

*Working together to  
improve our Neighbourhoods*



## **Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership (GFNP) Report**

**Date: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2012**

In this report you will find:

- 1- Wellbeing Panel update (Abdulrazak)
- 2- Planning subgroup update (Mark Logan)
- 3- Celebrating Age Festival (Abdulrazak)

### **Part 1: Wellbeing Panel**

- 1- The GFNP Wellbeing Panel met on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2012. The group has finalised reviewing the Wellbeing application process. New application forms, guidelines and criteria is now available from the NP website.
- 2- In addition to assessing the Wellbeing applications. The panel also agreed to take on the Hillfields Community First Neighbourhood Matched Fund applications. This is a scheme where the government will provide money to match, pound for pound, the money raised for qualifying projects. In the case of Hillfields ward there is £33,910 available to be used from now until March 2015. To access this money a Community First Panel must be set up. This must comprise of 4-8 local people. They must nominate a Community First Panel Partner, a preferably local charity or voluntary organisation to hold a small pot of money for panel expenses and to ensure the accountability of the Panel. Hillfields Community Trust (HCT) have agreed to take on the panel partner role.
- 3- The Panel must set up a plan describing what they will do to improve the area, which must be agreed by Community Development Foundation. The scheme then allows for awards of £250 to £2,500 to be made. The panel's purpose after defining the plan is to recommend (not authorise) projects for funding to the Community Development Foundation.
- 4- The negatives of this fund - there is no money for publicity so a source of funding would be needed to pay for posters, flyer and the website costs that it

is a requirement of the scheme that the panel set up. There is still a lot to clarify on how this scheme will work. More information is on <http://www.cdf.org.uk/web/guest/community-first>.

#### **Part 4: Planning subgroup**

- 5- Since the last NP meeting the Planning subgroup met with representatives from Pegasus Planning Group to discuss the Diamonite redevelopment. The group expressed concerns over excessive housing and the loss of employment land. Dialogue is ongoing.
- 6- The group also met with representatives from Skanska to discuss the development plans for May park Primary and Begbrook schools. The group advised Skanska to attend the Frome Vale and Eastville Neighbourhood Forums. This is ongoing and future consultation is due summer 2012.
- 7- A meeting was held to discuss Barratt Homes proposal to develop St Mathias campus site. They have agreed to include the group as part of the stakeholder consultees. Consultation is likely to start spring/summer 2012.
- 8- Blackberry Hill Hospital development has gone quite. The group is awaiting updates.
- 9- The group met with John Bos, who is BCC Community Buildings Manager, the group is awaiting updates.
- 10- Continuing work with Historic Environment team re Know Your Place and Character Appraisals – seeking volunteers to undertake surveys
- 11- Also spoke to English Heritage regarding community involvement in Fishponds at the Localism and Heritage conference on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March
- 12- Mark Logan attended all 3 forums in order to represent the Planning subgroup and to promote the work the subgroup is doing.

#### **Part 5: Celebrating Age Festival**

- 13- The Celebrating Age Festival 2012 will be running for two weeks starting on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2012. It is tied in to the 'European Year of Active Aging and solidarity between generations'. The overall aim for European Year 2012 is to promote active ageing and to do more to mobilise the potential of the rapidly

growing population in their late 50s and over, across Europe. This ties in well with the Olympics, which is also taking place in the UK this year.

- 14- With a successful 5 year track record, this Festival for people of 50+ is now firmly on the Bristol calendar for citizens and visitors to enjoy. This year the festival is looking to expand out to all Neighbourhood Partnership areas across the city, generating lots of events leading up to the grand main event on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June.
  
- 15- Older people from all across the city are contributing ideas to shape the Launch event, neighbourhood activities and the final event. There is a small fund available to support neighbourhood activities and it's hoped local Wellbeing Funds will also support events in their area. If you want to find out more please contact Stella Quinlivan on 0117 9145470 or email: [agefestival@gmail.com](mailto:agefestival@gmail.com)