

AGENDA ITEM 11(b)

Redland and Cotham Amenities Society update

RCAS has had an excellent response to the hanging basket project in Cotham Hill. Traders, local residents and other community organisations have all made contributions to the Floral Enhancement Scheme, for planters and baskets. We are also again pursuing the design and installation of the local notice board / sign feature at Whiteladies Gate through the Winning Whiteladies project.

Student issues are a constant concern to members, and RCAS is represented on the regular meetings with UoB and UWE to discuss solutions. We are seeing many more planning applications for expansion of existing Houses in Multiple Occupancy which are further tipping the balance against the long term residents. There are also many applications for balconies and roof terraces mainly in properties converted into flats, which can cause overlooking concerns for neighbours. Many mature trees are still being felled in the area, reducing rather than increasing the tree canopy. RCAS committee receives a number of requests to respond to planning applications, ensure that hedges overhanging pavements are cut back and parks maintenance carried out from the wider public as well as from RCAS members. The RCAS Gold and Green Star awards are not being made this year because of the lack of appropriate developments.

All these issues and other local concerns and areas of interest are reported to our over 1400 members through the quarterly newsletters as well as through the email alerts.