

Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership (GFNP) Report

Date: Thursday 6th December 2012

RECOMMENDATIONS: The Neighbourhood Partnership is asked to:

- 1- Note GFNP brochure update (Abdulrazak Dahir)
- 2- Appoint GFNP Board representative to work with BCC to develop a Neighbourhood Charter (Abdulrazak Dahir)
- 3- Note progress update from Environment subgroup (Denise James)
- 4- Note progress from Traffic and Transport subgroup (Abdulrazak Dahir)
- 5- Note progress from the Planning Subgroup (Mark Logan)

Part 1: GFNP brochure update

- 1- For the first time 20,000 brochures about the Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership were printed and distributed across the NP area.
- 2- Richard Irwin led this project with the help of the Neighbourhood Partnership team. The project was supported using central communication budget and the Neighbourhood Partnership Wellbeing Budget.
- 3- The NP team used this opportunity to consult with the wider community about the Neighbourhood Partnership priorities. A question asking if people agreed with the priorities and to identify if there was a gap was included at the back page of the brochure.
- 4- 21 people responded to the consultation. 18 out of 21 of those responded agreed with the NP Action Plan priorities, whilst only one respondent indicated not to agree with the priorities. Another respondent circled both (agree and disagree). One respondent forgot to indicate whether they agreed or disagreed.
- 5- Appendix 1 shows comments received from the respondents.

Part 2: Neighbourhood Charter

- 6- As previously reported to the GFNP Board. Greater Fishponds is in the Neighbourhood Working Pilot area.
- 7- A volunteer/s from GFNP Board is required to work with BCC to develop a Neighbourhood Charter for the area. Neighbourhood Charter is an agreement between service providers and Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership acting on behalf of local residents.
- 8- The Neighbourhood Charter will have details of what service providers intend to do, how, where and when they will do it. The residents on their part will have specific roles and responsibilities so that they can work with the service providers to ensure the best possible outcome for both sides. For more information see appendix 2.

Part 3: Environment subgroup update

- 9- The Greater Fishponds Environment Sub Group met on Tuesday 20th November. The main agenda item was to look at updating the Parks Improvement Plan, Investment Priorities. The first investment priority that the group wish to concentrate on is the provision of a new Childrens Play Area in East Park. It has been agreed to allocate £25k of the remaining S106 funding, as a first step to funding this project. The Area Environment Officer will now work to secure external funding. The second priority of the meeting was for the group to prioritise the remaining four themes of the Area Green Space Investment Plan.
- 10- The priorities discussed were - To carry out condition survey on paths in Hillfields, Eastfille, Begbrook, Snuff Mills and Coombe Brook Valle, as part of the Access & Movement theme. Establish management plans for each of the NP parks. The Sustainable Development priority discussions have been deferred to the next meeting. The Area Environment Officer (AEO) has been asked to update the Investment Plan at the next NP Committee meeting in March.
- 11- The Sub Group also received an update from the AEO on the Neighbourhood Waste Plan. A report will be presented at the next NP Committee meeting in March.

Part 4: Traffic and Transport subgroup proposal

- 12- The Traffic and Transport subgroup met on Thursday 22nd November 2012. The group met with BCC Transport Planning team to discuss the proposed 20mph rollout.
- 13- Greater Fishponds NP area is in Phase 4 of the proposed phasing of the 20mph rollout across the city. This is expected to take place from December 2014.
- 14- By default all the roads in the Neighbourhood Partnership area will be included in the 20mph speed restriction. It is hoped Neighbourhood Partnerships will identify roads they would like to exclude from the 20mph speed restrictions.
- 15- The Transport Planning team agreed to engage well in advance in order to have meaningful consultation with the local community via the Neighbourhood Forums and NP engagement plan.
- 16- The subgroup was informed that the bus/tree collision report is not available for public consumption due to its sensitivity. Compensation claims have been submitted and is currently being investigated.
- 17- The group finally received copies of the long awaited GBBN Stage 3 Road Safety Audit report, prepared by Halcrow. The group is seeking for an explanation as to why it has taken since June 2012 to release the report.
- 18- Councillor Lesley Alexander informed the group she has received confirmation that the parking restriction on the Straits Parade will be increased from 1 hour to 2 hours. Shaun Taylor who is the Area Team Manager confirmed that his team is currently working on the design of the scheme.
- 19- The group requested for the scheme to be extended to all the shopping areas from the straits to Alcove Rd. A decision to disregard the informal consultation process for the TRO will now be considered by the Neighbourhood Committee. For more information see agenda item 8 Devolved services report.

Part 5: Planning subgroup update

- 20- The Planning subgroup met with Claudette McDonald Affordable Housing Development Officer. Discussions held over the proposal to develop a housing need survey/report for Fishponds to help inform requirements for new developments update due December 2012.

- 21- 15-19 Vassal Court meeting arranged (Dec) with Craig Barnes - Greensky Developments, Steve Davis - NOMA Architects, Chris Dance LPC (Trull) Ltd. This comprises improvements to the 7 commercial units at ground floor and the construction of 6No 2bed maisonettes and 2No 2 bedroom Flats above.
- 22- Cossham Hospital site letter/email sent to NHS in support of North Bristol Trust to take control of the whole site in March 2013.
- 23- Community Land Trust regarding 325 Fishponds road. Dialogue ongoing meeting scheduled for December.
- 24- Members also attended the Development board start-up meeting in October for Blackberry Hill Hospital with the HCA, Linden Homes and Curo Homes. Still awaiting correspondence from the meeting.
- 25- Correspondence still ongoing with Barratts regarding St Matthias masterplan, this has met some strong objections within BCC planning department and masterplan is being redrawn, namely retention of some student blocks treatment of historic building and impact on historic landscape.
- 26- The next Planning subgroup meeting is Monday 3rd December 2012.

Put together by
Abdulrazak Dahir on behalf on NP members.
Monday 26th November 2012

Appendix 1

Comments from Consultation

Any type of anti-social behaviour

Issues relating to prostitution, drugs and kerb crawlers.

General environment improvements and tackling littering and fly tipping.

Priority should ALSO be given to the problem of dog mess, which seems to be an increasing problem on all our pavements all over Bristol, but in Staple Hill, Downend and fishponds in particular steps must be taken to catch irresponsible and lazy dog owners and fine them. Dog mess is a serious health hazard! Please do something about it now. Mairi McGenigill.

People should clean up rubbish left after bins are emptied (in front of their house, on the pavement). Also a dog mess bin would be useful.

Eastville Park appears to be missing out on any investment. The play areas are old and outdated and there are many unfinished projects ie boating house, café, etc. I see the BMX park has moved elsewhere. Other parks (Vassels/Oldbury Court) have had much money spent. Stephen Dunk.

Anti-social behaviour issues must be clearly linked to the control and policing of the high incidence of bail hostels, care homes for mental disability and drug/readjust hostels.

Traffic and transport, in particular, speeding and parking restrictions.

It would be a good thing if from Wren Drive across the grass to 5 Acre Drive you could put a proper path down, so that the older people would not have to do a route march to the main road to the

buss stop. There is a bus shelter there and if one was put across the road going towards the hospital it would make a lot of difference to loads of us – it is no joke getting wet getting to the bus stop. Mrs Adlam

Urgent. Required a speed check or road bumps should be inserted between the bridge and the end from Thicket Road to the main road onto Staple Hill. ALL vehicles speed through these roads and it is only a matter of time before a serious accident occurs. Gerald Phillips.

20mph speed limits on backroads with traffic calming if necessary. Enforcing parking restrictions in bus lanes. Andrew Phillips.

Can they alter the traffic light sequence at the junction of Fishponds Road and Manor Road. When the traffic is entering Manor Road from Fishponds Road (right), why don't the traffic from Manor Road turn left onto Fishponds Road towards Downend? Mrs Lawrenson.

Attention is urgently needed to the very restricted thoroughfare in Freemantle Rd due to parking of vehicles on both sides of the road, a one way system could be a solution. Prohibit parking of large commercial vans, these take up much more room than private cars. Edwards.

With ref to speed, a speed initiative should be performed on Sheppard Road. The speed cars travel along this road is horrendous, a danger to other people. As for the 20 mile speed restriction coming in, many motorist do not apply to 30 miles, let alone 20. I have written to the Council many years ago, but I received a very poor response. Mrs Bateman.

Uneven/unsafe pavements and dog fouling. Mr & Mrs Jones.

Speeding in excess of 40+ mph and parking as fire brigade unable to pass N-S/S-N in Maywood Road. Ms Jones.

Traffic problems particularly on Manor Road due to traffic lights on Fishponds Road. Cars avoiding them using Manor Road, Snowdon Road, already had about half dozen accidents in this area. Nadine Holbrook.

Lack of community facilities for adults.

The greatest priority for elderly disabled is The Vassall Centre. I am 87 years old. The Vassall Centre taught me the computer, advised me on a walk in shower, a stairlift and a powered wheelchair. My life would be so much poorer without it. Dial-a-Ride needs expanding. Vera Jahans.

There is very little for pensioners in the area which seems a shame. R. O'Regan

Promoting community cohesion and engagement

I feel Fishponds lacks opportunity for physical health – of all ages. Swimming pool would enhance opportunity across all ages and for youngsters give them an outlet where energy, fun and playing with friends and family would be developed. This would help in promoting community cohesion and engagement. What we don't need is 3 very large supermarkets side by side. I like Fishponds and find it a friendly place to live, but it is losing its individuality. Maureen Brennan.

Neighbourhood Charter

The charter fits into the Neighbourhood Working Pilot as a document that clarifies in dealing with all of the "simple" issues. The Neighbourhood Working is about tackling knotty issues and improving neighbourhood services. When finalised, the document will be available on Internet and hard copies distributed in local buildings.

The purpose of the document is to:

- a) Make it clear how people can report issues and what they can expect from the council (including what the council don't do)
- b) Identify what role local people play in improving their own neighbourhoods
- c) Show that the council want to be clear and open about their services and that there is lots done to improve neighbourhoods
- d) Give local people some input into what information they would like to receive from the council.

Example:

Litter and Dog Fouling Agreement

What the council will do	What local people can do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspect for sources of litter in affected area – overflowing bins, businesses, waste in gardens etc. • Regularly visit streets and cleanse as necessary. • (Shop fronts and main roads are cleansed to a higher frequency) • Heavily littered streets can have additional cleansing (where resources allow) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not drop litter (remember chewing gum and cigarette ends are litter too). • Use public litter bins and encourage others to do the same. • Encourage businesses to keep the area around their premises clear of litter. • Report streets that are heavily littered in between visits by the crew
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some streets are mechanically swept as required and where access allows. • Our contractor will work with our Highway section and residents to clear streets of cars to allow a thorough cleanse of the road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be prepared to move your car and tell other people who may park in your road what is happening, when one of these schemes takes place in your area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter bins will be emptied when the crews visit the street or shop front 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report full and over flowing litter bins in between visits by the crew
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog fouling will be removed when the street is cleansed • Put awareness signs up warning dog owners they will be fined if they do not pick up after their dogs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog owners must clean up after their dogs • Keep dogs on leads at all times except in permitted areas • Report dog owners who do not pick up after their dogs on 01179222500

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove weeds on public highways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report any heavily weeded street
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide equipment and support to communities, assist in Community Clean Ups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get together with your neighbours to arrange a clean up in your area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streetscene Enforcement Officers and Area Environment Officers will carry out litter patrols and issue fixed penalties for offenders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the council can only act within the laws available Report any areas that you think can benefit from a litter patrol
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit schools and undertake education and awareness raising initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise and educate others with regards to local refuse collection days and locations of recycling centres if known.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate and take enforcement action against shops and businesses who fail to comply with litter legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that land and property is adequately maintained and not defaced by litter