



AGENDA ITEM NO:3

**MEETING OF THE CABOT, CLIFTON AND CLIFTON EAST
NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP
26TH JUNE 2012
THE PAVILION, 1 HANNOVER QUAY, BRISTOL BS1 5JE**

PRESENT:

Members of Partnership

Councillor Dr. Wright (Cabot)

Councillor Blythe (Clifton)

Councillor Martin (Clifton East)

Malcolm Baker – Oakfield Residents Association

Dennis Gornall – Hotwells & Cliftonwood Community Association (HCCA)

Pauline Allen - Kingsdown Conservation Group/Ashley House

Fraser Bridgeford - Friends of Brandon Hill

Rosemary Chamberlin – Clifton and Hotwells Branch Labour Party

John Rippon – Equalities Representative

Anne White – Richmond Hill Residents Association

Mary Bannerman – Castle Park User Group

Julian Jones – Cabot Forum Co-Chair

Wendy Pollard – Richmond Terrace Residents Association

Keith Rodgeron – Oakfield Residents Association

Dennis Gornall – Hotwells & Clifton Community Association

Maggie Shapland – Clifton & Hotwells Improvement Association

Bristol City Council Officers

Nick Christo - Area Co-ordinator (07585 909030)

Lorna Heaysman -Neighbourhood Development Officer (0117 90 36441)

Ian Pagan - Democratic Services Manager (0117 92 22387)

Neil Terry – Transport Area Manager (0117 90 36824)

Richard Gwyn – Area Environment Officer (0117 35 21141)

Stuart Pattison -Community Confidence Manager (0117 35 25249)

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Clerk opened the meeting and invited members and partner representatives to introduce themselves. Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cook, Janke and Woodman.

2. NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP AGM REPORT

The Neighbourhood Partnership considered the AGM report (agenda item no. 2).

The Clerk sought nominations for Chair. It was moved and seconded and agreed that Cllr Martin be Chair of the Committee and that Fraser Bridgeford be Chair of the Partnership.

Mr Bridgeford indicated during his term as Partnership Chair, he would like to work on making the Partnership more representative of the area which it served. In that connection he would welcome any suggestions coming forward which should be made to himself, Councillor Martin or via the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator.

The following matters were raised in further general discussion;

- Anne White discussed whether it was appropriate for parts of the city centre to fall within the remit of the Partnership and for local works to have to be funded by the Partnership, when footfall and the need for repairs and maintenance works was much greater than in other areas on account of local and regional significance of the centre which included Broadmead;
- If the Partnership was to continue to incorporate the centre, then the Broadmead Forum should be invited to have a seat on the Partnership;
- Councillor Martin indicated that discussions were taking place at councillor level about whether the commercial centre should be separated from the Partnership, and a statement had been submitted to the Executive Member, Councillor Poultney in this regard. He doubted whether there could be any rapid change however a review of the situation might be possible post November;

- Mr Bridgeford commented on the need for action notes following meetings of the Partnership. He was concerned that issues that were raised at meetings were getting lost sight of and things which people undertook to do were not getting done ;

Action : Democratic Services to include action notes on minutes

- In response to questions about the budget and spending, Councillor Wright explained that whilst certain budgets had been delegated to the neighbourhood level there was a legal requirement for councillors to be responsible for spending decisions. The way in which such decisions would be taken was that the councillor committee would listen to the views of the other partners (influencing) and would then make decisions taking into consideration what has been said. This process was described in the Committee's constitution;
- Councillor Martin indicated that he was willing to consider partners requests for further devolution of powers and proposals for better engagement generally with residents, and would be happy to listen to the views which people had. He suggested that the end of July should be the deadline by which submissions should be made; he would then work through the proposals and suggestions with a view to setting an agenda for a special meeting to take place, prior to the date of the next scheduled meeting

Action : Councillor Martin / Nick Christo

RESOLVED -

- (1) that the membership of the Partnership be noted;**
- (2) that Councillor Martin be elected Chair of the Neighbourhood Committee and that Mr Fraser Bridgeford be elected Chair of the Neighbourhood Partnership, both for the current municipal year;**
- (3) that the terms of reference of the Neighbourhood Committee and the Neighbourhood Partnership be noted;**
- (4) that the powers which have been devolved to the councillors on the Partnership be noted;**
- (5) that the Partnerships budget and the financial operating framework which applies to it be noted;**

- (6) that the Environmental Working Group be re-established for 2012/13 and in addition, a Transport Sub-Group comprising Councillor Blythe, Pauline Allen, Dennis Gornall, John Rippon, Julian Jones, Nicolette Vincent and Anne White;
- (7) that a decision on whether to create other working groups be made at the next meeting;

Action : Nick Christo to discuss at next agenda briefing

- (8) That the following date for formal meetings of the Partnership during 2012/13 be agreed, meetings to commence at 7.00 pm :

22 October 2012

22 January 2013

18 March 2013

- (9) That officers compile a list of corresponding agenda briefing dates, dates for submission of reports and despatch deadlines to feed into these meetings and forward details to partners and councillors.

Action : Dem Services / Nick Christo

3. PUBLIC FORUM

The Partnership considered an item of public forum business from Anne White in relation to street trading in Queens Road.

After discussion it was :

AGREED – That representations be made to the relevant executive member for a written response - that sites in Queens Road (a) outside the flats called Richmond Heights at the corner of Park Place and Richmond Hill and (b) between University Walk westwards towards Whiteladies Road be removed from their designation as consent streets for the purpose of street trading, and become prohibited streets.

Action : Nick Christo

4. NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE ANNUAL BUSINESS REPORT

The Neighbourhood Partnership considered a report of the Area Co-ordinator (agenda item no. 3) setting out the Neighbourhood Committee Annual Business Report.

Regarding minor traffic schemes, it was noted that pedestrian handrail works at Charlotte Street and Alfred Hill had been complete along with a pedestrian dropped kerb at Westbourne Place.

Uncompleted works and the budget allocations for them would be brought forward for completion during the current year. The Traffic Officer explained that design and consultation work was undertaken in house and that the majority of delays in work were due to the workload of his Section and available staff.

Fraser Bridgeford asked that in future, all agreed schemes include a target date for their completion. The Traffic Officer undertook to provide this information but stressed that it could only be an estimate.

Action - Neil Terry

In relation to clean and green, it was noted that only some £950 out of a devolved budget of £2,250 had been spent.

After further discussion, it was :

AGREED - that the financial summaries on devolved budgets for 2011/12 be noted.

5. MINUTES - 28TH MARCH 2012

During consideration of the minutes and in response to a question from Councillor Blythe, it was reported that there had been no progress yet in relation to progressing transport specific schemes (min 14 (3) refers) but that officers would be looking at the matter shortly to determine how best to prioritise the various initiatives and a programme for delivery.

Action : Neil Terry / Nick Christo

AGREED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabot, Clifton and Clifton East Neighbourhood Partnership held on 28th March 2012 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP COMMUNITY UPDATE

A verbal update was given in relation to community initiatives. In particular ;

- Notice boards now erected at Oakfield/ St Johns
- Tree guards installed in Montague Green
- Ambra Vale East – environmental works now completed
- Southlea Road – dropped kerbs. Works yet to start. It was proposed that a dropped kerb be provided at each end of the road, to be funded from the budget for neighbourhood partnership minor works

AGREED -

To note the update and to progress the Southlea Road works in the manner now proposed.

7. NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM UPDATE

The Neighbourhood Co-ordinator introduced the item and explained that he would be compiling a progress monitoring schedule in relation to matters which had been raised at Forum meetings. This would be updated quarterly and brought to future meetings of the Partnership for scrutiny.

The current issues were :

- Littering in parks and its management and control;
- The Friends of Brandon Hill proposed bowling green area was going ahead;
- Plans for residential parking zones in Redcliffe / Brandon Hill would be progressed;

- Stokes Croft improvements – initial draft proposals had been presented and would now be worked up in more detail;
- Impact on City Centre of BRT .

Policing issues :

- Problems of urination in Oxford Place. This had been raised with the Police who had increased patrols in the area but found no specific issues;
- Cumberland Basin parking – Following complaints the Police had increased enforcement in the area and tickets had been issued to more blatant offenders. An issue locally was the narrow roads and so some parking on footways was tolerated where it facilitated movement of traffic and where it did not cause obstruction;
- Brandon Hill - incidents of solvent abuse and drug taking (cannabis). Police were working with local suppliers of solvents to prevent sales to under aged / inappropriate persons;
- Skateboarding in Hannover Square - complaints from local residents but no offences committed. Police were speaking to local residents and skate boarders. Councillor Wright made reference to the need to achieve balance as skateboarding on footways was not an offence.

8. COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Councillor Martin explained that the “councillor update” item would be on the agenda of each meeting of the Partnership in future and would provide an opportunity for the members in each ward to describe issues and initiatives and provide updates on matters which had arisen or were ongoing, since the last meeting .

Clifton East

- A petition to the Council was being prepared jointly with residents in Clifton Ward for the provision of a zebra crossing at the top of Pembroke Road.

- TA site – Waitrose were vigorously pursuing proposals to build a supermarket on the TA site and their scheme also included funding to enable the TA to locate its operation to a new site.

Clifton

- Redevelopment of Chesterfield Hospital site - the developer was holding regular public meetings which was welcomed but communication with the Nuffield Hospital Group was not good. Recently a large hoarding had been constructed around the site which did not have planning permission. This was being address through the planning process
- Pedestrianisation in Boyces Avenue – there had been complaints from some local traders who had been unaware of the project. The Council had now supplied information.

Cabot

- Councillor Wright explained that Cabot had benefited from parks funding with £1/2 M being earmarked for improvements to Castle Park. There was also £100,000 for Brandon Hill and funding available for refurbishment of a play park behind council owned flats at Dove Street. He was looking to get S106 monies to cover the cost of work in this play park in order that the parks money could be utilised for another play park improvement scheme.
- Residents in Cumberland Road had expressed their concerns about the BRT2 scheme and in particular the type of vehicles which might be used. It had originally been understood that these would be only new high tech low pollution buses although it now appeared that ordinary buses would also use the route.

NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE ITEMS

9. COMMUNITY SAFETY END OF YEAR REPORT AND PRIORITIES 2012/13

The Partnership and Committee considered the Community Safety end of year Report and Priorities 2012/13 (agenda item no. 10).

The Community Confidence Manager presented the paper and discussed the key aspirations in the delivery agreement.

Mr Bridgeford commented that he recalled there being a number of other priorities which had not been referred to in the presentation.

The Community Confidence Manager explained that the document before the Partnership was a high level summary. More detailed priorities including those discussed and agreed previously with the Partnership were all included in the work programme.

There was general satisfaction with priorities and proposed actions detailed in the paper. Councillor Blythe commented that he was particularly pleased with the work done with the university / students union and students which had strengthened relationships and co-operation, and there was now a more joined up approach to thinking.

After further discussion it was :

AGREED -

That the priorities and proposed actions described in the delivery agreement be endorsed ; that a formal report back to the Partnership on the Agreement by Safer Bristol be to the March 2013 meeting and that a progress update on the various issues identified in the paper be made to the October meeting.

Action – Stuart Pattison

10. DEVOLVED TRANSPORT SCHEMES INCLUDING 20 MPH

A report of the Area Manager, Highways and Traffic, Transport Service (agenda item no. 11) relating to the devolved transport budgets available to the Cabot, Clifton and Clifton East Neighbourhood Partnership (NP) for footway maintenance and carriageway surface dressing, was tabled

The Clerk to the meeting advised that as the item had not be submitted within the statutory 5 clear working days notice and, as the councillor committee was being asked to take a decision in relation to various issues, then the report could not be taken unless the Chair of the Committee agreed to do so, as urgent business.

Councillor Martin agreed accordingly.

Councillor Wright recalled that the footway maintenance item had been deferred at the previous meeting in order that there could be clarification about the legalities of viring moneys across devolved budgets. As there was no immediate urgency to consider the matter or the surface dressing programme and as the paperwork had been circulated at short notice, there were grounds for arguing that more time was needed for discussion. Accordingly, he moved that the report be referred to the Transport Sub-Group in the first instance to allow those discussions to take place. This was agreed.

It was pointed out that a final decision would still need to be taken by the councillor committee and it was proposed that there be a special meeting to do so.

RESOLVED:-

That the devolved transport budget report be referred initially to the Transport Sub Group for discussion and then to a special meeting of the Partnership and Committee in August, for decision making.

Action – Neil Terry / Nick Christo. Nick Christo to liaise with Dem Services regarding dates for special meting

11. ADJUSTMENTS TO CLEAN AND GREEN PROJECT FUNDING CRITERIA AND PROCESS AND CONFIRMATION OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR DECISION TAKING

The Neighbourhood Partnership and Committee considered a report of the Area Environment Officer (agenda item no. 12) concerning changes applying to the Clean and Green Fund to the end of the financial year and seeking the Partnership's view on future arrangements for decision making.

The Area Environment Officer discussed the changes made to the Clean and Green fund as described in the report

There followed a discussion about the options for making decisions about devolved clean and green funding during the year. There was general agreement that option B – to delegate legal authority to officers in Environmental and Leisure Services to make decisions, on the understanding that officers will seek councillors agreement to their proposals before committing to spend.

RESOLVED:-

- (1) that the changes which will apply to the Clean and Green fund from the date of this meeting to the end of the 2012/13 financial year be noted, and**
- (2) that in relation to decision taking on devolved clean and green spending Option B in the report be endorsed, having run & sought the proposed applications through the Environmental Working Group.**

Action – Richard Gwyn / Nick Christo

12. MAY GURNEY REPORT

RESOLVED:-

That the neighbourhood plan and arrangements generally, for working with the Council's recently appointed waste, recycling and street cleansing contractor be noted.

13. COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING

The Neighbourhood Partnership and Committee considered a report of the Area Environment Officer (agenda item no. 12) setting out details of proposed community tree planting arrangements in the Cabot, Clifton and Clifton East area.

During a general discussion about tree planting in the Partnership's area, the following is a summary of the points raised:

- Durdham Down was not within the Partnership's area therefore there was no justification for the Partnership to support planting there;
- There support for a more wide ranging planting programme across the Partnership area as opposed to being restricted to the Downs;
- There were issues in relation to dead and /or diseased trees which were in need of replacement including those situated in pavements;

- It was accepted that the viability of having a tree planting event could be at issue if planting was to be in the vicinity of highways as opposed to the relatively “safe” environment of parkland such as the Downs;
- Generally the proposals warranted more detailed discussion within the Partnership before decisions were taken. A debate in the Environment Working Group should take place in the first instance;
- It was noted that decisions would need to be taken by the end of the summer for action in the autumn planting season.

RESOLVED:-

That the proposed tree planting programme for the Partnership’s area be referred in the first instance to the Environment Sub-Group for more detailed discussion

Action – Richard Gwyn / Nick Christo

14. WELLBEING REPORT

The Neighbourhood Partnership and Committee considered a report of the Area Co-ordinator (agenda item no.13) concerning the current situation in relation to the wellbeing budget and proposals.

The position in relation to funding which had been approved by the Committee in March 2012 was noted.

In relation to the new applications for funding and specifically that submitted by the Old City Traders & Business Group, concerns were expressed ;

- About the level of financial support being requested for 13 hanging baskets;
- The partnership would wish the applicant to obtain several quotes to provide the baskets in order that it could be clear that reasonable value for money was being obtained;
- It was already somewhat late in the growing season so when would the baskets be installed ?;
- What were the ongoing arrangements for their maintenance and upkeep ?;

- The applicant needed to have it made clear that the funding – if granted, would be of a one off nature. What would be the arrangements for continuity of the floral display in future years ?

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 Wellbeing Fund be noted;**
- (3) that the application by The Point (Bristol) Management Co for a grant of £5,000 towards the cost of landscaping a triangle of hardcore land adjacent to Brunels Buttery be approved;**
- (4) that the application by Old City Traders & Business Group for a grant of £2,340 + VAT towards the cost of 13 hanging baskets to improve the streetscape be deferred for further information along the lines set out above, and**
- (5) In future, officers ensure that applicants seeking grant support attend the meeting, in order that members can ask them questions about their applications.**

Action – Nick Christo

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of the Cabot, Clifton and Clifton East Neighbourhood Partnership is to be held at 7.00 p.m. on Monday 22nd October 2012.

(The meeting ended at 9.40 pm)

CHAIR

	Date of NP	Action	Amount of money committed £	Is this action a devolved budget decision?	Does the action progress the NP action plan?	Does the action progress the Equality Duty?	To be completed by	Who generated the action? Cllrs/other NP members/public	Date completed	Completed within the agreed timescale Yes/no?	Outcome Reported to NP	Date reported to NP
1	26/6/12	That sites in Queens Road (a) outside the flats called Richmond Heights at the corner of Park Place and Richmond Hill and (b) between University Walk westwards towards Whiteladies Road be removed from their designation as consent streets for the purpose of street trading, and become prohibited streets. Send Statement to Exec Member	N/A	No	No	Yes	October 2012	NP Member	2 nd July 2012	Yes	Yes –October NP	22 nd Oct 2012
2	26/6/12	That Community Safety report back to the Partnership on the Delivery Agreement by Safer Bristol be to the March 2013 meeting and that a progress update on the various issues identified in the paper be made to the October meeting.	N/A	No	Yes	Yes	October 2012 / March 2013	NP	22 nd October 2012	Yes	Yes – October NP	22 nd October 2012

Summary

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	TOTAL 1 st April – 31 st March 2013
Number of actions	5				
Amount of funding committed	N/A				
Number of actions completed within time	5				
Number of outcomes reported to NP	5				
Number of actions generated by Cllrs	2				
Number of actions generated by other NP members	3				
Number of actions generated by the public	N/A				
Number of actions relating to devolved budget decisions	N/A				
Number of actions relating to NP action plan	4				
Number of actions relating to equalities duty	5				