit to take home so need to think about mode of transport carefully

How to volunteer

Please contact Simon Creed, Civil Protection Manager on 0117 922 3233 or Simon.creed@bristol.gov.uk giving him your contact details and identifying the site you would be able to help with.

These dates will be subject to cancellation for a number of issues so any volunteers

need to contact Simon and he will confirm accordingly. He will ensure that the first date does go ahead though.

5. Neighbourhood Partnership Review

As you will know there were a wide range of findings from the Neighbourhood Partnership consultation we undertook earlier this year.

The further development and implementation of some of the findings around governance and devolution have not been actively progressed due to the timing of both the Bristol City Council 3 year budget and the Boundary Commissions Boundary Review of Bristol.

The Boundary Commission will, following the conclusion of their review recommend future ward boundaries and councillor numbers that take into account changes to the city's population and the introduction of the mayoral governance model.

We are inputting the perspective of Neighbourhood Partnerships into these wider discussions but clearly cannot progress anything independently of such significant citywide reviews.

However, there are areas of the review findings which the team have worked on which can be progressed within the current context:

- Training for NP members
- Using resources more effectively
- Making forums work better.
- Improve equalities understanding and performance

We will work with partnerships over the next period to deliver the above.

6. Bristol City Council - Budget Consultation.

The City Council's budget for the next three years will focus on delivering vital services and investing in the future of Bristol.

However the city faces a difficult challenge to save £90m, due to cuts in government grants and an increased demand for our services.

The Mayor of Bristol and Cabinet have examined all of the council's income and expenditure and published a full set of budget proposals Monday, 18th November detailing how, where and when savings are to be made.

At public meetings to be held 26, 27, 28 and 29 November George Ferguson, Mayor of Bristol, will give an overview of his budget proposals and then take questions from attendees.

Public Meeting Date	Venue	Meeting Time
Tuesday 26 November	Henbury School, Station Road, Henbury BS10 7QH	6.30 – 7.30 pm
Wednesday 27 November	The Park Centre, Daventry Road, Filwood BS4 1DQ	6.30 – 7.30 pm
Thursday 28 November	Nov City Hall, College Green BS1 5TR	7.00 – 8.00 pm
Friday 29 November	Bristol Brunel Academy, Speedwell Road, Speedwell BS15 1NU	7.00 – 8.00 pm

The Mayor is keen to listen to the views of as many people as possible during the consultation period which closes **30th December 2013** before publishing a final set of proposals for debate at Full Council in February. Nothing will be decided until the budget is approved.

To access the budget on line please go to: www.bristol.gov.uk/budget

Or you can get hard copies from libraries, customer service points or by phoning for a copy on 0117 922 2652.

7. Shirehampton Park

A local resident has been in contact with the Estate Management Team at BCC requesting Shirehampton Park be opened up for public recreation purposes.

He has asked if this can be discussed briefly by the NP to ascertain if the NP supports measures to make the area more accessible for the general public during the summer months.

Becky Coffin (BCC Nature Conservation Officer) has since recommended that the grassland in question is surveyed next summer, so they have up-to-date information on its nature conservation value, and then the residents proposal can be reconsidered by the NP on the basis of that information. This will allow us to direct any changes in management to areas which are less species-rich. The survey needs to wait until next summer, as the plants need to be in flower in order for us to be able to identify all of them.

8. Active Neighbourhood Transport Grants - Round 3 (reminder)

Please see **Appendix A** below for information about the third round of grants funded through Bristol's Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) - Active Neighbourhoods Programme

Active Neighbourhood Transport Grants - Round 3

Round opens 1st December 2013

Round closes 28th February 2014

(Please note that all projects must be implemented **before April 2015**).

We are pleased to offer a third round of grants funded through Bristol's Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) as part of its Active Neighbourhoods Programme.

Grants are available from as little as £500 up to a maximum contribution of £3,000 and funding is limited.

Sustainable travel is important for individuals, communities and the wider environment. On a personal level, it can help us take short journeys on foot or by bike, increasing our activity levels to benefit our health as well as saving us money. For communities it can increase the numbers of people out on the street, making the streets feel safer and encouraging use of local shops and facilities. On a wider level, sustainable travel aims to provide attractive options for young people, commuters and older people alike, as well as improving air and noise quality in our city.

What are the main aims of the grant?

Schemes need to be locally led and support the LSTF objectives by:

- Supporting and strengthening local economies (encouraging people to walk, cycle, or use public transport to travel to neighbourhood shops and services, rather than driving to other locations);
- Increasing physical activity to improve health, through greater use of walking and cycling for local journeys;
- Reducing unnecessary car trips and associated parking/pollution/congestion

Who can apply?

Applications must be submitted by a constituted group, this could be a local resident groups, traders associations, voluntary and community groups, statutory organisations, or Neighbourhood Partnerships.

We are looking for bottom up, community led, projects, whereby project ideas come from local communities. We encourage applications that will address travel related issues within a particular local community, or a local shopping area, or by a particular group of people, with specific needs.

Examples of what could be funded:

Grants awarded in round 1 and 2:

- Lockleaze, Ashley, Easton, Lawrence Hill and St George will benefit from a "Silver Cycling" programme This will help older adults get back on their bikes and rediscover the joys of cycling in a safe and sociable way;
- Greater Bedminster will develop a pocket park and art installation on East Street, to make a popular walking route both direct and pleasant;
- In Totterdown, cycle storage and park benches will be installed part way up the Wells Road, to encourage short journeys to local shops on foot and by bike
- Bristol Bike Project is running a project for young people between 11 and 17 to learn basic and advanced bicycle mechanics. They will apply this learnt knowledge as they restore and rebuild a safe and fully functioning bike for themselves.
- GoodGym Bristol is a new exciting community project whose aim is to use the energy that is normally wasted in gyms to benefit the community as a whole. They organise regular group runs and cycles to community projects during which they stop and help local community organisations.
- Hotwells and Clifton Community Association have renovated the City 'gateway' site of Cumberland Piazza, identifying key cycle routes, constructing information panels, creating webpages to complement each information panel, and put on an event increase the utilisation of existing cycle and pedestrian routes in the area by local people, commuters and visitors.

Two Community Interest Companies have been funded to develop projects to benefit the whole city:

- Roll for the Soul recently opened the Bristol Community Bike Café and Cycle Hub in Quay Street; and
- Playing Out will be able to reach more communities with their after-school street play project.

Other ideas could include:

- Events to encourage people to be more active and use the car less;
- Local groups working together to address particular barriers to active travel issues in their area;
- Grants can support a one-off initiative, or be used as 'seed' money to pilot a longer-term project; and
- Installation of a handrail on a steep hill to aid walking for older people.

These are examples of initiatives that have been previously funded, or could potentially gain future funding. However, be original and creative with your own ideas. Think about the issues in your local area and what is needed to solve them.

Examples of what will not be funded

We will not be funding any infrastructure projects in this round of funding e.g. laying cycle/foot paths, pedestrian crossings, junction alterations, road widening etc. We will however consider applications for safe routes to schools projects.

Extra funding or match-funding

The grant could also be used as a contribution towards more expensive schemes, if additional sources of money are available (for example a devolved neighbourhood transport grant, other national or local grant funding).

Contact us - for support with your application

If you require advice or support with developing your idea, consulting locally or completing the form, please contact our Community Active Travel Officers:

Ben Bowskill - Community Active Travel Officer

Mobile 07768422700 Office 0117 903 6745

Email Ben.bowskill@bristol.gov.uk

Lizzie Thal-Jantzen

Mobile 07768421602 Office 0117 903 6745

Email Lizzie.Thal-jantzen@bristol.gov.uk

If you require any further information about the grants or application process, please contact Janine McCretton on 0117 903 6745, Gill Calloway on 0117 903 6707 email Janine mccretton@bristol.gov.uk or Gill.calloway@bristol.gov.uk