



MY NEIGHBOURHOOD



AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

Bishopston, Cotham and Redland NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

Monday 14th October 2013

Report of: Andrew McGrath – Communities & Neighbourhoods

Title: Area Co-ordinator

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RECOMMENDATIONS. The NP is asked:

1. To note the updates from the last round of forums
2. To note the latest meeting schedule and advise the AC in its updating
3. To note and discuss the statement on budget carry forwards in to 2014/15
4. To note the update on the NP's devolved budgets and services.
5. To note the latest NP review update
6. To note the brief statement regarding the South Gloucestershire development
7. To note the brief statement on Bristol's Green Capital status
8. To note the update on the recent Quality of Life survey

1. Forum Updates

Cotham Neighbourhood Forum

Thursday 5th September 2013

The meeting opened at 7.00pm

Chair: Cllr Anthony Negus, Christian Martin

Officers: Andrew McGrath, Lynn Parfitt, Nick Christo,

Police: PC James Ray, PCSO

30+ members of the public

The meeting was divided in to two parts: firstly for Cotham residents, and secondly, to discuss issues relating to the Whiteladies Road (WLR)

Police update. PC James ray updated the forum on local policing matters. 1 local case of ASB – a sexual harassment incident. The perpetrator has been convicted and is now awaiting sentencing. The advice to residents is to always carry a mobile, don't walk alone if possible. There is excellent advice on the Susie Lamplugh website.

The number of complaints to the police is significantly lower than this time last year. CCTV is being installed on Cotham Hill to help deal with and prevent ASB. The new police station off the Whiteladies Road will soon be open. It is not a publicly accessible station, although if residents wish to view it, they are welcome.

Other local issues: Anthony updated the meeting on the complex issue relating to Whiteladies Gate. The Council's legal team is looking in to it but it is complex as there appears to be no formal ownership of this piece of land. This confers certain rights, by default, on properties adjacent to the space. Work currently being undertaken to fence-off a part of this area is causing problems for businesses and residents who have always used this space to locate their waste. BCC officers are working with businesses and locals to deal with this problem.

Whiteladies Road. Ken Simpson, Winning Whiteladies Officer, gave an update on his work in the area. Ken is employed by SUSRED, funded by the NP and has a contract for 2.5 days per week for 1 year. There is a clear action plan. The ambition is to continue the project after year 1. Ken has started (re-started) the traders' organisation, met with all shop-keepers, developed plans for group waste and power contracts, developing a leaflet map, and launched a website:
<http://www.winningwhiteladies.co.uk>.

Ken took questions: What's happening about the proposed sign at the bottom of Cotham Hill? Trying to progress this. Currently being costed-up. Other off-roads also need signs. The project is for all shopping roads in the immediate area.

There are a number of empty properties in the area. Unfortunately rents are very high. Landlord may need to think about reducing them.

Ken is supportive of Business Improvement Districts but doesn't believe the time is right on the WLR. This may be something for the future.

Parking on WLR. The Cotham North Resident Parking Scheme (RPS) can still be adjusted, as it is reviewed after 6 months. The Cotham South scheme has just been reviewed. There are always further reviews after 2 years as well. Cotham Hill is the most complicated road in the whole scheme due to the mix of shops, residents, flats, and other businesses.

Free 0.5 hr parking to be introduced in the Cotham North scheme. To make the scheme work, there need to be proper road markings etc.

Comments: Saturdays are a problem due to the scheme not being in operation. There is little turnover of parking and shoppers. Traders would like the scheme to operate on a Saturday as well.

Businesses are able to purchase permits but these are limited. There is concern about how this would work and how it is potentially open for abuse.

There is little subtlety in these RPS schemes. They don't reflect local needs. Public transport isn't yet geared up to help deal with the consequences of RPSs.

There are lots of boundary issues that need to be resolved before the schemes' introduction, rather than during the 6 month review.

Night clubs/late licenced premises. Quiet over the summer but will get noisier as the students return. With regard to a particular premises, the police stated that they have received 31 calls of which only 5 were from residents. This is simply not enough for the licence to be affected. If you have a problem, call it in, even if it's the next day. It still gets registered, and adds to the 'cumulative Impact' profile of the area.

Whiteladies Cinema. There are 2 groups trying to progress this project. They don't appear to be working together. There have been repair notices issued on the building and the work appears to have been done. One of the main problems to making progress is that the restaurant has been separately leased out. This makes most other projects difficult to achieve, as the shell of the cinema space itself is all that's available.

Issues raised:

1	There were 25 waste bins counted between the bridge and the bus stop on WLR, a distance of approximately 100 yards. This is unsightly. There is some work going on to encourage bin sharing. It was pointed out that businesses are required to deal with their own waste in an appropriate way. A further report on progress will be provided.
2	Kensington Road is in danger of becoming a trailer dump. Police response: If they're registered, there's nothing that can be done. The new parking scheme will deal with this.
3	There has been much road works in the area. Whilst this is disruptive, the resident wanted the meeting to know that the workmen have been a delight.
4	There is an on-going problem with people entering the WLR from one way streets (the wrong way to the allowed flow). The police, who are now on this stretch themselves will keep a close eye on this problem and act accordingly. The solution may be 'no exit' signs.

5	The students are about to return. Both universities have set up a website that will make reporting of problems easier. The meeting was informed that the universities are excellent at dealing with reported problems from their students, so please report. You will be able to track your complaints on line.
6	There is local work going on to improve relations with students and to make life easier for residents. Leaflets have been produced to welcome students (handed out at the meeting). These give excellent advice on all sorts of potential issues. Please can these be disseminated.
7	There is a Specsavers bicycle chained up on WLR that is just there for advertising. This is irritating. Sustrans to be asked to intervene.

Bishopston Neighbourhood Forum

Wednesday 11th September 2013

Chair: Rob Stroud

Councillors: Daniella Radice, David Willingham

Officers: Andrew McGrath, Lynn Parfitt, Mike Toy, Stephen Wray

Police: PC Derek Black, PCSO David Said

Approximately 40 members of the public

Playground - Muller House Open Space. There is approximately £84k S106 available to build a playground. BCC is currently formally adopting the land to enable the playground development. It is thought that the park would benefit from a 'friends group'. Members of other local parks groups gave advice and guidance on how to set up and run a group. Jo Corke from Friends of St Andrews described how the group started and how it is now constituted. Jo described how they accessed funding and have joined Bristol Parks Forum. Sam Thompson from Friends of Horfield Common described how their motivation was to halt the decline of the common. There are different committees within the group and it requires a lot of commitment. There is lots going on but the common doesn't have a park keeper. The Ardagh site on the common is a project with many needs.

20 MPH introduction. The meeting was informed that the final consultation on Traffic Speed Orders has recently finished. The new speed limits will be introduced in October/November.

Issues/Priorities.

1	Concern about only tree in Selborne Road - a healthy lime tree- considered for felling. Update: Update: Tree will now be kept. Some insurance issues still to be sorted.
2	Bottom of Bishop Rd, black bins left out, recycling boxes left out and dumped rubbish appears from flats. Fridges dumped on pavement. Update: Fridges now removed
3	Inconsiderate cycling on pavements in Bishopston, in particular Gloucester Rd and Brynland Ave. Rude behaviour by cyclists cycling on pavements. Shared, non-segregated paths are not safe for older pedestrians or those with reduced mobility.
4	Muller Rd Open Space - When will land be adopted? Update: BCC Is in the process of adopting the land. Once it has done so, the consultation process on the new park will begin

Redland Neighbourhood Forum Thursday 21st February 2013

Chair: Nick Clark

Councillors: Fi Hance, Sylvia Townsend

Officers: Andrew McGrath, Lynn Parfitt, John Toy, Mark Owen.

Approximately 40 residents attended

Resident Parking Scheme. John Toy of BCC Highways talked to the meeting. The scheme in Redland isn't going to be fully implemented until February/March of 2014. The size of the Redland RPS has been significantly reduced after repeated requests from residents in the north part of the ward to do so. The scheme's northern edge will now skirt Redland Green Church. The remainder of the ward will possibly be introduced at a later date.

Once implemented, the scheme will be reviewed after 6 months and then after 2 years. The 6 month reviews tend to be for minor tweaks .

Questions: What about parking for businesses and schools? There will be 7 permits per business, including schools. Resident permits will be up to 3, at escalating costs (see BCC website for all charges). Residents can also have up to 53 visitor permits. Businesses will have different arrangements.

What about businesses run from home? Resident permits are cheaper, so that would be the cheaper option. Officer to check if businesses can have both options.

What about Redland Bowling Club? 3 hours will not be sufficient. Officer to check on details.

Allotments in the area? Many users need their cars to take equipment, and they spend much more than 3 hours at a time there. If they are not permit holders, they will have to pay along with everyone else.

What about health/careworkers? They will have permits that cover them for all RPS areas in the city. There is a charge.

Redland Green. John Tarlton of Redland Green Community Group, gave a short presentation about the group's ideas for the Green. They have many plans and ideas, including litter reduction, play equipment, hedge and tree planting, defending the Green against poor developments.

The group's consultations have been broadly in line with the BCC consultation about expenditure of the Parks Stimulus Funding awarded to the Green.

The group has also received Well Being funding to plant a meadow.

Mark Owen of BCC Parks, then spoke to the meeting. The play ground work now has a designer in place. The work is likely to begin on the playground refurbishment next spring. The money needs to be spent/committed by the end of march 2014.

Other updates. The meeting was updated on the coming introduction of the 20mph speed limit. This speed will cover the whole of Redland, including Whiteladies Road. Introduction will begin in October/November.

Students. Liz Kew handed out the leaflets that have been produced to help neighbours welcome students (particularly around the Chandos Road area) and to deal with any issues arising from their presence. Making an active effort to talk to student and welcome them has been shown to have a good impact on relations during the academic year.

The universities give lots of support. They respond very quickly to calls. A website has been launched where you can log problems and follow their progress. The university security teams will also come out if there's a problem. Liz handed out copies of the information sheets that have been produced. These contain lots of very useful information for residents and students.

Police update.




The new PCSO was introduced – Will...

Very low recent incidence of car crime. Flyposting tends to increase in the Autumn, as the students arrive back./ Keeping an eye on this. Please report it a.s.a.p. if you see it being done. There's a week of action from the 23rd October on flyposting. We need as many people as possible to report.

Issues/Priorities:

1	Hedges and Epicormic growth at address on Tyne Rd waste bins recycling boxes and food boxes left on the pavement.
2	Waste bins recycling boxes and food bins left on the pavement. Redland Road, Hartington and Ermleet Rd
3	Overgrown hedges and pavement and parking at Shadwell road.
4	Lorry driving across grass collecting rubbish and poo by the children's play area on Redland Green. Can they not use the road?
5	Wood chippings around wood trees in Redland Green creating mess by the church.
6	Ice cream van parking on the hard surface by the play area of Redland Green – fumes and noise nuisance. Where else can he park?
7	Redland Green – the old stone wall at the rear of the park. Will it be maintained?
8	Trees at back of Bowling Green overhanging Club House – sap dropping/leaves etc.
9	Where will there be sites for parking metres? Can Councillors find out sites early?
10	Can First Bus have more space for wheelchairs?

2. Future meeting dates

	Meeting round 2 21013/14	Meeting round 3 2013/14	Meeting round 4 2013/14
Neighbourhood Partnership / Committee	7.00pm Monday 14 th October Redland Green School	7.00pm Monday 20 th January Venue tbc	7.00pm Monday 24 th March Venue tbc
Neighbourhood Partnership Pre meeting	9.00am Friday 4 th October Brunel House	4.00pm Monday 13 th January Venue tbc	5.00pm Monday 17 th March Venue tbc
Informal Neighbourhood Partnership meeting	5.00pm Tuesday 3 rd Sept Brunel House	7.00pm Tuesday 26 th Nov Brunel House	
			
Bishopston Forum	7.00pm Tuesday 10 th Sept Ashley Down Primary School	7.00pm Tuesday 10 th Dec Glos CCC	7.00pm Tuesday 11 th Feb Venue tbc
Cotham Forum	7.00pm Thursday 5 th Sept St Peter's & Paul's Primary	7.00pm Thursday 5 th Dec Colston's Primary School	7.00pm Thursday 13 th Feb Venue tbc
Redland Forum	7.00pm Thursday 12 th Sept RGS	7.00pm Tuesday 3 rd Dec Redland Bowling Club	7.00pm Thursday 20 th Feb Venue tbc

3. Budget carry forwards to 2014/15

All NPs have been notified that unspent/unallocated Well Being funds, Clean and Green budget, and Communications budget cannot be carried forward to 2014/15.

The purpose of this decision, particularly with regard to the Well Being funds, is to encourage the NPs to manage their budgets better and to plan their expenditure over the course of the year.

Prior to this NP, the following amounts are currently held in each budget:

Well Being: **£17, 019.74** (start of year amount £30,569.74)

Communications: **£900.00** (start of year amount £1,000.00)

Clean and Green **£1,095.00** (start of year amount £1,500.00)*

** Request for spend of remaining £1095.00 of Clean & Green currently with the councillors, as per previous NP agreement. This request is for a painting project on the wall of the scout hut on Muller Road. If agreed, it will be match-funded by money from the Well Being award to street scene projects at the June 2013 NP meeting. If available, an update will be provided to the meeting.*

The NP is asked to **note** this decision and consider how it can best plan its expenditure to avoid ending the financial year with unspent/unallocated funds in these budgets. After this NP meeting there are two further NPs at which expenditure decisions can be made.

The NP is also asked to note that as of Monday 16th September 2013, all expenditure from the Communications budget is required to be signed off by the BCC 'Pay Panel'. This is a panel of senior officers who will adjudicate on all expenditure requests. This budget isn't strictly a devolved budget but expenditure is always agreed by the Communications and Engagement Group. The turnaround of requests to the pay panel is approximately 2 weeks.

4. Devolved services update

S106 update

Bishopston, Cotham and Redland Neighbourhood Partnership				
Devolved Section 106 monies held as at 31 August 2013				
Permission / Site / S106 Code	Contact Officer	Current Contribution Value	Date to be Spent / Committed by	Purpose of Contribution
Parks				
10/04509 / Redland House, Redland Hill, Redland / ZCD...A04	Richard Fletcher (Parks Operations Manager)	£4,617.48	28 Sep 16	The provision off-site replacement tree planting in the vicinity of the development
10/00101 / 148 to 156 Gloucester Road, Bishopston / ZCD...A37	Richard Fletcher (Parks Operations Manager)	£19,384.49	11 Jan 17	The provision of improvements to Parks and Open Spaces within one mile of 148 to 156 Gloucester Road (Funding allocated on 22 October 2012 to Horfield Common Childrens Play Ground and will be drawn down as the scheme progresses)
00/02850 / City of Bristol College Site, Ashley Down / ...SB18	Richard Fletcher (Parks Operations Manager)	£83,632.24	26 Jul 18	The provision of a Children's Play Area on the public open space behind Muller House in a location and to a specification to be agreed with the developer (Persimmon)
Other				
00/02850 / City of Bristol College Site, Ashley Down Road, Ashley Down / ZCD...944	John Bos (Community Buildings Officer)	£64,377.73	19 Jul 15	The provision of improvements to community facilities in the vicinity of the City of Bristol College Site (Funding allocated on 3 September 2012 to Scout Hut on Williamson Road and will be drawn down once scheme commences)

Local Traffic Schemes

Please see the attached Report from Highways

Clean and Green

The BCR NP Clean and Green budget is £1,500 for 2013/14. The budget has so far committed **£405** for 3 Community Payback sessions and some associated plants. This will leave £1,095 for the remainder of the year (see section 3 above).

5. Update on the Neighbourhood Partnership Review

Following the completion of the Neighbourhood Partnership Review in April 2013 and the analysis of the review findings which were taken to the June round of Neighbourhood Partnership meetings, the Neighbourhood Partnership team has started the practical work of crafting the change proposals for strengthening Neighbourhood Partnerships and enhancing their ability to get things done.

We had originally planned to have some early conversations about this work with representatives of NPs during the summer, but as you will be aware, there is a great deal of work happening within the Council around how we manage the significant budget pressures moving forward and how the Council will work in the future, therefore this work has been delayed.

As it is important that any changes proposed to how the Neighbourhood Partnerships work will fit with the new organisational direction and structure, we have had to suspend our original timetable for completing our work until we know more about what the organisation will look like in the future.

It is our hope that we will be better placed to bring our change proposals to a wider audience in mid to late October.

6. South Gloucestershire Cribbs Patchway New Neighbourhood

Statement on upcoming consultation on SPD to share with NPs

As the NP may be aware, a significant housing and infrastructure development has begun on Bristol's northern border. The development will eventually result in thousands of new homes being built on and around the (now closed) Filton Airport. Whilst this development is wholly in South Gloucestershire it will have a profound effect on Bristol, particularly north Bristol. Traffic volumes coming in to Bristol will increase as will the use of north Bristol facilities.

South Gloucestershire Officers are working with Officers from Bristol City Council, and are trying to confirm a programme for public engagement covering both the new neighbourhood development framework Supplementary Planning Document and individual developer proposals. The programme is influenced by decisions on

the Core Strategy for which the Inspector's report is now expected in mid-November. Engagement is likely to include informal drop-in events in the autumn and a period (six weeks) of formal consultation on the SPD starting in the New Year. Further details, dates and venues for drop in events will be advised shortly. As soon as this information is available, it will be communicated to the NP.

7. Bristol European Green Capital 2015

Bristol was awarded the title of European Green Capital 2015 in June 2013. Only five other cities have received this prestigious award and Bristol is the first UK city to have held the title.

The award was given to Bristol because of its good track record of environmental improvements and its ambitious plans for more. Overall Bristol residents have the greenest lifestyles of any major UK city:

- More walk and cycle to work improving their health and reducing congestion,
- They produce less waste and recycle more,
- They have the lowest home energy bills,
- They enjoy Bristol's many green spaces, and
- Thousands are taking part in community and green initiatives making the city a better place to live.

Winning this award is an opportunity to improve the quality of life in Bristol and to create local jobs. During 2015 Bristol will hold a series of events and activities to celebrate the award with the planning starting this autumn. Ideas include:

- Holding exciting community events that everyone can take part in;
- Funding local projects that make a difference to the environment such as every primary school child planting a tree
- Hosting high profile international visits promoting Bristol and our businesses to create local jobs.

What we would like from Neighbourhood Partnerships?

We would like Neighbourhood Partnerships to start thinking about how they would like to celebrate Bristol being the European Green Capital in 2015.

Do you have any events or activities planned that can incorporate a green theme? What projects and initiatives would you like to start in 2015 that can create improvements in the quality of life long after the year ends?

We would like to establish a Neighbourhood Partnership working group to bring together ideas for events and activities to ensure that the 2015 programme serves every community and ask that the partnership nominate one member to take part in this.

If you would like to hear more about the Award and how you can get involved contact Alex Minshull, Sustainable City Manager – alex.minshull@bristol.gov.uk

8. Quality Of Life in Your Neighbourhood – Survey

The latest Quality of Life Report (2012) is now available. It brings together views from approximately 5,000 residents on quality of life issues annually.

Indicators collected with the survey help us:

- track changes in the quality of life in your neighbourhood
- target resources to the areas that most need it
- flag up local problems e.g. rise in neighbourhood noise
- provide evidence for funding bids

The NP may not be entirely surprised to note from the report that generally, residents' views of their quality of life in the BCR area are higher than the average for the city. Examples of where residents feel less satisfied than the city average include bus services, perceptions of crime and ASB, and traffic congestion and pollution.

Quality of Life is reported annually and the full set of statistics with maps and 8-year trends 2005-2015 are also available at <http://profiles.bristol.gov.uk/>