



AGENDA ITEM NO. 14

Report of: Filwood, Knowle and Windmill Hill Neighbourhood Partnership

Title: Neighbourhood Partnership Annual Achievements Report

Introduction

This report is a summary of some of the achievements of the Filwood, Knowle and Windmill Hill Neighbourhood Partnership in 2011-12. The achievements are examples of how the partnership can deliver improvements to the area through its Action Plan / Priorities. This report highlights the work of a variety of different partnership members who have worked together, including local residents, community groups, Councillors and other partners.

Project 1: Filwood Community Centre Asset Transfer



Residents of Filwood have long aspired to take on the management of Filwood Community Centre and turn it into a facility run by and for the local community.

Over the course of a year, the Neighbourhood Partnership helped to facilitate the asset transfer of this valuable community asset to Community in Partnership Knowle West from Bristol City Council, which included securing 105

£3,000 of pro bono legal support from one of Bristol largest solicitors, Burgess Salmon. The asset transfer was completed on 10 January 2012, firmly placing the challenge of making Filwood Community Centre a success into the hands of local residents.

Action Plan aim addressed: Improve the number and quality of local facilities; especially those used by young people.

Resources used: Officer time and £3,000 of pro bono support from Burgess Salmon

This intervention secured the future of an important local facility.

Equalities aims addressed: Narrow inequality and promote good relationships.

Project 2: Knowle West Regeneration Framework



Members of the Residents Planning Group with their Hearts and Stars Award for Best Group

The Neighbourhood Partnership has supported local residents and in particular the Knowle West Residents Planning Group for over 3 years to engage with the creating the Knowle West Regeneration Framework, which is the ambitious plan to significantly redevelop parts of Filwood, Knowle and Windmill Hill.

This year has seen the finalisation of the plan for redevelopment, which is based on plans and aspirations drawn up by local residents and includes:

- The completion of the plan for the redevelopment of Filwood Park and it securing outline planning. This will bring an improved park and

additional housing;

- The signing off of the Filwood Broadway Framework by the Neighbourhood Partnership and Bristol City Council Cabinet, which will bring a supermarket to Filwood Broadway, housing, an improved community centre, a vastly improved local environment and funding to kick-start development;
- The publishing of the invitation to tender for the significant development of the Kingswear and Torpoint site in Windmill Hill, which will bring a new school, new health centre and housing;
- The completion of the Area Green Space Plan for Filwood.

Action Plan aim addressed: Deliver the Knowle West Regeneration Framework and a more comprehensive retail offer for local residents
Resources used: Officer time

Benefit for the NP: The completion of redevelopment plans and the move to market for development sites will bring significant amounts of investment into the Neighbourhood Partnership area.

Equalities aims addressed: Narrow inequality and promote good relationships.

Project 3: Wedmore Vale Planting Scheme

During the process for prioritising uses for the Neighbourhood Partnerships devolved section 106 funding, local residents suggested that a portion of the available funding be used for a tree planting scheme to improve a triangle of green space at Wedmore Vale, Windmill Hill.

This suggestion, made 29 November 2011, gained the support of the local Councillors. Officers from BCC Environment and Leisure supplied drawings of the potential scheme and consulted with local residents on the design.

The landscape design drawings were adjusted following comments received from local residents and partnership members, and a decision was made by the Neighbourhood Committee to fund this project at the Neighbourhood Partnership meeting dated 20 January 2012.

The planting scheme broke land on 29 February 2012 and was completed 1 March 2012, bringing a welcome improvement to this part of Wedmore Vale.

Action Plan aim addressed: Improve the number and quality of local facilities;

especially those used by young people

Resources used: £5,557.52 of section 106 funding and Officer time.

Summary of projects and benefit for the NP:

- This project showed the NP being responsive to the needs of the local community, good decision making, and good project management, leading to a short timeline between decision and delivery.

Project 4 Gully Cleansing in Windmill Hill

Ward Councillors in Windmill Hill had fielded a number of complaints from residents about the number of blocked in Windmill Hill. These complaints were years old and covered gullies that had not been cleansed for up to 20 years, which goes against the service expectation that all gullies would be inspected once each year and cleansed where necessary.

This problem existed due to the narrow streets, number of cars parked on them, and the hilly nature of Windmill Hill, making it difficult for the gully cleansing service to be delivered effectively in this area. This was of no consolation to local residents who suffered water pouring down streets during heavy rain and excessive ice on streets during cold periods.

Through working with the gully cleansing service within Bristol City Council, a dedicated resource was made available to address problem gullies in Windmill Hill. This resource surveyed the gullies in Windmill Hill and brought in additional support to cleanse gullies identified with problems to a point where most of the gullies identified as being blocked have been cleansed.

Action Plan Aim addressed: Improving the local environment

Resources used: Officer time

Summary of projects and benefit for the NP:

- This project showed the Neighbourhood Partnerships ability to be responsive to issues of concern raised from the local community and its ability to improve service delivery and the quality of life for local residents.

Project 5 Redcatch Park



The Neighbourhood Partnership has supported the continued investment in local parks and green spaces, which is recognised in the priorities contained in the Area Green Space Plan, the influencing of the grounds maintenance service, and decisions made to secure or raise funding to make improvements to the local parks and green spaces.

Over the last year, the Partnership, working alongside the Friends of Redcatch Park and the Park Keeper, planted 3000 bulbs in and around the Park with the support of Community Payback.

It trimmed back trees to improve security in the parks car park; supported a community planting event with trees supplied by Tree Bristol, funded the painting of play equipment, installed no drinking signs at the entrances to the park, helped raise a further £55,000 to be invested in improving the Tennis Courts, and funded a raised flower bed.

This work, the hard work of Park Keepers, Friends Groups, volunteers and other investments in parks and green spaces across the area saw parks in the Filwood, Knowle and Windmill Hill Neighbourhood Partnership area awarded 9 out of 30 In Your Neighbourhood Awards 2011-12:

Knowle Ward

- Friends of Redcatch Park - Outstanding

- Knowle Tennis Club - Developing

Windmill Hill Ward

- Bramble Farm - Developing
- Windmill Hill Community Orchard - Improving
- Kingfisher Group - Developing
- Bedminster Station Gardening Group - Outstanding
- Bedminster Station Extension Garden - Outstanding
- The Community of Perretts Park - Outstanding

Filwood Ward

- Knowle Edible Landscapes Movement - Improving - correct me if this is not in the ward

Action Plan Aim addressed: Improving the local environment

Resources used: Officer time

Summary of projects and benefit for the NP:

- This project showed the Neighbourhood Partnerships commitment to improve the quality of local parks and green spaces service delivery and the quality of life for local residents.