



**Bishopston, Cotham and Redland  
Neighbourhood Partnership**

**7.00pm On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

**At North Bristol Sixth Form Centre, Charnwood House, Cotham Park,  
Bristol**

**Present:**

**Ward Councillors**

Martin Fodor – Redland

Fi Hance – Redland

Neil Harrison – Cotham (in the Chair for Neighbourhood Committee Items)

Anthony Negus - Cotham

Daniella Radice - Bishopston

**Members of the Partnership**

Alison Bromilow, Redland and Cotham Amenities Society

Nick Clark, Local Resident (in the Chair)

Roger Gimson, Sustainable Redland

Gavin Spittlehouse, Sustainable Bishopston

Liz Kew, Neighbourhood Watch Representative

Lesley Welch, Equalities Representative

Keith Rundle, Avon and Somerset Police

**Bristol City Council Officers**

Mark Sperduty, Area Manager (Transport)

Andrew McGrath, Area Co-ordinator

Matthew Jones, Neighbourhood Officer

Jeremy Livitt, Democratic Services Section

**Other Attendees Presenting Agenda Items**

Clive Stevens (Agenda Item 7) – Chair of the Bristol Tree Forum

**Other Attendees who signed the Attendance List or made Public Forum  
Statements (organisation represented where indicated)**

Jeremy Birch

Robin Jones

Charlotte Thomas

Zanna Wheeler

Mark Rowe

Ray Merchant

## **Apologies for Absence**

Councillor Tim Malnick  
Simon Baines – Business Representative  
Jenny Hoadley – Bishopston Society

### **26 Welcome, Introductions and Apologies for Absence (Agenda Item 1)**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were noted (see above).

### **27 Minutes of the Neighbourhood Partnership (including Neighbourhood Committee) held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2014 (Agenda Item 2)**

**Resolved – that the above minutes be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair:**

- (1) That, in the membership list, the reference next to Neil Harrison be altered to read “in the Chair for the Neighbourhood Committee only”**
- (2) That, in the membership list, the words “for the Neighbourhood Partnership items” next to Nick Clark, be deleted**
- (3) That the final sentence in the section on Matters Arising relating to microphones be altered to read “She stressed that venues should only be used if they were accessible to all members of the public regardless of disability.”**
- (4) That the word “forms” in the Matters Arising relating to the Festival Report be altered to read “forums”**
- (5) That the second and third sentences in Minute Number 19 (Green Capital Grants) be altered to read “He confirmed that a Small Sub Group had been set up to administer the process, with decisions to be made at the next Neighbourhood Partnership on Monday 26th January 2015. It was agreed to have a workshop for potential projects on Thursday 13th November.”**
- (6) That the date of the next meeting be altered to read “Monday 26th January 2015”**

**Action: Jeremy Livitt to make necessary amendments.**

### **28. Declarations of Interest – Neighbourhood Committee Members (Agenda Item 3)**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **29. Public Forum (Agenda Item 4)**

There were 2 Public Forum statements as follows. It was agreed that each should be considered in relation to their respective Agenda Items to which they relates.

## **30. Devolved Transport Budgets 2014/15 (Agenda Item 5)**

The Committee noted a Public Forum statement from Mark Rowe on pedestrian improvements at the Halsbury Road/Cairns Road junction.

Mark Sperduty introduced this report. He pointed out that the approval of traffic schemes operated on a 3 Year Programme with one scheme per year. He drew members' attention to 3 schemes that were recommended for 2014/15, with a suggestion that two were allocated for implementation and one for design purposes, as well as a provisional programme for 2015/16 and 2016/17. In addition, a paper was tabled which set out details of outstanding traffic schemes and the current situation concerning them.

In discussing these schemes, Partnership members made the following comments:

- (1) The scheme in the Cotham ward needed to be given the highest priority as they were linked to 2 schools within the ward that would be opening for 2015/16;
- (2) A great deal of correspondence had been received by Redland Ward Councillors concerning the need for the scheme at the Halsbury Road/Cairns Road Junction. Evidence had been gathered by local residents through Speed Watch concerning this junction;
- (3) It was extremely important to test measures as much as possible during the design phase to assess their impact, rather than purely being focused on an engineering solution;

Mark Sperduty confirmed that it was hoped it might be possible to obtain further resources in the next 18 months for these schemes. However, in the meantime, resources were very limited.

Councillor Neil Harrison referred to the current schemes and requested that further information be provided on the following:

- (a) Scheme RS11024 – Feasibility Study (Possible Junction Improvement. Archfield Grove joined with Cotham Grove);

- (b) Appendix 1 of the Report (Traffic Issues Considered by the Transport Working Group) – Items 17 and 21 – Kensington Road/Brighton Road (HGV Access Issues and Aberdeen Road/Whiteladies Road – Pedestrian Improvements) – a report needed to be brought back

**Action: Mark Sperduty to investigate and report back**

It was moved by Councillor Hance, seconded by Councillor Harrison and upon being put to the vote it was:

**Resolved (unanimously) by the Neighbourhood Committee – that the following 3 local traffic schemes be approved for 2014/15:**

**Cotham Brow/Redland Road Mini-Roundabout (Cotham) – Pedestrian Improvements (Implementation)**

**Halsbury Road/Cairns Road Junction (Redland) – Pedestrian Improvements (Implementation)**

**Sommerville Road (Bishopston/Redland) – Traffic Calming/Pedestrian Improvements (Design)**

**Action: Mark Sperduty**

### **31 Recommendations for the Allocation of the Green Capital Fund (Agenda Item 6)**

Roger Gimson introduced this report which set out recommendations for funding from the Green Capital Fund. It was noted that the decisions on each of these applications was a decision for the Neighbourhood Partnership as a whole. This applied to all Neighbourhood Partnership meetings.

The applicant in respect of Heatview (Bristol Friends of the Earth) was in attendance to ask that the Partnership award the full amount requested to his organisation rather than the partial funding which had been recommended. He explained that there was sufficient information available from data to demonstrate its success.

Roger Gimson drew members' attention to the concerns he had raised in his report about the suggestion that volunteering levels could be used as a criterion for funding eligibility in the future.

**Resolved (10 For, 0 against, 2 abstentions) –**

- (1) that the following schemes recommended by the Green Capital Fund Panel (GCFP) be approved by the Neighbourhood Partnership as follows:
- (a) Bristol Friends of the Earth – BCR Heatview: £2000 (without conditions subject to confirmation that the appellant produces evidence satisfactory to the GCFP to demonstrate successful data gathering, processing and website presentation of results);
  - (b) Friends of Horfield Common – Horfield Common Edible Garden: £703
  - (c) Friends of St Andrews Park – Perennial Wild Flower Meadow: £1519
  - (d) Friends of Horfield Common – Horfield Pond Improvement Project: £1973
  - (e) University of Bristol Student Union – Love Where You Live, Cotham: £2875 (£1500 to be released initially to show what could be achieved in some sample gardens, with conditions requiring the project to demonstrate significant potential involvement of students and non-student residents by Spring 2015, thereby allowing release of a further £1375 to support planting + a report to be submitted by 1st May 2015 on the expected final number of participants and how sample gardens have improved)
  - (f) Golden Hill Community Garden – The Golden Hill Community Garden: £1370
  - (g) that the following applications be refused – Sustainable Redland, Gloucestershire Cricket and Soil Association
- (2) that Bristol City Council be requested to note the Neighbourhood Partnership's view that volunteering levels should not be used as a criterion for funding eligibility in the future.

**Action: (1) Roger Gimson/Andrew McGrath, (2) Roger Gimson**

## **32 Tree Report (Agenda Item 7)**

Clive Stevens introduced this item on behalf of the Neighbourhood Partnership Tree Team.

The NP was advised that £793 of allocated small grants money will be carried forward into 2015/16 year. They were also reminded that decisions for spending in 2015/16 will need to be made before the end of the 2014/15 Financial Year (ie at Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 NP meeting), including the possible planting of replacement trees at sites on Blackboy Hill identified on a map circulated to NP members.

During discussion, it was noted that there were a number of options that residents within a NP area could use to develop its tree programme, including various residents in a street getting together to fund a scheme(s), obtaining commercial sponsorship and providing memorial street trees for an area. Whilst it was noted that the NP should ideally be looking at ways in which trees could be planted in areas where they did not currently exist, there were funding limitations which resulted in the need to concentrate on replacement trees.

**Resolved – that £793 of allocated well-being fund money be brought forward into 2015/16 and the 25 locations also be noted in Appendix 1, together with the 13 or so locations in Appendix 2.**

**Action: Andrew McGrath/Clive Stevens (Andrew McGrath to ensure it is included on the Agenda for Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 NP meeting.**

### **33 Bishopston, Cotham and Redland Neighbourhood Partnership Plan (Agenda Item 8)**

Alison Bromilow introduced this report. She explained that there were a large number of priorities for the NP and stated that the report had drawn all of the key aims and aspirations into a Plan. Following further discussions via Informal NPs and Neighbourhood Forums, a report would come back to the 23<sup>rd</sup> March NP for a formal decision on a final version.

During discussion on this issue, it was noted that one of the key issues to address was that of problems with student properties. A Kite mark system had been set up with both Universities to ensure landlords were appropriately accredited. However, enforcing waste disposal arrangements properly continued to be challenging. It was, however, noted from discussions with officers that there would be much greater penalties in future.

**Resolved – that Neighbourhood Partnership members be requested to make any comments on the NP Plan via the website or to Andrew McGrath and Nick Clark and via appropriate other bodies (ie Neighbourhood Forums) prior to a final decision being made at the next BCR NP on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015.**

## **34 Boundary Review of Neighbourhood Partnership Needs (Agenda Item 9)**

In Jenny Hoadley's absence, Lesley Welch introduced this report concerning the draft boundary recommendations. It was noted that the consultation period would end on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015. An additional report was tabled which set out the views of a number of members of the Neighbourhood Partnership on the proposals and provided examples of various recommendations which could be made to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

The NP noted that it was proposed to discuss these proposals in detail at a further meeting to be held prior to the 16<sup>th</sup> February and produce a finalised proposal which would be circulated to all NP members. A number of the key elements of the recommendations were indicated, including:

- (1) Any final proposal should reflect the communities and identities within the BCR NP area, although some of the current proposals would undermine this
- (2) Most of the Horfield communities should be located within 1 ward, as proposed

Members noted the statement from Clive Stevens which had been received in respect of this item and which drew attention to some issues raised in Jenny Hoadley's report, as well as making some additional points such as:

- (3) It was important to retain boundaries which encouraged volunteers for communities to come forward, whilst current proposals would result in the members of the Cotham and Redland Amenities Society being split into two;
- (4) High Streets would receive more support from their local communities if they remained within one NP rather than being split.

During discussion, some NP members disagreed with the view that High Streets should never be split between NP areas and noted that, in some cases, shared arrangements could work. It was noted that the number of Councillors per ward could also change.

There was concern that the Commission would adopt an approach of insisting that voters were equalised in each ward across the city and that, therefore, key themes about communities and identities would not be addressed in the final decision. It was agreed that the NP should nevertheless set out its views and the key principles that it felt should be adopted.

**Resolved (7 for, 0 against, 2 abstentions) –**

**(1) That the partnership makes a submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England setting out its views on the proposed boundary changes (including a map) which reflects the Commission's own standards as follows:**

- (a) reflecting community interests and identities;**
- (b) considering identifiable boundaries which are either natural or constructed;**
- (c) helping the Council deliver effective and convenient local government;**
- (d) maintaining the principle that community assets (ie green spaces, retail areas) are ideally within one ward or at most shared with a second one.**

**(2) That the content of the submission is prepared at a special informal meeting of the NP, drawing on issues outlined in this paper and comments made at this meeting – which will be circulated to all NP members prior to the final submission to the Boundary Commission by Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

**Action: Andrew McGrath – to arrange meeting involving Jenny Hoadley, Lesley Welch, Nick Clark and any others as appropriate**

**35 Bishopston Cotham Redland Neighbourhood Partnership Constitution (Agenda Item 10)**

Roger Gimson introduced this report setting out the proposed new constitution. He stated that it was proposed to take this for discussion to the next round of Neighbourhood Forums for discussion and on the website, following which any comments received would be incorporated into a final set of proposals for approval at Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 BCR NP meeting.

Nick Clark thanked Roger for the work he had carried out on this document on behalf of the NP.

**Resolved – that the proposed constitution of the BCR NP be approved for consultation as appropriate, including the subsequent round of Neighbourhood Forums and via comments received through the website, prior to a final proposal being submitted to the next BCR NP on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.**

**Action: Roger Gimson/Andrew McGrath (for submission to the 23/03/25 NP meeting)**



## 36 Neighbourhood Co-ordinator's Report (Agenda Item 11)

The Neighbourhood Co-ordinator introduced this report. During discussion, the following comments in respect of each of the items listed:

**Updates From the Last Forums** – These were noted.

**Proposed Meeting Schedule for Remainder of 2014/15 and 2015/16** – Dates were approved as set out on Page 67 of the report with the exception of the proposed Super Forum which is likely to be changed to Saturday 19th September to avoid a clash with Bristol Open Doors. **Action: Andrew McGrath**

**Grounds Maintenance Contract** – there has been a delay in the process. It was proposed to bring back a detailed proposal to the 26th March NP meeting. **Action: Andrew McGrath**

**Devolved Services Update** – Officers needed to progress these schemes as soon as possible to avoid it failing to meet the required timescales and being lost. **Action: Andrew McGrath to speak to relevant officers.**

**Clean and Green** – Decisions on spending needed to be made by the end of the financial year (ie at 23rd March 2015 meeting). **Action: Andrew McGrath to ensure that a report is submitted to the next meeting**

**Small Grants (formerly Well Being Fund)** – There was an extra round of grants being awarded, closing date at Saturday 31st January 2015. At the request of Martin Fodor, Andrew McGrath agreed to add additional information circulated to website and include as a possible piece of project work for the Super Forums and a the City Wide Event **Action: Andrew McGrath**

**Non-Devolved Section 106 Funding** – This was noted.

**City-Wide Event – 7th February 2015** – Anyone who wants to attend should advise Andrew McGrath **Action: Andrew McGrath**

## 37 Any Other Business – Travel West (Agenda Item 11)

The NP noted details of this organisation which were circulated, in addition to their website on [www.travelwest.info](http://www.travelwest.info) for any further information. **Action: All NP Members.**

## **38 Date of Next Meeting (Agenda Item 12)**

Following the earlier decision under Agenda Item 11, the next meeting was confirmed for 7pm on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 – venue TBC

**Action: Andrew McGrath**