



AGENDA ITEM NO:14

AVONMOUTH AND KINGSWESTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

24th September 2014

Title: Neighbourhood Partnership Co-ordinator Report

Officer presenting report: Keith Houghton – NP Co-ordinator

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RECOMMENDATION

1. To note the Neighbourhood Forum delivery (Item1)
2. To approve the proposed way forward to deliver a local Green Capital fund programme and to develop a set of priorities to influence the Grounds Maintenance Contract (Item 2)
3. To approve the proposed way forward to create the 3-year NP Plan to bring to the NP for approval in March 2015 (Item 3)
4. To note the recent Mayor's visit on 5th September (item 4)
5. To note the information about the Boundary review and opportunities for local people to influence the process (item 5) and continuing work on the Port pollution problems (item 6)
6. To consider the request for 2 A&K NP reps to support the new City-wide NP Conference planning (item 7)

1. Neighbourhood Forums feedback

1.1 The Neighbourhood Forums took place on 9th September in Sea Mills; on 15th September in Avonmouth and will take place on 25th September in Lawrence Weston.

1.2 The issues raised at these Forums will be tabled at the 24th September meeting.

2. Green Capital Funding and Parks Grounds Maintenance influencing

2.1 At the 1st July meeting the Partnership was asked to develop a process to distribute £10,000 of Green Capital Funding to deliver local work against the following priorities:

- Nature
- Transport
- Resources
- Energy
- Food

2.2 At the same time the Partnership is invited to contribute to influencing the delivery of Parks and Open Spaces ground maintenance through the new contract. The new Grounds Maintenance Contract is open to continuing influence over the next few years to be shaped to neighbourhood priorities. This initial invitation to influence can therefore start with some modest priorities which can be started in February 2015, when the contract begins.

2.3 There are some aspects which can't be changed and some which can. Parks are happy to provide information on their current delivery to the NP area, with costings. Their main concern at the moment is to gain a sense of what local people want the contract to deliver and to identify where they can start to re-shape their delivery in the short term.

2.4 The Neighbourhood Officer for Avonmouth and Kingsweston is being tasked with leading this work – to make contact with relevant Parks and open spaces Friends of groups and users and collect people's ideas and aspirations. The maintenance contract also delivers for housing and highways land, not only parks.

2.3 Green Capital proposed way forward

Recommendation: That the Partnership releases application forms and guidance immediately , advertises it widely to all groups in the NP area. That all groups considering submitting an application are strongly recommended to attend a meeting in early October to a. share their ideas and see where they could deliver more effectively through partnership working with other groups and b. consider if

they could drawn down further funding from the two larger Green Capital funds, the Small Grants Scheme and the Strategic Grants Scheme

2.4 Grounds Maintenance proposed way forward

Recommendation: That the second half of the October meeting proposed above is focused on exploring the Ground Maintenance Budget and that a further meeting is held in November to identify the priority changes that can start to be delivered from February and to log the more long-term changes for future negotiation once the contract starts

3. Avonmouth and Kingsweston Action Plan Development

3.1 The Neighbourhood Partnership Review update paper asks the NP to create a Neighbourhood plan setting out what the NP wants to achieve over the three years from April 2015 to March 2018.

3.2. As part of this process all Neighbourhood Partnership Co-ordinators have created a 'first-step' document which has pulled together the various existing NP priorities, current activities and project work.

3.3 This initial 'first step' is attached at **Appendix 1**

3.4 The Area Co-ordinator would like to work with a small sub-Group of NP members to explore options and produce a draft NP Plan to bring back to future NP meetings

3.5 The sub-Group would meet 3 or four times between September 2014 and February 2015 in order to bring back a proposal for approval to the March 2015 NP meeting

Recommendation: That the NP considers this proposal and puts forward membership of the proposed working group

4. Bristol Boundary Review

4.1 The Boundary Commission is doing work to review the structure of Bristol's ward boundaries and allocation of Councillors. This has been triggered because some wards have far more registered voters per councillor than others. The Review will address this situation by making changes to ensure that there is a more equal ratio of voters to elected representative. This will mean that some wards will be smaller and some larger.

4.2 The initial consultation is open until 29th September 2014

4.3 The Bristol page on the Boundary Commission website is located here:
<http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/south-west/bristol/bristol>

This will be updated throughout the review with reports, maps etc.

4.4 How to put your views forward: Their consultation portal is located here:
<https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>

This allows you to view the current wards in Bristol, draw your own boundaries and make a submission to them directly. This will also show the draft and final recommendations, once published.

4.5 The Boundaries Commission will draw up a proposal for new Wards/Boundaries/allocation of Councillors, having taken into consideration all the proposals and comments they have received. They will come back to consult on this proposal between 9th December 2014 to 16th February

5. Mayor's Visit to Avonmouth and Kingsweston: Friday 5th September

5.1 The Mayor, George Ferguson, visited the NP area on 5th September

5.2 This was not a formal NP visit – we'll have other opportunities to book that later in the year.

5.3 The Mayor visited the Port to see what progress has been made with recent high-profile problems. He then met with local projects at Avonmouth Community Centre, including Ambition Lawrence Weston, Avonmouth Community Centre, Severnnet, the group working on the Coastal Communities bid; Kingsweston Action Group; Sea Mills Café.

5.4 The Mayor took away some tasks to support delivery of these projects and later visited a number of local schools

6. Dust and fly pollution in Avonmouth

6.1 Key BCC officers and the Port have continued to meet with some local residents to explore actions to address a range of local problems

6.2 A further update has recently been produced **See Appendix 2**

6.3 The future of this Task Group will be discussed at the Avonmouth Forum and a verbal update provided at the 24th September NP meeting

7. City-wide NP Conference

At the recent City Wide NP Review meetings it was agreed that we should hold one big NP conference per year.

Some of the aims of the event being to celebrate success, learn from each other and from short more formal training sessions, share best practice and invite other residents to take part and see what you are doing.

The other recommendation was that the agenda for the day should not be BCC Officer led. –

Each NP is being asked to appoint 2 people to become part of the planning group – this group will work together to agree dates, locations, agenda items, training sessions etc. They will also link up with the rest of the NP reps in their area to find out what they think about their suggested programmes and discuss what each NP wants to contribute to the event (eg if some NPs may want to put a small display together, others may want to hold a workshop to share best practice,)

The first planning meeting on **15th October at 6.30pm at City Hall**

Request: the NP is asked to propose 2 people to be part of the Planning Group for the City-wide Conference