



Agenda item 7

Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership Thursday 2nd April 2015

Report of: Environment, Traffic & Transport and Wellbeing subgroups, John Bos – Community Buildings.

Title: NP Business Report

Recommendation:

- 1- **Neighbourhood Budget:** The Neighbourhood Committee (NC) is asked to ringfence Wellbeing Grant and devolved Clean and Green and Minor Signing and Aligning Budgets to Officers.
- 2- **Environment:** NP to note progress and approve NP Plan priorities.
- 3- **Traffic and Transport:** NP to note progress and approve subgroup's recommendation to delay the 2015/16 local traffic scheme.
- 4- **Community Buildings:** NP is asked to comment on Community Asset Transfer proposal for Oldbury Court Community Centre.
- 5- **Wellbeing:** NC is asked to approve Wellbeing applications received since December 2014.
- 6- **Green Capital:** NP is asked to approve new Green Capital application and any underspend to support the Bristol East Green Map project.

Part 1: Neighbourhood Budget

- 1- Full council meeting on Tuesday 17th Feb 2015 approved the 2015/16 City Council Budget. This means from 1st April 2015, the Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership will receive total devolved Neighbourhood Budget of £57,214 for 2015/16. This is in addition to CIL and Section 106 funds.
- 2- The table shown below shows proposal to manage the 2015/16 Neighbourhood Budget, which is based on previous years expenditure pattern and the Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership Plan. The NC is asked to approve this proposal.

2015/16 Neighbourhood Budget Amount			£57,214
Type of Fund	Description	Amount ringfenced £	Running amount
Clean and Green Budget	NC is asked to devolve this money to the Neighbourhood Officer for GFNP to carry out works needed between Neighbourhood Partnership meetings. Decision to spend the money will rest with the Neighbourhood Officer, however will consult the Environment subgroup and Neighbourhood Committee members.	£1,500	£55,714
Environment Fund	NC is asked to approve the ringfencing of £5,000 for environment improvements and to progress the NP Plan priorities. The environment subgroup will make recommendations in how to spend the money and NC to make final decisions.	£5,000	£50,714
Minor Signing and Aligning Budget	NC is asked to devolve up to £1,500 to Highways Senior Traffic Engineer to carryout works needed between Neighbourhood Partnership meetings. Decision to spend the money will rest with the Senior Traffic Engineer, however will provide regular update to the Traffic and Transport subgroup and Neighbourhood Committee members.	£1,500	£49,214
Wellbeing Grant	NC to agree the ringfencing of this money to support local community/voluntary organisations to progress NP Plan priorities. The Wellbeing subgroup members will assess grant applications and make recommendations to the NP. NC to make final decisions.	£25,000	£24,214
Remaining Neighbourhood Budget to allocate 2015/16			£24,214

Part 2: Environment

- 3- The Environment Sub-Group met on Wednesday 4th March 2015.
- 4- The group met with Tokyo world representatives and discussed the group's intention to hire Eastville Park for an event planned for 25th Sept 2015. Full notes of the meeting are available from Georgie Bryant.
- 5- Having reviewed the Clean & Green budget the group allocated remaining £905 in supporting HEFs in Bloom initiative, including extending the meadows on Snowdon road and planting them in new location at Gill avenue by Lanaway shops. It was agreed that funding would also be used to replant the planters on Fishponds Rd and Lodge Causeway.
- 6- The group also supported the idea of creating an Environment Budget of £5,000 to support environment improvements in key locations identified in the NP Plan. It is envisaged this would make it easier for local community members to get involved in their neighbourhood.
- 7- The second part of the meeting the group concentrated in prioritising the Environment theme of the NP Plan. The NP members are hereby asked to approve the group's recommendation shown in appendix 1:

Part 3: Traffic & Transport:

- 8- The Traffic and Transport subgroup met on Wednesday 25th Feb 2015. The group learnt that highways team are overwhelmed with backlog of previous schemes and that they now have extra resourced to enable them deal with the backlog. For more information see agenda item 6.
- 9- None of the feasibility studies the NP supported March 2014 were ready to be progressed. Hence the subgroup recommends delaying decision to select the one scheme promised per year until one or more of the feasibility studies are presented to the group.
- 10- Subgroup members were also very disappointed with the city council's decision to retain the Hockey's Lane left turn ban. See agenda item 8, under Traffic and Transport theme update.

Part 4: Community Buildings:

Proposed Community Asset Transfer:

- 11- New Lease of Oldbury Court Community Centre, Delabere Avenue, BS16 2ND to Downend Police & Community Amateur Boxing Club, from here on referred to the Boxing Club.
- 12- BACKGROUND:
- Oldbury Court Community Centre was purpose-built and was let for many years to the Oldbury Court Community Association (CA).
 - The CA went into decline after its social club closed down; its regular activities reduced gradually over the past 10 years and running costs exceeded the income from lettings.
 - The Centre became neglected and stopped being used altogether by early 2012; the building then suffered repeated break-ins and was very badly vandalised, whilst the CA refused to surrender its lease to the council.
 - In February 2014 the council published a Brief for the centre, inviting expressions of interest from organisations that might be interested in managing the building and bringing it back into community use.
 - Two expressions of interest were received and the council selected the proposals of the Boxing Club; the club was invited to submit a business plan and set out how it would be able to repair the building and make it available for community use.
 - The CA then finally surrendered its lease in April 2014 and a temporary agreement was made with the Boxing Club; the Club used its own funds and volunteers to carry out urgent roof repairs and to make the property safe.
- 13- PROPOSAL:
- The council proposes to grant a new 15 year Lease of Oldbury Court Community Centre to the Downend Police & Community Amateur Boxing Club ('DABC').
 - DABC will be responsible for all outgoings associated the property, including the repairs necessary to make the building safe and usable again, maintenance, insurance and all other running costs.
 - The Lease will be subject to a Service Agreement, which will set out a range of services that the Boxing Club will deliver each year from the property.
 - The rent will be abated to a peppercorn for as long as the Service Agreement is complied with.

- The boxing will apply for Lottery funding to carry out a phased programme of repairs and will make part of the Centre available for general community use, in addition to the sports and boxing use.

14- PROCESS:

- The Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership is asked to make any comments on the proposals and to briefly set out the grounds for its views.
- Officers in the Community Assets Team and Property Services Team will then prepare a report for the Service Director Property, who will make a final decision on the proposed CAT as soon as possible.
- It is anticipated that the new Lease could be completed by the Summer of 2015.

15- For further information please contact John Bos: 0117 903 6440 or john.bos@bristol.gov.uk

Part 5: Wellbeing Grant:

Balance of Wellbeing funding

16- The NP allocated all of its 2014/15 Wellbeing Grant, if the NC approves above recommendation (see part 1 above) amount available from 3rd of April 2015 will be £25,000 for the 2015/16 financial year.

17- Twelve applications were received, asking for total amount of £22,013.45. See below summary applications along with the panel decisions.

Name of group	Description of works	Amount £ requested	Approved	Running Balance £
	<u>2015/16 Wellbeing Grant available</u>			<u>£25,000</u>
Home Start Bristol	This is a joint project between Little Hayes and Home Start Bristol. The aim is to recruit and train 15 new volunteers from Frome Vale and Hillfields wards. The training is accredited by Open College Network. The funding will be used to pay for tutor cost, material and other promotional freebies.	£2,000	Yes £2,000	£23,000
Grove Rd Youth Club	The group is seeking funding to replace dilapidated equipment for young people to use and keep them engaged and active. The funding will pay for various equipment including pool table, skipping ropes, etc.	£931.45	Yes £931.45	£22,068.55

Name of group	Description of works	Amount £ requested	Approved	Running Balance £
151 st Bristol Fishponds Baptist Scouts Group	The group is looking to take part in the 2015 Scout Troop Expedition to the Kandersteg International Scout Centre. The group is fundraising to help their members go to this event and gain wealth of experience. The funding will be used to pay for equipment, insurance, activity cost, etc. Total cost is estimated to be £9,448	£2,000	Yes, £880 (pay for equipment and Insurance)	£21,188.55
Hillfields Community Trust	HCT is looking to organise a range of activities throughout the year with the aim of bringing the community together. The funding will be used to pay for arts and craft material, venue hire, insurance, community family events, etc.	£5,252	Yes, (suggested £3,800)	£17,388.55
Begbrook Retirement Club	This is relatively new group aiming to provide a range of activities for elderly community members in the Neighbourhood. The grant will be used to pay for exercise classes, 2 coach trips which members will contribute, equipment, etc.	£1,000	Yes subject to conditions £1,000	£16,388.55
Barton Fields Trust	The group is aiming to organise an annual community event which is aimed at bringing together the community and service providers. The grant will be used to pay for advertisement, PA system and volunteer expenses.	£750	Yes £750	£15,638.55
Activate	St George Day Tea Party is an annual event held at Fishponds Park. The event is opened to all residents in the NP area. Funds will be used to pay for Morrison Dancers, Punch & Judy Show, local band, etc.	£300	Yes subject to conditions £300	£15,338.55
Activate	Fishponds Horticulture show is an annual community event Activate also organises. The event is both fun and educational. The grant will be used to pay for printing and publicity, room hire and judges expenses.	£280	Yes subject to conditions £280	£15,058.55

Name of group	Description of works	Amount £ requested	Approved	Running Balance £
In the Pink	This project is to help ladies over the age of 60 to get gentle exercise. The grant will be used to contribute to tutor costs.	£500	Yes subject to conditions £500	£14,558.55
Streets Alive	Streets Alive is looking to organise 13 Age Friendly Streets event in Eastville ward. The aim is to encourage residents to meet, keep in touch and organise informal activities between generations. The grant will be used to pay for publicity and sessional workers.	£2,600	Yes subject to conditions £2,000	£12,558.55
Colston Estate Community Neighbourhood Watch	The group is seeking funding for 10 hanging baskets in the Neighbourhood Watch area. The aim is to detract sound and air pollution from the nearby M32 and build community pride. The grant will be used to pay for 10 hanging baskets from the Blaise Nursery.	£1,900	Yes £1,900	£10,658.55
East Park Area Resident Association	The group is seeking 10 hanging baskets, which has become the highlight of the year for the estate. They are also seeking 2 benches to commemorate the Workhouse memorial. The funding will be used to pay for 10 hanging baskets from the Blaise Nursery and 2 benches and advertisement.	£4,500	Yes £1,900	£8,758.55
Total		£22,013.45	£16,241.45	£8,758.55

18- If the Neighbourhood Committee approves the full requested amounts the NP will have £2,986.55 of Wellbeing Grant remaining for the rest of this financial year. However if the Neighbourhood committee approves the panel recommendation as stated above, the NP will have £8,758.55 remaining for the rest of the financial year.

Changing priorities for Greater Fishponds

- 19- The priorities for Wellbeing Grant should now change to reflect the Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership plan. The group will consider proposed priorities and revised process at the next Panel meeting.

Part 6: Green Capital:

- 20- Following the NP member's request to re-advertise the Green Capital Fund to wider community groups, only one external application was received. The panel considered this application and the Greater Fishponds NP application to spend any underspend of the Green Capital on the Bristol East Green Map project.
- 21- The NP members are asked to approve the applications summarised in the table shown below:

Name of group	Description of works	Amount £ requested	Approved	Running Balance £
Green Capital Fund				£14,958.50
Soil Association	The Soil Association is looking to hold a Big Picnic for schools in the Greater Fishponds NP area. The aim is to celebrate and raise awareness of how school food culture has changed using the Food For Life Partnership. The funding will be used for to pay workshops from food growing/cooking organisations, marquee hire and voluntary support training.	£2,200	Yes subject to conditions £2,000	£12,958.50
GFNP	The aim of this project is to promote Bristol East Area, whilst connecting and enhancing green spaces in the NP area. This will be done by producing a Bristol East Green Map trail, which highlights local attractions, wildlife, cycle track, etc.	Any Underspent	Yes £12,958.50	0.00
Total		£2,200	£14,958.50	0.00

- 22- As previously discussed the Neighbourhood Partnership is asked to approve the remaining £12,958.50, as per the subgroup recommendation to contribute to the Green Map project for Bristol East.

23- If approved the project will have total budget of £7,040.51 from the St George and £14,958.50 from the Greater Fishponds NP.

Environment Subgroup Recommendation

Appendix 1

The Environment Subgroup prioritised the themes and proposed activities of the Environment section of the NP Plan as shown below:

Theme	Priorities	Activities	Priority Order
Environment	Priority 1: The NP area is clean, tidy and well maintained	Activity 1: Monitor and proactively clear daily/weekly visit hotspot locations East Park, Hillfields??, Oldbury Court flats	1
		Activity 2: Organise 2 cycling surgeries a year in areas with conflicts to promote responsible cycling.	2
		Activity 3: Reduce ambiguous signage	2
		Activity 4: Enforcement in hotspot location Fishponds Road and Lodge Causeway (Eastville Park, Old Station Rd)	2
		Activity 5: Aesthetically improve with flower baskets and flower meadows key locations: The junction 2 roundabout/Straits Parade/Lodge Causeway/ upper Fishponds Shopping area/Lower Fishponds Rd shopping area and Lodge Hill.	2
		Activity 6: Help recruit more volunteers for HEFs in bloom	2
		Activity 7: Make it easy to report Graffiti	1
		Activity 8: Reduce on street litter and fly tipping: Empower the local community to take control in local community space. Eg hotspot locations: Railway path, East Park and Boswell Street and area in the triangle between M32 and fishponds road.	1
		Activity 9: Reduce on street litter and fly tipping: Organise two community clean-ups as part of "Week of Action"	1
		Activity 10: Reduce on street litter and fly tipping: Twice a year Engage with UWE students "moving in, moving out" campaigns	1
		Activity 11: Reduce on street litter and fly tipping: recruit Street Champions to increase the number of reported issues	1
		Activity 12 – Maintain: improve neglected junction 2 roundabout fence. Painting railings at junction 2 roundabout.	3
		Activity 13: Audit where dog fouling is most acute, who is complaining, etc.	1
		Activity 14: Develop programme of activities to tackle dog fouling.	1
	Priority 2: Parks and Green Spaces are well maintained.	Activity 1: Consultation on proposed GMS with park groups, landlord services and tenant groups, wider population and equalities groups.	1
		Activity 2: Monitoring of GMS and report back to NP.	2

Theme	Priorities	Activities	Priority Order
Environment	Priority 3: Improve local habitats for wildlife.	Activity 1: Improve habitats: Support the establishment of wild meadows in agreed locations.	2
		Activity 2: Improve habitats: Evaluate fishing permit scheme for Eastville Park	2
		Activity 3: Improve habitats: Secure funding to deliver Tree Plans	2
		Activity 4: Improve habitats: Develop and deliver Tree Plans and planting schemes in Eastville Park and Frome Valley,	2
	Priority 3: The NP area has quality Parks and play areas accessible to all	Activity 1: Review Area Green Space Investment Plan priorities	1
		Activity 2- Play: install new play space in East Park Estate	1
		Activity 3: Install 1 X litter bin @ Gozzie	done
		Activity 4: Accessibility: Install new gate at Begbrook Park	3
		Activity 5: Accessibility: Install new gate entrance at Meadowsweet Open Space.	3
		Activity 6: Accessibility: Improve Public Right of Way for all	3
		Activity 7: Accessibility: Upgrade pathways, car park and entrance at Oldbury Court.	3