



**BISHOPSTON, COTHAM AND REDLAND
NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP
7PM ON MONDAY 18TH JUNE 2012
AT COTHAM SCHOOL, COTHAM LAWN ROAD, COTHAM,
BRISTOL, BS6 6DT.**

PRESENT:

Ward Councillors

Councillors Knott and Willingham (Bishopston Ward)
Councillor Negus (Cotham Ward)
Councillor Hance and Townsend (Redland Ward)

Members of the Partnership

Alison Bromilow, Redland and Cotham Amenities Society
Jenny Hoadley, The Bishopston Society
Liz Kew, Local Resident
Clive Stevens, Redland and Cotham Amenities Society (in the
Chair)
Sergeant Mark Alderton, Avon and Somerset Constabulary
(substituting for Inspector Rundle)

Note – Nick Clark who was newly elected to the Neighbourhood
Partnership at agenda item no. 2 was also present.

Bristol City Council Officers

Farhan Ahmed, Neighbourhood Development Officer
Lucy Fleming, Democratic Services Officer
Richard Fletcher, Neighbourhood Engagement Manager
Andrew McGrath, Area Co-ordinator

**1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES FOR
ABSENCE**

1.1 The outgoing Chair, Clive Stevens, welcomed those present
and provided a summary of the purpose of the Neighbourhood
Partnership (NP), following which introductions were made.

1.2 Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Neil Harrison.

2. ELECTIONS - RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES, CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

- **2.1 Resident Representatives** – Councillor Townsend proposed that Nick Clark be a resident member of the NP and was seconded by Councillor Hance. On being put to the vote all Members were in favour.
- **2.2 Neighbourhood Committee (NC) Chair and NP Vice Chair** – as this was a decision for the NC Councillor Knott (outgoing NC Chair) took the chair. Councillor Townsend moved that Councillor Knott be NC Chair/NP Vice Chair and was seconded by Councillor Hance. On being put to the vote there was unanimous support.
- **2.3 Neighbourhood Partnership Chair** – Councillor Negus proposed that Clive Stevens be NP Chair and was seconded by Councillor Willingham. On being put to the vote all Members were in favour.

**AGREED: 1) That Nick Clark join the NP as a resident Member.
2) That Clive Stevens be elected NP Chair for the 2012/13 municipal year.**

RESOLVED;

That Councillor Bev Knott be elected NC Chair and NP Vice Chair for the 2012/13 municipal year.

3. MINUTES - BISHOPSTON, COTHAM AND REDLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP – 2ND APRIL 2012

3.1 The minutes were agreed to be a correct record subject to;

- Para 6.19 – That ‘T3’ be replaced with ‘T2’
- Para 9.15 – That ‘Cotham Primary School’ be replaced with ‘Colston’s Primary School.’

3.2 The Chair asked Members to note the tabled updated action sheet detailing the progress to date of matters arising from the last

meeting. The document could be found on Bristol City Council's (BCC's) website at the following link;

[Committee Papers](#)

AGREED: That, subject to the amendments detailed above, the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd April 2012 be confirmed as a correct record.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4.1 In order to maintain transparency Liz Kew declared that she was a member of the Good Shepherd Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, and the organisation had applied for NP funding.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

4.2 The NP received a public forum statement from Clive Stevens in relation to 'A Manifesto for Bristol' and another from Vassili Papastavrou regarding Tree Preservation Orders on Redland Green. The NP were in support of the suggestion of Mr Papastavrou that the ancient trees on Redland Green should be protected and it was agreed that Councillor Negus would pursue the matter in conjunction with his Cabinet Member colleague, Councillor Gary Hopkins, and report back in due course. It was also agreed that Alison Bromilow would inform the local parks groups about the proposal with respect to tree protection with a view to ascertaining whether there were any other trees in the area that should be considered for the same treatment.

***ACTION: COUNCILLOR NEGUS
ACTION: ALISON BROMILOW***

6. AREA CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

6.1 The Area Co-ordinator summarised each section of his report and invited comments and questions from Members of the Partnership. The salient points made during the ensuing discussion were as follows;

1. Updates from Forums

- 6.2 The report included details of issues raised at the recent Neighbourhood Forum (NF) meetings. Outcomes would be reported at the next round of NFs.

- 6.3 Councillor Willingham and Councillor Hance provided an update regarding the closure of Happy Lane (see point no. 1 on page 20). They confirmed that the Lane was still closed due to an outstanding issue in relation to the insurance for the collapsing building. Once the legal dispute had been resolved remedial works at Happy Lane could take 4 weeks to complete.
- 6.4 Councillor Willingham asked Members to note that the reference to the straw poll in relation to a residents' parking scheme in Bishopston was misleading because 16-2 people were in favour of consulting on proposals, rather than actually implementing the scheme (see point no. 4, page 21).
- 6.5 Councillor Townsend commented that she did not agree that the zebra crossing on Kings Drive was in the wrong place (see point no. 7 on page 21). Andrew McGrath confirmed that there had been little support from other residents when the point was raised at the NF meeting. It was noted that there was a perception that vehicles travelled too fast down that stretch of road but during Speed Watch exercises that was not found to be the case.
- 6.6 Liz Kew advised the NP that Sainsbury's had confirmed that they were in discussion with a charity regarding provision of a shop mobility service arising from the S106 contribution in relation to the Memorial Ground (see point no. 10, page 21).
- 6.7 It was noted that the Redland NF comments (see pages 22-23) contained some duplication due to an administrative error.
- Liz Kew commented that BT were no longer routinely cleaning phone boxes but would do so if requested (see point no. 9 on page 25).
- 6.8 Councillor Willingham advised that he was working with local residents to explore the option of introducing 'Playing Out' events to help combat the parking problems caused by patrons of the cricket ground.

2. Headline Priorities

- 6.9 In relation to the NP Headline Priorities referred to on page 25 of the report, Clive Stevens asked for it to be noted that they had been agreed by residents since 2011, not 2010 as stated.
- 6.10 In response to a point raised by a member of the audience it was agreed that the wording in relation to Parks and Green Spaces (see page 25) be amended so that 'residents also want to have a say on what happens to local

green spaces in the future' be amended to 'residents also want to have a say on what happens to local green spaces.'

ACTION: ANDREW MCGRATH

- 6.11 Richard Fletcher, Neighbourhood Engagement Manager, advised that recruitment was underway to fill the vacant Area Environment Officer posts but in the meantime he would be the primary contact for BCR NP.
- 6.12 The NP discussed the rules in relation to cyclists' use of one way streets, noting that in wider roads two way travel by cyclists was permitted. This had been raised as a concern in respect of St Johns Annexe. It was agreed that Councillor Negus would ask Highways Officers to provide a list of one way roads where cyclists were permitted to travel in both directions.

ACTION: COUNCILLOR NEGUS

- 6.13 Andrew McGrath advised that the reference on page 27 of the report, which stated that the carriageway surface dressing and footways budgets had reverted to the control of BCC, was incorrect as the budgets still remained with BCR NP.
- 6.14 The NP was informed that officers had commenced work with Cotham School and Redland Green School to improve engagement with young people. It was hoped that NFs for schools would be introduced in the future, with concerns raised by young people pursued/reported in the same way as those raised at the existing NFs. It was suggested that efforts should be made to target young people who were schooled outside of the local area.
- 6.15 Councillor Willingham confirmed that the needs of disabled people should be an integral part of all decisions made by the NP.
- 6.16 It was noted that Members had supported the Gloucester Road Traders in their bid for Town Team funding.
- 6.17 Work was underway to recruit the Community/Business Development worker who would support traders on Whiteladies Road and Cotham Hill. It was hoped that the post would be filled by the end of the summer 2012.
- 6.18 Andrew McGrath stated that Wellbeing funding could currently be carried over from year to year, but from 2013/14 that might no longer be the case.
- 6.19 Jenny Hoadley advised the NP that she had met with APE, the organisation that had previously applied for Wellbeing funding for play activities, to obtain the information requested by Members. She confirmed that;

- APE were a BCC preferred provider for innovative play activities and an excellent reference had been provided from the Parks department.
- The recent tendering of Youth Services was not relevant to the type of projects undertaken by APE.
- APE's style of providing play facilities was on a 'come and go' basis just like the adventure playgrounds around the city so charging parents was not an option, although involving parents in future fundraising was important.
- APE were very willing to consider other sites within the NP area for providing play sessions, not just Cotham Gardens.
- APE were interested in providing play activities on Horfield Common near the Children's play area and had received some charitable funding for pilot sessions over the summer. If the pilots were successful they would re-submit their application for NP funding for consideration at the meeting on 22nd October 2012.

Jenny Hoadley asked the NP to endorse the following recommendation; 'that we should look favourably on an application from APE for £5000 to match fund a weekly play activities scheme on a pilot basis for one year, providing the application shows that the scheme is supported within the local community.' There was unanimous support for the proposal.

- 6.20 Clive Stevens confirmed that the issues in relation to the funding for the toilets at Horfield Common and the possibility that the NP's Wellbeing contribution could be returned were still being pursued. It was agreed that Andrew McGrath would provide an update at the NP's meeting on 22nd October 2012.
ACTION: ANDREW MCGRATH
- 6.21 Councillor Knott then took the Chair so that the NC could make a decision regarding the Good Shepherd Neighbourhood Watch Playing Out Scheme's grant under spend of £68. Councillor Knott moved Liz Kew's application that the funding be used to purchase play equipment and was seconded by Councillor Hance. On being put to the vote there was unanimous support. It was therefore;

RESOLVED;

That the Good Shepherd Neighbourhood Watch playing out scheme's grant under spend be used to purchase additional play equipment.

AGREED: that the written and verbal updates be noted, and that the recommendation in relation to the future funding application from APE be given provisional support.

7. UPDATING THE COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTION PLAN

7.1 The Chair referred the NP to the emails between himself and Stuart Pattison, Community Safety Manager, regarding the Community Safety Action Plan that had been tabled at the meeting. A copy of the emails could be found on BCC's website at the following link;

[Committee Papers](#)

7.2 The NP were advised that the Community Safety Action Plan had been rejected because Members felt the content was inadequate, and that a revised version would be prepared following a meeting with Stuart Pattison. The updated report would be brought back to the NP for ratification at the NP's next meeting (on 22nd October 2012).

ACTION: STUART PATTISON

AGREED: That a revised version of the Community Safety Action Plan be brought back to the NP for consideration at the meeting on 22nd October 2012.

8. TREES

8.1 The NP considered a report from Richard Fletcher on the Community Tree Planting Programme and Clive Stevens on the BCR New Trees Plan for 2012/13.

Community Tree Planting Programme

- 8.2 Members considered the proposal for a community tree plan for St Andrews Park, commenting as follows;
 - Insufficient consultation had taken place regarding the selection of St Andrews Park for the scheme. Residents and Friends of St Andrews Park should have been invited to comment on the proposal.
 - There were functional aspects of tree planting that should be considered, including whether the location of new trees could be used to combat some of the issues

- with noise pollution and anti-social behaviour affecting residents' enjoyment of St Andrews Park.
- St Andrews Park had to date received more funding than other green spaces in the BCR NP area. Horfield Common should have been considered as an option for the Community Tree Planting Scheme, although it might be better to postpone investment at the site until 2013/14 when the issues relating to The Aardagh should have been resolved. Cotham Gardens and Redland Green had been excluded and no reasons were given for this, or criteria for the choice of St Andrews explained.
 - Consideration should be given to planting a broader spectrum of tree species including oak trees, which lived for hundreds of years. Other options were unusual varieties such as hawthorn and spindle trees.
 - If BCR wished to significantly improve the tree canopy in the area then the number of street trees should be increased because there were not enough parks to make a significant difference. Another suggestion was to plant in the corners of school playing fields.
 - Bishopston ward had one of the lowest tree canopy rates in the city.

8.3 Richard Fletcher confirmed that a site on Horfield Common had been proposed as part of the Community Tree Planting Scheme for the Horfield and Lockleaze NP area but there was no guarantee that the NP would select that as the approved option. He also advised that St Andrews Park had been chosen as the proposed site for the scheme because there was a good degree of community interest and a need to replace some of the existing trees.

8.4 As there was a range of views expressed in the debate relating to the community tree-planting scheme the NP wished to move to a formal vote. Councillor Townsend proposed that the offer in relation to St Andrews Park be accepted, but with the condition that Horfield Common be the first priority for the Community Tree Planting Scheme in 2013/14. Councillor Hance seconded. On being put to the vote there were 9 Members in support, 1 abstention and 1 against.

AGREED: That the offer for a Community Tree Planting Scheme in relation to St Andrews Park be accepted, but with the condition that Horfield Common be the first priority in 2013/14.

BCR New Trees Plan 2012/13

8.5 The Chair introduced the report, advising that searches in relation to the proposed locations of the trees were awaited which would help the NP to make an informed decision at their meeting on 22nd October 2012. Councillor Willingham stated that he would request trees on Purdown Road following a request from a local resident. He also suggested that local businesses should be approached to seek donations to assist with the cost of the scheme.

AGREED: That the update report be noted and that the BCR NP Tree Team should seek investment to assist with the cost of tree planting.

9. ENVIRONMENT/STREET SCENE REPORT

9A - Adjustments to the Clean and Green Project Funding Criteria and Confirmation of the Decision Making Process for Clean and Green funds.

9.1 Members discussed the two options proposed in relation to responsibility for the Clean and Green (C&G) budget. They noted that they could continue to make all decisions about C&G funding at quarterly public meetings of the NP, or could devolve decision making back to officers, which would prevent current delays. Both of these options would meet the legal requirements in relation to local authority spending. Richard Fletcher advised that devolving the budget back to officers would be in name only because no decisions would be made unless the Members of the NC had given prior approval. In the discussion that followed Members commented that;

- 9.2 The current decision making process was too cumbersome because meetings of the NP only took place quarterly. Opportunities were being missed which was unfortunate because the sums of money involved were relatively small.
- 9.3 The exact details of the proposed process in relation to devolving the C&G budget back to officers (in particular the part relating to no decisions being made without approval from the NC) should have been clearly laid out in the report.
- 9.4 If officers were to manage the C&G budget the NP should be provided with regular update reports regarding the projects undertaken and also the amounts spent.

- 9.5 Returning devolved budgets to BCC was a backward step and was not in keeping with the spirit of local decision-making.

9.6 After some discussion Councillor Knott took the Chair so the NC could make the decision regarding the C&G budget. Councillor Negus moved that the proposals both be rejected but was not seconded. Councillor Willingham moved that Option B be approved providing the word 'subsequently' be removed and that a report on any email decisions be brought to the NP at the next meeting. The revised wording was as follows;

'Option B – To delegate the legal authority to make decisions to officers in Environment and Leisure Services with an understanding that officers will seek all 6 Councillor's agreement by email prior to spending funds. Any email decisions would be reported back to the next meeting of the NP. '

He was seconded by Councillor Townsend. On being put to the vote 4 Members were in favour and 1 was against.

It was therefore;

RESOLVED;

That in future the C&G budget be delegated to officers in Environment and Leisure Services with an understanding that officers will seek all 6 Councillor's agreement by email prior to spending funds. Any email decisions would be reported back to the next meeting of the NP

Item 9B – May Gurney NP Update

9.7 Following a brief introduction from Richard Fletcher the NP considered the information provided. They noted that May Gurney intended to hold drop in surgeries so residents could report any issues or concerns. These surgeries could take place immediately prior to NF meetings. It was agreed that the matter would be discussed in more detail at one of the NP's informal meetings because there was concern that if issues were reported directly to May Gurney BCC wouldn't be aware of emerging issues.

ACTION: ALL

Item 9C – Proposed BCR Street Scene Sub-Group

9.8 There was universal agreement with the proposal to develop a BCR Street Scene Sub-Group, as outlined in the accompanying report. It was noted that the terms of reference of the permanent

sub-group would be prepared for ratification at NP's meeting on 22nd October 2012 (not 14th September as stated in the report).

ACTION: LIZ KEW

9.9 It was agreed that the BCR Street Scene sub group would bring a proposal for Clean and Green funding for approval at the NP's meeting on 22nd October 2012.

ACTION: LIZ KEW

9.10 Councillor Negus agreed to consider whether representatives of Cotham would sit on the sub-group because they were already involved in a review of the street scene on Whiteladies Road.

ACTION: COUNCILLOR NEGUS.

9.11 Members were asked to note the tabled update report regarding BCR NP's C&G Funding Allocation 2012/13 a copy of which could be found at the following link;

[Committee Papers](#)

9.11 As the report contained recommendations which involved NC decisions Councillor Knott took the Chair. Each of the recommendations within the tabled report were moved by Councillor Negus and seconded by Councillor Townsend. On being put to the vote there was unanimous support, it was therefore

RESOLVED;

- That £650 be used to purchase paint/sundries and two sessions of community payback for projects in Cotham Brow, North Road and Cotham Gardens; and
- That approval be given to support the bid for £19K from the central C&G budget to repaint the railings around Cotham Gardens Park (preliminary estimate £7,500); and
- That if the bid for central C&G funding is not successful the NP fund 4 community pay back sessions (£400) and paint/sundries (estimate £300) for the railings around Cotham Park.

AGREED: the BCR Street Scene sub group to bring a proposal for Clean and Green funding for approval at the NP's meeting on 22nd October 2012.

10. WORKING GROUP REPORTS

10.1 The update reports were noted, including the tabled report from the BCR NP Gloucester Road Street Scene Group, which

could be found on BCC's website at the following link; [Committee Papers](#). It was agreed that the proposal outlined in the report for agenda item no. 10B in relation to allocation of S106 funding (see page 67) be approved, particularly as the contribution of £8,683.19 for improvements to parks and open spaces would expire in January 2013.

AGREED: That the process for allocation of the S106 contributions outlined on page 67 of the report be approved.

11. NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP AGM REPORT

11.1 Members noted that a revised version of the report had been tabled at the meeting because the original document contained inaccuracies. A copy of the tabled report could be found on Bristol City Council's website at the following link; [Committee Papers](#). Due to time constraints it was agreed that consideration of the AGM report and proposed NP Sub Group/affiliated community group protocols would be deferred until the meeting on 22nd October 2012. It was agreed that questions arising from the report be answered at that meeting.

ACTION: ANDREW MCGRATH/LUCY FLEMING

11.2 It was agreed that checks would be made to ensure that Inspector Rundle was the correct contact for BCR NP and able to attend future meetings.

ACTION: ANDREW MCGRATH

AGREED: That the AGM report be deferred until the NP's meeting on 22nd October 2012.

12. NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE ANNUAL BUSINESS REPORT

12.1 The NP noted the report of the Area Co-ordinator setting out the annual business report.

AGREED: That the report be noted.

13. NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT

13.1 The NP noted the achievements report.

AGREED: That the report be noted.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

14.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Bishopston, Cotham and Redland Neighbourhood Partnership be held on Monday 22nd October 2012. Venue - to be confirmed.

(The meeting ended at 9.13pm)

CHAIR