



**AGENDA ITEM NO: 3**

**MEETING OF THE CABOT, CLIFTON AND CLIFTON EAST  
NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP  
26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2011  
THE PAVILION, 1 HANNOVER QUAY, BRISTOL BS1 5JE**

**PRESENT:**

**Members of Partnership**

Councillor Woodman and Councillor Dr. Wright (Cabot)  
Councillor Blythe and Councillor Janke (Clifton)  
Councillor Cook and Councillor Martin (Clifton East)  
Wendy Pollard - Richmond Terrace Resident's Association (RTRA)  
Malcolm Baker – Oakfield Residents Association  
Keith Rogerson – Oakfield Residents Association  
Anne White - resident  
Pauline Allen - Kingsdown Conservation Group/Ashley House  
Community Liaison Group (KCG/AHCLG)  
John Frenkel – Kingsdown Conservation Group  
John Rippon – Equalities Representative  
Maggie Shapland - Clifton and Hotwells Improvement Society (CHIS)  
Sharon Baker - Clifton and Hotwells Improvement Society (CHIS)  
Julian Jones – Cabot Forum Co-Chair  
Ben Appleby – Cabot Forum Co-Chair  
Inspector Keith Rundle – Avon and Somerset Police

**Bristol City Council Officers**

Terry Bullock – Highways and Traffic Manager (tel: 0117 90 36843)  
Nick Christo - Area Co-ordinator (07585 909030)  
Gary Collins – Service Manager Planning (tel: 0117 92 23762)  
Lorna Heaysman – Local Neighbourhood Officer (tel: 0117 90 36441)  
Patricia Jones - Democratic Services Officer (tel: 0117 92 22883)  
Stuart Pattison – Community Confidence Manager (tel: 0117 35 25249)

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

## **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Janke, Dennis Gornall, Fraser Bridgeford, Nicolette Vincent and Rosemary Chamberlin.

## **3. PUBLIC FORUM**

The NP heard from Ray Smith regarding the new 506 Bus Service. It was suggested the service would make better economic sense if it was adjusted to connect with the 505 service and take in an additional loop from the CREATE centre, crossing the Cumberland Basin bridge into Hotwell Road and stopping at Dowry Square.

The response from the Executive Member to the statement submitted previously by Dennis Gornall was made available at the meeting.

The statement from Nicolette Vincent regarding abuse of open space was noted. It was agreed that it should be referred for comment to Councillor Gary Hopkins, Executive Member for Targeted Improvements.

Maggie Shapland referred to previous concerns regarding the proliferation of commercial and domestic bins. It was reported that this had been identified as a problem by the Environmental Work Group and would be addressed as part of their action plan. It was noted that May Gurney had also been asked to specifically look at a number of roads including Belle Vue and Caledonia Place. Community Stewards were also being provided to engage via the forums.

**AGREED** – that the statement regarding abuse of open space be referred for comment to Councillor Gary Hopkins, Executive Member for Targeted Improvements.

## **4. MINUTES - 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2011**

**AGREED** – that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabot, Clifton and Clifton East Neighbourhood Partnership held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

## **5. FORUM UPDATE**

Ben Appleby provided the following update for the Cabot Forum:-

- Rubbish collection – a particular problem on Park Street and the Centre for all categories of waste. Traders storing waste on the street was an enforcement issue because the waste was not being collected frequently enough. Waste generated by fast food outlets and litter in parks were also highlighted. The forum was looking at ways to make traders more responsible for the waste they generate.
- Street drinking – also highlighted at the Ashley Forum. It was reported that the policing of Stokes Croft had changed and Police from Cabot were now responsible for both.
- Residents parking scheme – lots of positive feedback from Kingsdown residents. It was noted that residents were keen to progress a scheme for the Redcliffe area.
- A Board guidelines were welcomed,

Lorna Heaysman provided an update for the Clifton Forum:-

- Attendance numbers remained constant at 40-45. An event to raise awareness was recently held at Clifton Down Shopping Centre. Work to improve communication and promote the forums was on-going. Attention was drawn to an update note at the back of the room.
- The Clifton and Cabot Forums would next meet on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> January 2012 respectively. The new Chair of the Clifton Forum is Richard Whitburn.
- A St Johns Residents Association initiative to meet and recruit local students was described as very positive. Similar events had taken place in Cabot.
- It was noted that disabled access to the New Hall Clifton was a problem and required attention.

## **6. COMMUNITY PROJECT UPDATE**

### **Cumberland Piazza**

Following a successful event in June and exhibition at the Create Centre, an architect had now been engaged to deal with the pre-application planning stage. A formal planning application in the new year was considered to be a reasonable target. Overall, progress was slow and Tree Bristol had reneged on a commitment to supply trees.

## **The Highbury Plaza Project - St Michaels Hill**

A two page summary of the feasibility study exploring improvements between Tyndall Avenue and Tyndall's Park Road was made available at the meeting. The NP heard that the proposals would revolutionise space, improve safety by slowing traffic and make the area a more social space.

It was noted that supportive discussions had taken place with BCC highways, local councillors, traders and the university. However the cost of the project was significant, approximately £1 million. A meeting would be held at Senate House on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2011 to discuss the principles behind the project and the feasibility of moving forward.

The successful work undertaken previously by the architect behind the project was acknowledged and there was consensus that the area would benefit from such a scheme. However it was agreed that the estimate of £1 million was perhaps excessive and the fine details of the scheme were needed to get a reasonably accurate estimate of the costs involved.

It was noted that BCC did not have a budget for the project. The feasibility of incremental funding or using Section 106 money was briefly discussed.

**AGREED** - an accurate estimate of the cost of the project to be provided for the next meeting.

## **Bear Pit Improvement Group**

The NP received an update on the community led initiative to improve the area. It was noted that BCC had appointed a designated officer to work with volunteers to progress the project.

Improvements to date included a Saturday flea market, bulb planting, and art and notice boards in the subway. Long term plans included a cafe and food hall area, anticipated cost £67,000, which the group considered could be done in stages/incrementally.

Further information can be found on the websites [www.the-bear-pit.org.uk](http://www.the-bear-pit.org.uk) and [www.qype.co.uk](http://www.qype.co.uk)

Councillor Wright added that the benefits of this piece of work could not be overstated. It was noted that an application for funding from devolved Section 106 money would be made in the near future.

## **7. UPDATE ON TRANSPORT ISSUES**

The NP heard from Terry Bullock Highways and Traffic Manager:-

### **Greater Bristol Bus Network**

£76 million in government funding for the Bristol area has been ring-fenced to improve reliability and journey times of buses to increase usage and improve traffic. The funding must be spent by March 2012. The final phase of the statutory consultation for Whiteladies Road would commence 7<sup>th</sup> November 2011.

Updating the quality of the environment was a priority and traffic improvements and visual upgrades to all bus stops had been made. Significant investment had been made in new buses and time information displays.

The NP discussed the reasons for building some bus stops out into the road and the detrimental impact on traffic. It was reported that buses needed to be close to the kerb line and build outs enable this to happen. This was only carried out in those locations where parking was at a premium. New lane markings would make the approach clearer.

Discussions were underway with various partners regarding a single integrated ticket system. Experimental schemes would be trialed to establish what works best and more information would be provided to the NP when available. (It was agreed that the system needed to recognise eligibility for concessionary fares without risking abuse).

Councillor Martin stated that build outs had not formed part of the consultation exercise and other inconsistencies in terms of what had been approved and work carried out were highlighted. It was agreed that his concerns would be taken up by TB with the relevant officers.

### **AGREED:**

1. The NP to be kept informed of developments relating to an integrated ticket system.
2. TB to follow up Sharon Baker's query concerning traffic flow along the Downs.
3. TB to refer Councillor Martin's concerns regarding consultation to the appropriate officers.

## 8. ENVIRONMENTAL WORK GROUP REPORT

A detailed written report was made available at the meeting following a meeting of the Environmental Work Group.

The Neighbourhood Committee (NC) was invited to agree the following investment priorities as recommended by the group:-

### **Parks and Open Spaces**

#### **Critical spending priorities (Table 1)**

- Victoria Square Park
- Dove Street Park
- Brandon Hill Park

#### **Gaps in provision and improving existing provision (Table 2)**

- Dove Street Park
- High Kingsdown
- Castle Park
- Brandon Hill
- Mall Gardens
- Victoria Square Park
- James Barton

#### **Specific site priorities (Table 3)**

- Dove Street Park
- High Kingsdown play area
- Castle Park
- Brandon Hill
- Mall Gardens
- Victoria Square Park
- James Barton
- Clifton Hill Open Space
- Park Place
- Fremantle Square
- Harbourside sites
- Other sites

It was pointed out that the recommendations were brought forward on the basis that priorities were to be reviewed and reassessed over time. It was recognised that accurate costings were essential to ensure projects were appropriately prioritised.

## **Section 106**

### **Spring Hill Conservation Improvements (SHCI)**

It was noted that the scheme had a budget allocation of £27,000 and sought financial assistance of £17,000 to address a shortfall in funding to complete the scheme as set out in detail in Appendix B.

### **Bear Pit Improvement Group Project**

It was noted that the group supported the principle of this work and funding would be sought in the future.

## **Clean and Green**

- **King Square Bench repairs £150.00**
- **Brandon Hill Park wall repairs £500.00**
- **South Parade Gardens £1,232.00**

It was noted that South Parade Gardens was essentially a residents garden, already in receipt of funding to repair a wall. It was suggested that the application would be considered more favourably if the gardens were open to the community.

The Neighbourhood Development Officer made a request for bulbs and planting for use in Ambra Vale Community Garden on behalf of the local community. The community garden is planned to be part of the Clifton in Bloom project for 2012 as a developing community garden. £50 for 1000 bulbs was requested with a further funding request to follow for planting.

Following discussion and on being put to the vote, the Neighbourhood Committee:-

### **RESOLVED –**

- 1. That the priority list attached as Appendix A to the report and divided into three categories of high, medium and low, be endorsed by the Neighbourhood Committee.**
- 2. That the Kingsdown Conservation Group to be invited to provide the committee with details of the type of scheme that can be delivered with the funding already in place (£27,000). On receipt of this, the committee will consider if any subsidy is appropriate.**

- 3. That the applications for the King Square bench repair (£150.00) and Brandon Hill wall repair (£500.00) be approved.**
- 4. That South Parade Gardens to provide assurance in writing that the gardens would be opened to the wider community following which the application for funding will be reconsidered.**
- 5. That £50 for the purchase of 1000 bulbs for use in the Ambra Vale Community Garden be approved with a further request for planting to follow.**

## **9. ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

The NP heard from Gary Collins, Service Manager Planning in response to a statement submitted in March by Maggie Shapland. Attention was drawn to a document "Planning Enforcement Complaints 2010-2011" set out in the context of NP profiles and circulated in advance of the meeting.

It was noted that the highest density of complaints for every 251 residents were attributed to the CC&CE NP area. As a result the NP was ranked top of all complaints received for the city as a whole (18.8%), translating to a spend of £1.21 per resident on planning enforcement. The proportion of complaints where action was found to be required was 40%.

It was reported that officers were guided by adopted planning documents, and cases were prioritised on the basis of enforcement policy guidelines.

The authority was committed to a more focussed approach to the work carried out on a neighbourhood basis. Councillor Guy Poultney, Executive Members for Neighbourhoods drew attention to a cross-party venture with housing, planning and waste sections of the authority. The aim was for a more joined-up approach to enforcement generally and ultimately the appointment of a Neighbourhood Enforcement Officer as a single point of contact to coordinate planning enforcement when breaches occur.

Maggie Shapland stated that developers regularly demonstrated a general lack of care and regard for residents and traders. It was



suggested that developer issues could usefully be discussed at the next forum meeting and that a checklist for a code of conduct could be drawn up to help residents. LH agreed to have a discussion table at the next forum. It was pointed out that Clifton was the highest development area and therefore unsurprising that there were more enforcement issues.

**AGREED:**

A discussion table on developer issues to be arranged for the next Clifton Forum.

***NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE ITEMS***

**10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

**11. COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT**

The neighbourhood partnership considered a report from Jenny Dean, Community Safety Officer (agenda item no. 12) inviting councillors to agree the Community Safety Action Plan for 2011/12.

The NP received a detailed verbal report from Stuart Pattison, Community Confidence Manager, on the role and aims of the Community Safety Officer teams and the work undertaken to tackle issues involving crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour within local neighbourhoods.

Following brief discussion and on being put to the vote, the Neighbourhood Committee:-

**RESOLVED –  
that the Cabot Clifton and Clifton East Community Safety Action plan be endorsed.**

**12. DEVOLVED SERVICES REPORT INCLUDING UPDATE FROM THE AREA CO-ORDINATOR**

The neighbourhood partnership considered a report of the Area Co-ordinator (agenda item no. 11) providing a devolved services update including:-

- Minor traffic schemes
- Carriage surface dressing
- Footway resurfacing

### **A Boards**

Attention was drawn to the new A Boards guidelines attached as Appendix C to the report. Thanks were extended to John Rippon for a productive report on problem areas. With the assistance of the Highways team, work would continue with local businesses and traders to tackle problems. It was recognised that clear enforcement advice was needed.

### **Houses in Multiple Occupation – changes to planning legislation**

Planning consent was now needed to increase the capacity of a single dwelling in certain areas identified by the council. This is through the use of an Article 4 direction which removes the permitted development right that allows change of use.

### **New Waste Contractor**

May Gurney is the new contractor responsible for waste collection, street cleansing and winter maintenance with effect from November 2011. The NP was reminded of the ability to influence services and the availability of the dedicated cleansing team to carry out tasks on request.

### **Bristol in Bloom**

Officers placed on record their thanks and appreciation of the valuable work undertaken by members of the NP.

**RESOLVED – that the report be noted.**

## **13. WELLBEING REPORT**

The neighbourhood partnership considered a report of the Area Co-ordinator (agenda item no. 13) inviting the NP to note the funding approved at the last meeting, the current balance of the fund (£46,679) and the successful work carried out to date.

The NP also considered an application from St John's Residents Association for a one-off amount of £2640.00 to purchase Christmas lights and trees for Alma Vale Road. The aim of the project was to enhance the local area and attract passing trade. Match funding of £1,100 would be made available from local businesses.

It was confirmed that St. John's Residents Association would own the lights.

Following brief discussion and on being put to the vote, the Neighbourhood Committee:-

**RESOLVED –**

**(1) that the proposals and funding approved by the Neighbourhood Committee at the last neighbourhood partnership meeting be noted;**

**(2) that the current balance of the Wellbeing Fund be noted;**

**(3) that previous successful wellbeing applications/progress made be noted.**

**(4) that the application from St John's Residents Association for a one-off amount of £2640.00 to purchase Christmas lights and trees be approved.**

#### **14. MEMBERSHIP OF THE PARTNERSHIP**

The neighbourhood partnership considered a report of the Area Co-ordinator (agenda item no. 9) inviting the NP to approve the revised membership of the partnership and the roles and responsibilities of being a member of the partnership.

The NP considered the current membership set out at page 18 of the report and noted the list of organisations and groups who had expressed an interest in participating set out at page 19. It was reported that representation was limited to 1 seat but there would be facility for experts to be co-opted as required for particular items. The aim was to promote the NP across the neighbourhood area and ensure maximum flexibility with regard to membership.

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Cabot, Clifton and Clifton East Neighbourhood Partnership is to be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

(The meeting ended at 9.10pm)  
CHAIR