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Agenda Item No: 3

Bristol City Council

Minutes of the Cabot Clifton and Clifton East Neighbourhood Partnership

Tuesday 26th January 2016 at 7.00pm

Brunel House, St George's Road, BS1 5UY

Partners Present

Councillor Simon Cook (Clifton East)

Councillor Carla Denyer (Clifton East)

Councillor Charles Lucas (Clifton/Chair of the Neighbourhood Committee)

Councillor Ani Stafford-Townsend (Cabot)

Councillor Jerome Thomas (Clifton)

Councillor Mark Wright (Cabot)

Fraser Bridgeford – Friends of Brandon Hill (Chair)

Julian Jones – 10 Unity Street Residents Association/Co-Chair Cabot Forum

Pauline Allen – Kingsdown Conservation Group/Co-Chair Cabot Forum

Dennis Gornall – Hotwells and Cliftonwood Community Association (HCCA)/Chair
Clifton/Clifton East Neighbourhood Forum

Maggie Shapland – Clifton and Hotwells Improvement Society (CHIS)

Keith Rodgeron - Oakfield Resident's Association (ORA)

Rosemary Chamberlin – Castle Park User Group/Clifton and Hotwells Labour Party

Dr Evelyn Lewis – Byron Place Resident's Association

Pat Smith - Richmond Hill Resident's Association

Officers:-

Kurt James - Neighbourhood Co-ordinator (903 7365)

Patricia Jones - Democratic Services Officer (922 2883)

Mike Lawlor – Neighbourhood Officer (352 5501)

Ian Bell – Manager Education and Skills

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http://www.bristol.gov.uk

Rolling Attendance

	23 rd June 2015	13 th October 2015 (new membership)	26 th January 2016	29 th March 2016
Ward Councillor Partners				
Simon Cook	P	P	P	
Carla Denyer	P	P	P	
Charles Lucas	P	P	P	
Ani Stafford-Townsend	A	P	P	
Jerome Thomas	P	P	P	
Mark Wright	P	P	P	
Partners				
10 Unity Street Residents Association - Julian Jones -	P	P	P	
Ambra Vale Residents Group - Kathy Stagg				
Ashley House Community Liaison Group - Paul Garner				
Avon and Somerset Police – Deborah Yeates	P	A	A	
Bearpit Improvement Group - Alan Morris				
Boathouse Residents Association - Greg Jones				
Brandon Hill Residents Association - Johnathon Hyams				

Broadmead BID – Jo Hawkins				
Byron Place Residents Association - Evelyn Lewis	P	P	P	
Cabot Cruising Club - Pat Ludwell				
Capricorn Place Residents Association				
Mary Bannerman - Castle Park Users Group	A	A		
Clifton and Hotwells Branch Labour Party - Rosemary Chamberlin	P	P	P	
Clifton and Hotwells Improvement Society – Maggie Shapland	P	P	P	
Clifton Down Community Association - David Jepson				
Clifton Hill Residents Association - Jonathan Hurford				
Clifton Village Traders – Rosie Joseland				
Cornwallis Crescent – Kathy Crossthwaite				
Crescent Resident’s Association - Sylvia Doubell/David Pomeroy				
Deanery Road Residents - Association Robin Williams				

Ilse Hambrook - Friends of Easter Garden				
Friends of Avon New Cut – Chris Hanmer -				
Friends of Brandon Hill – Fraser Bridgeford (Chair)	A	P		
High Kingsdown Residents Association – Karen Sillence				
Highbury Residents Association - Linda Ewles -	A	A		
Hotwells and Cliftonwood Community Association – Dennis Gornall	P	P	P	
Invicta Apartments – Kate Thornton				
Jacobs Wells Traders Association – Alistair Mchardy				
Jacobs Wells Community Hub – Sally Silverman				
Kingsdown Conservation Group – Pauline Allen	P	P	P	
Mall Gardens Resident’s Association – Toni Brown		P		
Oakfield Resident’s Association – Keith Rodgerson/Richard Barnes	P	A	P	
Philps House Resident’s Association – Maira Stylianou				
Pooles Wharf Resident’s Association – Trevor George/Erica				

Thomas				
Redcliffe West Residents Association – Jerry Woods				
Richmond Hill Residents Association – Pat Smith	A	P		
Richmond Terrace Resident’s Association – Wendy Pollard	P	A		
Rownham Mead Management Company – Karen Larwood				
St Michael’s Hill Traders Association – Jay Jethwa				
University Of Bristol Union – Jemma Harford				
WUF Redcliffe Resident’s Association – Diane Rowland/Tom Cooke	P	P		
Residents interested in NP involvement: Jillian Ewings		A		
Laura Lafave		A		
Tony Miles		A		
John Morison		A		
Sam Saunders		A		
Ray Smith		A		
Christine Townsend	P	P	A	

The meeting included a power point presentation summarising the agenda items and reports. A copy of the slides is included in the Minute Book.

1. Welcome and Introductions

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

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Wendy Pollard

3. Minutes – 23rd June 2015

Resolved - that the Minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Declarations of Interest

Fraser Bridgeford – Treasure, Friends of Brandon Hill

Dennis Gornall – Chair, Hotwells and Cliftonwood Community Association

5. Public Forum

Statements were circulated in advance of the meeting. The NP heard from:-

Evelyn Lewis (Byron Place Resident's Association) - response to the development of the former St Mary's Hospital site

The primary concerns of BPRA were set out in detail in the statement. Whilst the principle of redeveloping the site was considered acceptable, residents wished to draw attention to the following areas:-

- Potential elimination of the Brandon Hill conservation corridor and other important local landmark and heritage buildings
- Obliteration of light pathways
- Scale of development and its proximity to local residents
- Consequences to BPRA if the proposal extends beyond the existing hospital footprint
- Siting of amenities

The ward councillors for the area (Councillors Wright and Stafford Townsend) indicated that they were not supportive of the proposed development as it stood. Whilst the NP had no jurisdiction over planning matters, it was noted that the application was at the pre-application consultation stage and therefore agreed that a

site visit could usefully be undertaken to look at key concerns, including the homes of residents affected by the proposal.

AGREED – site visit to be arranged and the NP to consider how it can assist residents in bringing forward a better planning application.

Pauline Allen – Bristol Walking Alliance

Attention was drawn to the Bristol Walking Strategy vision document produced in 2011. Although this was cross party endorsed at the time, it was reported that the aims of the strategy had been largely forgotten.

There was general agreement that this was an area around which NPs across the city could collaborate. Following brief discussion:-

AGREED – that the aims of the strategy be endorsed and a walking champion for the CC&CE NP be appointed to work alongside the Champion for the Greater Bedminster Community Partnership and others to improve the walking experience across the city.

Colston Street Improvement Scheme – CIL Application

A representative was not present at the meeting and the statement was noted.

The Chair also clarified how CIL funding decisions were reached and the role of the Transport Sub-Group in the process. This involved funding proposals being put on a list, considered and then prioritised by the Transport Sub-Group. The process had now reached a stage where priorities were being finalised and the next step would be to bring a report to the NP for consideration and final decision by the Neighbourhood Committee. It was anticipated that this would happen in March 2016.

AGREED – that ideas for the allocation of CIL funding should be referred to Kurt James (Neighbourhood Co-ordinator) who could also assist with advice and timescales.

Jacobs Wells Community Hub

The NP was invited to support the Hub in its efforts to secure a building for community meetings and activities. It was suggested that if made available to hire at a reasonable rate, The Pavilion would provide a space to enable the Hub to develop its aims to address social isolation and promote community engagement.

Councillor Wright made the point that The Pavilion was originally intended as a community space for the local area and this was not how it was being marketed. It was noted that Councillor Cook had already raised the matter with the Service Director. It was hoped that he could reach agreement for the premises to be let to community groups one day a week at a preferential rate.

The NP as a whole made a commitment to supporting the future use of The Pavilion as a community facility.

AGREED:-

- (1) The NP committed to supporting the future use of The Pavilion as a community facility.**
- (2) Councillor Cook agreed to continue his discussions with Property Services to secure a preferential rate for community groups and to ensure that The Pavilion is not commercially let for one day a week.**

6. Wellbeing Fund Applications (*Neighbourhood Committee decisions*)

The NP considered a report from the NP Co-ordinator setting out recommendations for the allocation of funding.

Representatives of the Wellbeing Sub-Group (responsible for making an initial assessment of all applications) provided a detailed summary of the funding requests and the rationale for the following recommendations detailed in the report:-

Organisation	Project	Amount Requested	Recommended Award
Action for Balanced Communities	To support the delivery of a neighbourhood opinion survey on community balance and student life.	£497.60	£497.60
Riverside	To fund a flower box scheme for Jamaica Street	£2,491.00	£2,491.00
HCCA	To fund participation of elements of developing a multi-use games area with a green gym in an area under the flyover in Hotwells.	£2,490.00	£2,490.00
Total			£5,478.60

The NP noted that the current balance of the Wellbeing Fund was **£25,407.00**.

Following consideration of the respective applications and on being put to the vote (unanimous unless otherwise indicated), the Neighbourhood Committee:-

RESOLVED:-

That the following applications be approved:-

- (1) Action for Balanced Communities in the amount of £497.60, subject to the

survey being conducted within the boundaries of the NP area, the proposed questions being circulated to the Chair for approval in advance and a pilot carried out to ensure the effectiveness of the questionnaire.

(2) Riverside in the amount of £2,491.

(3) HCCA in the amount of £2,490.

The resulting balance of **£19,928.40** was also noted.

7. Environment Sub-Group – Projects recommended for Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy Funding

The Chair reported that the Environment Sub-Group had recently met to review the existing and proposed new projects list. It was noted that potential projects had been evaluated against the relevant strategy documents and the Environment priorities that the NP had included in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Mindful of previous investment, a costed list of priorities had been developed resulting in a short list of 10 projects which had been evaluated by BCC officers (set out in detail in Appendix 1 to the report).

The NP noted the projects not recommended for approval set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

The Chair provided:-

- an overview of the projects recommended for approval;
- the considerations that formed the recommendations; and
- a financial context for the decisions that the Neighbourhood Committee was being asked to make.

The Chair also drew attention to the slide setting out the following, which was noted by the NP:-

Total CIL Funding available - **£517, 715.19**

Recommended CIL spend - **£289,991.16**

CIL balance if recommendations approved - **£227,724.03**

Confirmed Pipeline CIL - **£207,231.20**

Total S106 Funding (committed and uncommitted) - **£914,625.55**

Recommended Section 106 spend - **£211,491.84**

Below is a summary of the detailed discussion that followed:-

- Arlington Gardens – it was confirmed that there was an issue around the ownership of the land which needed to be resolved before this project could be progressed.
- Argyle Place – a clear price on the resurfacing element of the project should be obtained.
- Park Place – it was suggested that the proposal to use railings to create a safer and more attractive space could also create additional maintenance costs.
- Timescales for completion to be determined and robust processes put in place to ensure the delivery of projects within these timescales – the sub-group to seek a formal assurance from the Parks Department that delivery programmes and financial commitments would be adhered to. It was agreed that the sub-group would report back to the NP with relevant updates.
- Budgets should be fixed and managed carefully and conservatively. Any significant variations in the estimated budget or costings should be brought back to the Neighbourhood Committee for further consideration – specifically any project that exceeds the original estimate by 10%.
- It was agreed that a priority order of the finalised list should now be drawn up by the sub-group and submitted to the March meeting for approval.

The NP briefly discussed funding schemes in the pipeline and opportunities for the future, including Castle Park, The Station and the Harbourside.

In conclusion and on being put to the vote (unanimous unless otherwise indicated), the Neighbourhood Committee:-

RESOLVED:-

- (1) That the following Environment, Parks and Open Spaces Project recommendations be approved and allocated funding from devolved Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy funding:-
- Arlington Gardens – agreed in principle and subject to clarification around the ownership of land.
 - Argyle Place - **£55,000** (£44,404 S.106 and £8,595.16 CIL)
 - Victoria Square Park - **£17,955.46** (£17,779.15 S.106 and £176.31 CIL)
 - Brandon Hill - **£100,000** (£25,000 S.106 and £75,000 CIL)
 - High Kingsdown Play Area - **£80,000** (£10,671.54 S.106 and £69,328.46 CIL)

- Clifton Hill open space - **£20,000** (£20,000 S.106)
 - St James Park - **£150,000** (£23,108.77 S.106 and £126,891.23 CIL)
 - Park Place - **£58,527.54** (£58,527.54 S.106)
 - Spring Hill/Lower Kingsdown - **£10,000** (£10,000 S.106)
 - Park Work Commissioning - **£10,000** (£10,000 CIL)
- (2) Timescales for completion to be determined and robust processes put in place to ensure the delivery of projects within these timescales – the sub-group to seek a formal assurance from the Parks Department that delivery programmes and financial commitments would be adhered to. It was agreed that the sub-group would report back to the NP with relevant updates.
- (3) Budgets to be fixed and managed carefully and conservatively. Any significant variations in the estimated budget or costings should be brought back to the Neighbourhood Committee for further consideration – specifically any project that exceeds the original estimate by more than 10%.
- (4) A priority order of the finalised project list to be drawn up by the sub-group and submitted to the NP for approval.

8. Neighbourhood Partnership Co-ordinator Report

Kurt James introduced the report and the NP agreed the following meeting date for 2016/17:-

Neighbourhood Partnership (7pm-9pm)

21 June 2016 (Brunel House)
 11 October 2016 (The Pavilion)
 31 January 2017 (The Pavilion)
 28 March 2017 (The Pavilion)

Cabot Neighbourhood Forum (7pm-9pm)

22 February 2016
 13 June 2016
 19 September 2016
 23 January 2017
 6 March 2017

Clifton Neighbourhood Forum (7pm-9pm)

14 March 2016 (Clifton High School)
 6 June 2016 (Clifton High School)
 26 September 2016

16 January 2017

13 March 2017

In the light of ward boundary changes and subject to how the forum meetings were managed in future, it was agreed that suitable meeting venues and forum names should be agreed as soon as possible and published. There was general agreement that the use of libraries should be considered where possible.

On the basis of the current arrangements, the last Cabot Forum would take place on 22nd February 2016. It was suggested that a Harbourside, Hotwells and Cabot Forum could usefully meet in the short term.

Agreed – that Mike Lawlor (Neighbourhood Officer) takes appropriate follow up action in relation to the forums venues and short term arrangements for the Cabot Forum.

Transport Sub-Group

The sub-group was working with BCC Highways Area Manager Neil Terry to evaluate possible schemes with the aim of prioritising and making recommendations to the 29th March NP meeting.

The NP noted the steps that still needed to be taken for each of the projects set out in the summary slides.

Attention was also drawn to schemes where the NP could be invited to fill a shortfall in another funding stream. The progress of The Triangle and Kings Street schemes was briefly discussed. It was reported that both were still in the early stages of development and did not fall within the remit of the NP either financially or decision wise.

Agreed – that a finalised list of priority schemes and associated recommendations be brought to the 29th March meeting.

Boundary Changes – impact on devolved funding

It was noted that all formal decisions made prior to the boundary changes were legally binding and all spending decisions would therefore stand. Neighbourhood Co-ordinators were exploring proposals to minimise disruption to the Neighbourhood Plans that would be impacted by the changes.

Agreed- the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator with the assistance of Councillor Wright and Dennis Gornall, to establish which organisations will fall within the NP's remit after the changes are implemented.

Future Wellbeing Funding

After the boundary changes, the NP area would comprise 4 wards, resulting in a loss of £10,000 if the proposal to maintain Wellbeing funding at £30,000 was implemented.

The suggestion to seek a compromise at £35,000 (proportionate to the number of councillors as opposed to the number of wards) was not supported.

Noting that the original decision taken by Full Council was made on the basis of £10,000 per ward, the general view was that the NP should not be detrimentally affected and should be allocated £40,000. The point was made that it would be illogical, having redrawn the wards, not to take account of changes that would result in a larger NP area.

All were keen to avoid an inconsistency in awards across the city.

Agreed- the Chair to make appropriate representations in writing.

The Integrated Education and Capital Strategy 2015-19

The NP received an update from Ian Bell, Place Planning Manager in relation to the new strategy emerging from the previous School Organisation Strategy :-

- Describing the overall vision for Bristol's learning infrastructure;
- Addressing the increasing demand for secondary and post-16 places;
- The ongoing need for Early Years and Additional Learning Needs places; and
- Future requirements for primary school provision.

It was reported that a short list would be submitted to the Learning City Partnership Board redistributing the funding available to spend on capital projects. This would see the expansion of Redland Green School and Colston Girls in the immediate term. It was understood that the next piece of work concerning secondary and specialist provision was a longer term.

Assurances were given that commitments made previously in relation to primary school projects would not be neglected. In the case of St George's, it was noted that there had been no progress in finding an alternative site for the school. It was confirmed that the St Mary's Hospital site could not be developed for this purpose.

The NP expressed grave concern about the general lack of progress - notwithstanding its importance, this issue was seemingly was no closer to being resolved. It was agreed that concerns were being compounded by a fundamental lack of information.

Councillor Stafford-Townsend asked Ian Bell when he anticipated the information restrictions on negotiations to be lifted but this could not be confirmed. Ian Bell reiterated that the authority was facing exceptionally difficult circumstances – choices were limited and expanding the school was not an option. Councillor Wright stated that this had been the case for the last 9 years and added that a deadline for a final decision on the school's future had expired 18 months ago.

Dennis Gornall suggested that the NP needed a mechanism for obtaining information and updates on this issue which partners could then use to brief/alert the community. It was pointed out that a special Cabot Forum had sight of the consultation document 2 days before the end of the consultation period, leaving little time for a view to be formed or appropriate representations to be made.

It was confirmed that the caravan site at Baltic wharf was still required for education provision and there were no other plans for its future at this point in time.

Agreed – Ian Bell to share updated information on education infrastructure with the NP when it becomes available.

West of England Joint Spatial Plan and Joint Transport Study

The NP noted that local communities were invited to assist in drawing up a plan to steer new housing and jobs growth over the next 20 years. The closing date for consultation on the Joint Spatial Plan being prepared by the Unitary Authorities is 29th January 2016 and information is available at www.jointplanningwofe.org.uk

Changes to Bristol Libraries

Opening hours

Central Library opening times from April 2016:

Monday: 10am to 7pm Tuesday: 10am to 7pm Wednesday: Closed Thursday: 10am to 7pm Friday: 10am to 7pm Saturday: 10am to 5pm Sunday: 1pm to 5pm

Central library is closed from 29 February to 24 March 2016 for improvement works

Volunteers

Volunteer opportunities were now open to the public. Further information was available on the BCC website Bristol <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/>

Broadband improvement

Clifton Library – a faster connection speed would improve services for wi-fi users.

9. Any Other Business

Pembroke Road crossing scheme

This would be further delayed until April 2016 whilst resurfacing works took place.

Neighbourhood Partnership pages on the BCC website

It was confirmed that these pages would be redeveloped/improved in the near future as part of a general revamp of the BCC website.

AGREED - partners to make useful suggestions for improvement to the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator.

10. Date of next meeting

- Tuesday 29th March 2016, Brunel House, St George's Road, BS1 5UY (7pm)

CHAIR

(the meeting ended at 8.45pm)