



**PRESENT:**

**GBCP Board**

Councillor Green	Southville Ward
Councillor Beynon	Southville Ward
Councillor Smith	Bedminster Ward
Ben Barker	Dame Emily Park Project
Alan Pratley	Swiss Drive Neighbourhood Watch
Les Potter	BS3 Churches Together
Helen Thomas	University of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Age
Stef Brammer	Way Out West – co-chair

**Statutory Sector and Observers**

Nick Christo (NC)	BCC Area Co-ordinator
Samantha Mahony	BCC Democratic Services Officer
James Dowling	BCC Highways
John Roy	BCC Flood Risk Team
Lesley Collins	Director, Airpoint
Louise DeCordova	BCC observer
Karl Monk	Resident
Celia Phipps	Councillor Candidate – Labour Party

**Apologies:** Cllr Bradshaw, Ian Collinson, Nigel Singer, John Vickery, Matthew Symonds, Chris Pratley

**1. Welcome and introductions**

Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and asked to introduce themselves.

It was agreed that Councillor Sean Beynon would chair the meeting.

**2. Declarations of interest**

There were none

**3. Update on Upfest resolution**

The Community Partnership received a verbal report (agenda item no. 3) updating the board on discussions since the Upfest resolution of June 2013. Stef Brammer updated the Partnership on comments received following the last meeting which were:

- Both positive and negative reports had been received by Councillors in the past.
- What would systematic and thorough engagement consist of?
- Who would compile the information about the neighbourhood that might encourage street artists to have responsibility for what they paint.
- Although permission may be granted by a business, there was an anecdotal report of someone not knowing what specifically would be painted until it was finished.
- It had been suggested that local schools should be more involved.
- The economic impact of the event could be quantified through visitor numbers recorded by the organisers and reports from businesses regarding trade.
- Upfest organisers meeting with the community (perhaps through the GBCP) could help prevent some residents feeling intimidated.

It was agreed that the small group (which included Rosie Tomlinson, Helen Thomas) should continue communication with Upfest organisers and report back in January 2015 in the run up to the next event.

#### 4. **Cycle ambition fund**

The Community Partnership received a verbal report (agenda item no. 4) about the Cycle Ambition Fund (CAF) from John Usher of Sustrans who would deliver the project. The CAF was a Government funded project awarded in August 2013 to strengthen cycling from Hotwells to Bristol Temple Meads. It would also link with other projects in the City such as the Enterprize Zone, Arena and Local Sustainable Transport Fund. Although primarily a cycling project the impact on pedestrians would be fully considered with wide dual but segregated use pathways where possible.

Changes within the proposals included:

**Vauxhall Bridge** – Ramped access for increased accessibility across the bridge

**Camden Road** – New bridge across the river to link to the end chocolate path and under Cumberland to the Harbourside. This proposal would complement rather than conflict with the plans for the Metrobus along Cumberland Road.

**Chocolate Path** – The ‘chocolate blocks’ would be kept as important to the character assessment of the city docks however, they were also a barrier to cycling along with the short railings river side and spiky railings the railway side. Proposals for improvements included modifications to the blocks to make a more skid resistant surface and relieving some pressure on the path with alternative corridors (such as via Smeaton Road through Avon Crescent for increased use of North side of the floating harbour).

**Bedminster Bridges** – Improvements were needed to make the bridges more accessible to pedestrians and cyclists but these would be tackled as part of the Metrobus scheme.

The proposals would assess and consider the typography and desire lines of the area, how the community accessed the bridges as well as the barriers to access. Proposals included improved approaches to each of the bridges.

The interventions needed to be future proof and the right kind of engagement from the community was key as possible ‘consultation fatigue’ in the area was acknowledged. The timing of the funding had meant that consultation could not be linked with the RPS or Metrobus consultations.

In response to the proposals, it was highlighted that traffic calming measures and respect for the 20mph would help increase cyclist confidence. There was also concern that the current character and use of North Street should be preserved and that further traffic would

be detrimental to the economic prosperity of the area and would prevent the movement of pedestrians.

## 5. **Community activities update**

The Community Partnership received a verbal update on the following community activities (agenda item no. 5).

**Our Place** was a national pilot project for the area which would assist older people in the community, especially those that could be described as socially isolated. The project aimed to link the many activities and opportunities in the area to people that were socially isolated by identifying barriers that existed. The partners were the Southville Centre, GBCP, BID, LinkAge, UWE Centre for World Health, BCC and the CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group). Other organisations and interested parties were encouraged to join in.

Bristol had been included on a shortlist for the Lottery funded **Aging Better Project** with a possible £6 million over six years to help tackle isolation and loneliness in older people.

Quarterly **Tea Dances** were held at the Southville Centre in association with LinkAge which had been very popular. Associated dance lessons would start in April and all ages were welcome.

People were encouraged to take a look and comment on the **West Street Local Plan** published for consultation on the Way Out West (WOW) website.

## 6. **Consultation on local flood risk management strategy**

The Community Partnership considered a report (agenda item no. 6) providing a brief summary of The Strategy, its purpose and why it was required.

Following national flooding in 2007 Local Authorities had increased powers and BCC were designated a lead flood authority with duties to manage and coordinate flood risk management. The draft Flood Risk Management Strategy had been released for consultation until 10th June available through Ask Bristol, Citizens Panels as well as libraries and by phoning 0117 922 3206 for a copy.

BCC were specifically responsible for risk from surface water, ground water and local watercourses and the Strategy outlined how BCC worked in partnership with other bodies such as the Environment Agency to cover the different areas of responsibility within the flood infrastructure.

A map was distributed showing modelling and mapping information of areas at risk within the NP area with further detail provided within the Strategy. Members of the NP were invited to contact individual officers through the consultation about specific details of flooding incidences in the area not highlighted within the strategy. Reference was made to Colliters Brook and Gores Marsh Road which the officer agreed to take on board. It was agreed that there would be a more substantial item at a future meeting (possibly the AGM in June 2014) for a detailed discussion (**ACTION: NC**)

<b>The Neighbourhood Partnership AGREED that the report be noted.</b>
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## 7. **Area Co-ordinator update/devolved services report**

The Community Partnership considered a report of the Area Co-ordinator (agenda item no. 7) giving an update on devolved services.

**Clean and Green** – The Local Environment Officer that had been working with the Partnership was leaving the Council at the end of March. Officers had identified the gap as a risk to the partnership and were working to mitigate it. A £2000 underspend would be carried forward to the next financial year.

**Ashton Vale** – The second Conference had been well attended. Section 106 funds would be spent on bus stop improvements within the Ashton Vale area replacing shelters and installing real time passenger information screens and installing dropped kerbs at the same time.

The Miners Bridge in South Liberty Lane was highlighted as a danger to pedestrians due to a narrow footpath that has been damaged by lorries. The footpath further along also needed clearing due to vegetation overgrowth. The Partnership requested that signal changes be altered to allow pedestrian crossing over the bridge. It was agreed that officers would discuss with the signals team within the Council as a request of the NP and highlight the safety risk (**ACTION: NC & JD**) and clean and green team action the clearance of vegetation (**ACTION: NC**).

**Residents Parking** consultations had taken place for Southville and Bedminster East. The SCDA reported that they had not received a postcard of information about the drop in sessions, although every property in the relevant area should have had them. The drop in sessions had been very popular which had limited how much time the officers could speak to those that attended. Officers would review the comments received and changes were likely to be made in response. In June statutory consultation would start on the revised changes for decision later in the Summer delegated to officers in consultation with the Mayor and Assistant Mayor. The live date was likely to be the end of 2014 for Southville and early 2015 for Bedminster East.

**NP Review** – Nick Christo outlined the outcomes of the NP review which included the removal of budget ringfences. It was suggested that prior to the next meeting the board discuss ideas for how to progress the allocation of funding for the next year, how to manage the process and involve everyone. The development of a Neighbourhood Services Charter would set out what was expected for the neighbourhood area such as arrangements for street cleaning, maintenance etc. At the end of April there would be clarification of the NP officer team structures and allocations .

**Boundary Review** – Councillor Green highlighted that the boundary review of 2014 which would likely recommend changes in the number of councillors and size of wards. There could be affects for NPs so the partnership needed to be clear on what it wanted.

#### **The Neighbourhood Committee RESOLVED to note the report**

### **8. Local traffic schemes/highways report**

The Community Partnership considered a report of James Dowling (agenda item no. 8) giving an update on local traffic schemes/highways report.

The Neighbourhood Committee would be asked at their June meeting to select one scheme for delivery during the 2014/15 financial year. A limit of one scheme had been established due to the backlog of delivery and continued lack of resources. The Partnership were also

asked to consider a three year programme for delivery. It was agreed that prior to the next meeting detailed work would be done to aid the decision making process and partnership members were invited to look at [www.trafficchoices.co.uk](http://www.trafficchoices.co.uk) to help with information. Each area could make a good case for schemes and there needed to be a fair process to consider all options.

It was suggested that there could be a scheme of updating TROs for double lines around schools in areas outside of the RPS however it was worth finding out if they could be progressed through other schemes. It was reiterated that the Partnership needed to be aware of other schemes and initiatives in the area that could be utilised, therefore preserving NP funds. For example, it was possible that a crossing by the Spotted Cow may be possible as part of the proposed primary school development.

It was confirmed that S106 schemes sat outside of the process and would continue to be progressed as would schemes already agreed and in development. The LSTF scheme for Victor Road was in the design stage and an update would be provided to WOW (**ACTION: James Dowling**). An update would also be given at the next meeting regarding items marked 'currently unknown' on the report (**ACTION: James Dowling**).

#### **The NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMITTEE RESOLVED –**

- (1) that the 2014/15 work programmes for carriageway surface dressing be agreed as;  
- Bedminster Road, Bedminster £18,000  
- Ashton Drive (Winterstoke Road to bridge), Bedminster £6,000  
- Stackpool Road, Southville £7,525**
- (2) that proposals for future delivery of local traffic schemes be noted; and**
- (3) that progress on outstanding local traffic schemes be noted; and**
- (4) that the minor lining and signing budget for 2014/15 be agreed as £1500.**

#### **9. Community plans**

The Community Partnership received a verbal update on community plans (agenda item no. 9). It was reported that each plan would audit the specific area considering where interventions were needed, proposals for improvements and ideas for the future. Two of the plans were available for consultation but some areas did not have groups to develop them. Anyone interesting in helping should contact Ben Barker.

#### **10. Resolutions to the GBCP**

The following resolution was presented to the Partnership by Stef Brammer and debated.

##### ***BEDMINSTER: A MAJOR GATEWAY TO THE EUROPEAN GREEN CAPITAL 2015***

*In less than a year Bristol will be the next European Green Capital. As a 'gateway' into and out of the city, the GBCP neighbourhood already has a deserved reputation for a variety of 'green' initiatives – but in some parts it is anything but green, with poor air quality, littered streets, chaotic parking and in particular a distinct lack of trees and other greenery.*

*This resolution calls for the GBCP to grasp the opportunity presented by the Green Capital initiative, by alerting appropriate agencies to the need to work with us in creating a 'green' welcome for the hundreds of expected visitors arriving in the city via our neighbourhood. An enhanced green route along West Street, Dalby Avenue and Bedminster Parade will go a long way towards characterising GBCP's role within the Green Capital year.*

Members of the Partnership supported the idea and plans. It was highlighted that businesses had contributed to the European Green Capital year and could be approached to help further. It was also suggested that the Environment Sub Group could help develop an approach to consider all the gateways into the NP area.

It was reported that although the Terms of Reference of the Environment Sub Group had been agreed and some progress had been made, it had recently become less effective and the lead officer had now left the Council. It was suggested that a special meeting be convened to discuss the future of the Environment Sub Group and procedural issues such as how to rearrange the devolved budgets in the future **(ACTION: NC)**

**The NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP voted in favour of the resolution.**

**11. Minutes – 27 January 2014**

**The NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP AGREED - that (subject to a addition of the words 'and Bedminster' to the third paragraph of item 7) the minutes of the Greater Bedminster Community Partnership held on 27 January 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.**

In reference to the actions from the last meeting, it was confirmed that the alleygate across a lane at the back of Ashton Drive and Swiss Drive was on private land so could not be removed by the Council.

**13. Date of next meeting**

**AGREED - that the date of the next neighbourhood partnership meeting be held on 9 June 2014.**

(The meeting ended at 8.50pm)

CHAIR