



AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership Thursday 2nd April 2015

Report of: NP Plan lead persons.

Title: NP Plan Update Report

Contact: 0117 9036409

Note NP Plan update:			
Content	Page	Content	Page
1- Environment	31	2- Traffic and Transport	33
3- Families, Younger and Older People	NUA	4- Crime and Community Safety	35
5- Active Citizen, Community Cohesion & Dev	NUA	6- Community Buildings	36
7- Employment, Training and Economic Dev	NUA	8- Housing, Planning and Major Projects	36
9- Community Engagement	37	10-	
11-		12-	

NUA = No Update Available

1. NP Plan Theme: Environment

Activity/Description	Cost to date £	Update
1.1 Priority 1: The NP area is clean, tidy and well maintained.		
Activity 2: Organise 2 cycling surgeries a year in areas with conflicts to promote responsible cycling.	N/A	Cycling surgery taking place in company of the Neighbourhood Policing team on the 18 th March on the railway path, opposite Morrison's Fishponds Rd
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.		Planters for Fishponds Rd and Lodge Causeway are currently being replanted. Flower meadows agreed in the following locations: Gill Avenue; M32 J2 Eastgate; Snowdon Rd (expand existing); Frenchay Park Rd.
Activity 11: Reduce on street litter and fly tipping: Recruit Street Champions to increase the number of reported issues		Street Champion Guide currently being finalised and will be relaunched in June 2015.
Activity 12 – Maintenance: improve neglected junction 2 roundabout fence. Painting railings at junction 2 roundabout.		Completed.
1.2 Priority 3: Improve local habitats for wildlife.		
Activity 1- Improve habitats: Support the establishment of wild meadows in agreed locations.		Update see Update 1.1.5
Activity 4: Improve habitats: Develop and deliver Tree Plans and planting schemes in Eastville Park and Frome Valley.		The Big Tree Plant's millionth tree plant took place at Eastville Park on February 5 th 2015 as part of the TreePips project. 60 children from Glenfrome school were involved in the planting and the day was attended by the Secretary of State for the Environment, The Mayor, Director of the Tree Council and the Chair of the Forestry Commission. The plan was developed with the Friends of Eastville Park

		<p>and 28 standard trees were planted following a wide community consultation.</p> <p>The plan also has 17 further trees which can be planted next season (Dec 15 – March17) subject to funding via NPs, memorial or business sponsorship being found at a cost of £275 a tree including 2 years of watering, totalling £4,675.</p> <p>Of these further trees, 10 are in an avenue across the middle of the park to mirror an existing avenue. There is an issue with these - although approved by the community consultation, there are now permanent football goal concrete bases that are in place which will need to be removed at an approx. cost of £3,000 each. This needs to be followed up at a community level/NP level before planting of these 10 can take place.</p>
Priority 3: The NP area has quality parks and play areas accessible to all		
Activity 2- Play: install new play space in East Park Estate	£75,000	Consultation on draft plans taking place on the 19 th March with pupils from May Park Primary School.
Activity 3: Install 1 X litter bin @ Coombe Brook Valley (The Gozzy).	£2,500	<p>A dog waste bin has been installed close to Moorlands Rd. It has been highlighted to Parks that this is not what the NP requested. Parks have now agreed to install another dual purpose bin, close to one of the access points where it could easily be serviced.</p> <p>In addition to this Bristol Nature Network (BNN) is organising their first joint event with the local community for hedgerow planting event at Coombe Brook Valley (The Gozzy) for Sunday the 29th March. This is on a part of the site that has been very neglected (where it adjoins Holly Lodge Road).</p>
Activity 7: Accessibility: Upgrade pathways, car park and entrance at Oldbury Court.	£48,000	Planning application to improve Oldbury Court car park was rejected. Parks department are now reviewing the reason/s for not granting the planning application with the view of

		redesigning more acceptable plan.
Clean & Green budget have been used to support above stated priorities. The NP had £1,500 to spend this financial year of which the Neighbourhood Officer spent £1,424.40 for full detailed breakdown see appendix 1. The remaining £75.60 will be carried forward to 2015/16.		

2. NP Plan Theme: Traffic and Transport.

Activity/Description	Cost to date £	Update
1.3 Priority 1: Pedestrian safety.		
Project 1: Forest Road Bridge in Hillfields. Footway Widening. Investing Bristol Futures Fund (IBFF) funded.	£30,000	Footway widening and traffic signal works completed in Autumn 2014. Problems with cycle detection raised by two members of the public, so new detection equipment is being trialled to avoid conflict between slower cyclists and motor vehicles travelling in the opposing direction.
Project 2: Forest Road North Footway Widening between Beachgrove and Staplehill. Investing Bristol Futures Fund (IBFF) funded.	£45,000	Following objections received to the proposed one-ways, Highways engineers have developed an alternative option removing the need for one way and no entry restrictions. Subgroup members and Councillors were consulted Jan / Feb'15. Public consultation to be carried out in March 2015 with residents of this length of Forest Road only. If no significant objections are received it is proposed to implement just the waiting restrictions, which were formerly advertised, dropping the movement restrictions. Implementation is likely to be in late spring / summer 2015, subject to the consultation and subsequent contractor availability.
Project 3 & 4: Improvements to pedestrian crossing at Whitefield Road, including Avenue and Poplar Road, speed reducing measures, one way restrictions. Section 106 funded.	£16,497.62 + £16,497.62	Following the completion of the consultation and statutory legal processes, contractors have been invited to carry out the works and they have expressed interest in the work, subject to their resources. Other competitive contractors have previously rejected the works based on resources.

		Construction dates yet to be confirmed.
Project 5: To upgrade the existing traffic island on Speedwell Road Section 106 funded.	£10,998.43	Consultation and statutory legal processes completed for waiting restrictions. Widening of islands and the introduction of drop kerbs with tactile paving to be carried out in late Spring / Summer 2015.
Project 7: Make Hockey's Lane safer by reinstating the no left turn ban.	N/A	The NP received final decision regarding Hockey's Lane. Bristol City Council decided to retain the left turn ban currently in place at Hockey's Lane. Appendix 2 shows full statement from Service Director, Peter Mann.
Project 8: Erect railings at the crossing of Manor Rd and Fishponds Rd Junction Crossing. Funded from the Minor Signing Budget.	TBC	Railings ordered from supplier and will be installed in April / May 2015 subject to contractor availability.
Project 9: Implement Station Rd improvements, including cycle contraflow and widening the road for parking provision. Centrally funded project.	TBC	Day time restrictions (single yellow) will be implemented in March 2015, these restrictions are hoped to improve the route without the need for road widening etc.
1.4 Priority 1: Parking problems/restrictions outside schools		
Project 1: Change the waiting restrictions from 1 hour no return to 2 hours no return in the Fishponds shopping district and New Station Rd. Centrally funded project.	N/A	Completed.
Project 4: Charlton Rd area wide Parking restriction. Local Traffic and Section106 funded.	£9,000	Completed. Waiting for final figures.
1.5 Priority 2: Maintenance of roads and pavements: Carriageway surface dressings. Including Minor lines and signs		
Project 1: Resurface Brockworth Crescent, Frome Valley Rd, Begbrook Lane footways and		Order with contractor
Project 1: Resurface Welsford Rd/Avenue, Croft Avenue, Rowland Avenue		Order with contractor
Project 1: Surface dress Drummond Rd, Gordon		Works completed.

Avenue and Park Rd.		

3. NP Plan Theme: Crime and Community Safety.

Activity/Description	Cost to date £	Update
1.6 Priority 1: Reduce Vice related ASBs.		
Activity 2: Proactive patrols and operations in hotspot location key locations, East Park, Fishponds road and Stapleton Rd.		Proactive patrols being undertaken by the neighbourhood Beat team and the response team at peak times. Full report to be presented at the May 2015 Environment subgroup and if needed at the next NP meeting.
Activity 5: Enable local residents influence the management of the Change Fund.		New process has been agreed and the Chair for the NF in the affected wards will influence the decisions in future, for more details of the process please contact Georgie Bryant or Tina Newman.
Priority 3: Reduce street drinking		
Activity 1: Targeted work in hotspot locations inc. Fishponds Park, Railway Path, Stapleton Rd under the M32, Fishponds Rd.		Locations are being actively patrolled by the Neighbourhood Beat team and included on the response teams patrol plans
Priority 4 : Reduce incidents of Domestic Burglary and increase community resilience		
Activity 1: Proactive and reactive Burglary visits. As part of the burglary plan		<p>Since the beginning of this scheme (Jan 2014) well over 830 household have benefited from additional security items and crime prevention advice, to date there have been on repeat victims.</p> <p>Funding has now been agreed to continue this area of work and develop the use of cocooning in the whole of the East Bristol area. Awaiting delivery of new stock. For full evaluation of the project please request this from Georgie Bryant.</p>

4. NP Plan Theme: Community Buildings.

Description of works	Est cost	Update
4.1 Priority 1: Providing development support and opportunities for Community/voluntary organisations running community centres and help them to apply CAT in the NP area.		
Activity 5: Provide advice and support to Oldbury Court Community Centre.	N/A	The Downend Police & Community Amateur Boxing Club had been busy making progress in achieving their aspirations. The group are now ready to put in a request for Community Asset Transfer (CAT). See agenda item 7, Part 4.

5. NP Plan Theme: Housing, Planning and Major Projects.

Activity/Description	Cost to date £	Update
5.1 Priority 1: Publicise and promote.		
Activity 1: Publicise and promote community consultation events organised for development sites, including: on: Blackberry Hill, Glenside Campus, St Mathias, Graphic Packaging and former Parnall's work site.	N/A	<p>There is preplanning application for the Regal Garage on Staple Hill Rd site. The proposal includes mix use of 21 residential units and a commercial unit. This was circulated to the planning subgroup members.</p> <p>In addition the Council will now proceed with Chester Park school expansion and is hoping to develop a 3FE Junior School on the Abingdon Road Site and refurbish the existing site into 3FE Infant school.</p> <p>Project manager responsible for this will be invited to the Greater Fishponds Planning subgroup.</p>
5.2 Priority 2: Supporting the newly formed Planning Subgroup		
Link with Neighbourhood Planning Network for support and build momentum.		Newly revised Planning subgroup met twice since the last NP meeting. The group is keen to become active and in the longer term develop Neighbourhood Development Plan. No decision has been made in the size of the area the group will cover, although

		<p>this is subject to number of volunteers and where the volunteers are from.</p> <p>During March 2015, the group invited Bristol Neighbourhood Planning Network representative to their meeting and received useful information. At this meeting the group also appointed Joseph Hassell as the Chair of the subgroup.</p>
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6. NP Theme: Community Engagement Update

Last round of Neighbourhood Forum (NF) meetings took place during Feb 2015. Summary of the key issues are shown below:

6.1 Eastville NF:

Neighbourhood Forum name	Eastville
Neighbourhood Forum date	18 th February 2015
Neighbourhood Forum venue	Gadds Hill Scout hut
No. of people attending	10 residents, 6 presenter, 3 police staff, 2 Councillors

Discussion topic	Summary/Agreed action	By whom
Police updates	The letters to residents about the outcomes from the meeting with Kerry McCarthy are currently being distributed. There will not be a dedicated vice team in the future.	Police
Neighbourhood Team update	Residents received a full action sheet updating them of the actions undertaken. And have been updated on the budgets and action plan	Georgie Bryant

Event Proposed for Eastville Park – Love saves the day (LSTD)	The organisers spoke to residents about their concerns and will be disturbing contact details to report problems during the event	LSTD
HEFs in Bloom National Britain in Bloom	The group will be looking at ways of brightening up the East Park Estate including play and the possible memorial	Mark Logan
Bristol Futures Academy	There is a public consolation in progress at the Rose green centre on Monday the 23 rd 7-8pm	Asher Craig
Welfare Reform	There are major changes to the way in which benefits are being paid. There is support available.	Thomas Bidmead
East Park Play area	The draft plan is in place and comments welcomed	Georgie Bryant
Police, Issues raised have been recorded for action	Drug dealing Sandy Lane, Street drinking linked to licensed premises, Graffiti, Cycling on pavements. Theft from a person – Cycle path, Car being repaired on highway - East Park. Traffic lights being ignored Bells hill- Lodge causeway	Neighbourhood Policing team
Council , Issues raised have been recorded for action	Fly tipping - Sandy lane, Geen bin freenmantel need to be emptied more frequently. M32 unofficial skate park – Lighting and blocking cycle/pedestrian lane. M32 Railings on Glenfrome road have been replaced but rubbish behind fence needs removal.	Georgie Bryant

Residents commented:

“Informal Contact with the police is very useful for issues” and

“It has been useful to hear about all the activities highlighted this evening”

6.2 Frome Vale NF

Neighbourhood Forum name	Frome Vale
Neighbourhood Forum date	19 th February 2015
Neighbourhood Forum venue	Fishponds Baptist church
No. of people attending	10 residents, 2 presenter, 1 police staff, 2 Cllrs

Discussion topic	Agreed action	By whom
Police updates	Police provided an update on local crime and activity undertaken by the police.	Police
Neighbourhood Partnership updates	Update on the neighbourhood Plan and actions taken forward from the last forum	Georgie Bryant
Avon Fire and Rescue	Provided information on the volunteering positions available and the free home fire safety check referral service.	Steffie Denton
Bristol Futures Academy	Information was provided on the current consultation on the new free school proposal	Asher Craig

No resident feedback provided.

6.3 Hillfields NF

Neighbourhood Forum name	Hillfields
Neighbourhood Forum date	11 th February 2014
Neighbourhood Forum venue	Hillfields Library

No. of people attending

9 residents, 1 presenter, 1 police staff

Discussion topic	Agreed action	By whom
Police priorities	focus on Cannabis enforcement - Berkley Road Non dwelling burglary – Shed breaks	Neighbourhood Policing team
Community Priorities Mast on Lodge hill	Still requires further investigation	Georgie Bryant
Neighbourhood Plan	The Forum has requested a Workshop on the Neighbourhood Partnership Plan at next forum covering the following <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A better understanding of where the actions have come from and background to the plans development• Discuss how the forum can influence future actions• a full section 106 and CIL breakdown for the area requested	Abdulrazak Dahir
Dog Fouling	Agreed to take the issue of dog fouling to the Environmental subgroup to develop a local campaign	Neighbourhood Forum members and Georgie Bryant
Driving on Fishponds Road especially Taxi's	Request information from taxi Licensing team	Georgie
Stoke Lane motor cycles using bike lane	The area is in South Glos and will be passed to the police in that area	Police

4 out of the 9 residents found the NF very useful, 3 found it useful. Residents commented:

“Well Chaired”

“More info/publication of When and Where meetings and posters”

“Appreciate Georgie’s input/Commitment”
“Important”

Greater Fishponds NP Clean & Green expenditure 2014/15

		Clean & Green Budget		£1,500
Works Requested	Location	Resource Used	Amount £	Balance £
Bulb planting	Eastville park swimming pool	Community Payback	£100	£1,400
planters Greater Fishponds winter	lodge Causeway/fishponds Road	Blaise nursery	£420	£980
Blubs for volunteers to plant	Eastville	Blaise nursery	£75	£905
Flower Meadows	Gill Avenue; M32 J2 Eastgate; Snowdon road (expand existing); Frencheys park way; (unspent monies being spent this year)	Parks team	£829.40	£75.60
Planters Greater Fishponds Summer	Lodge Causeway / Fishponds Road	Blaise Nursery Funded from central £420	0.00	£75.60
Litter pick	Eastgate M32	Community Payback	0.00	£75.60
Dog foul pick	Goffenton Drive green space	Community Payback	0.00	£75.60
Lane clearance	Gordon Road - Wineberry Close	Community Payback	0.00	£75.60
Total amount spent to date				
Amount Carried forward				£75.60

Hockey's Lane Statement

Background

- Left turn into Hockey's Lane banned as part of Greater Bristol Bus Network scheme in 2011
- Concerns raised re drivers ignoring the left turn ban and turning through the green man
- Various actions taken including police enforcement, increased visibility of banned turn signs, roundel on road and traffic studies
- Number of vehicles ignoring the banned turn dropped significantly
- No reported accidents involving pedestrians in the three years since the turn was banned

Current Position

Hockey's Lane is a key junction on the Fishponds Rd GBBN route and as such determines the operation of the traffic signals along the whole corridor. Various options have been explored for removal of the banned left turn. The only feasible option other than retaining the left turn ban is to remove the ban and change the pedestrian crossing to an all-round pedestrian stage where all traffic is stopped to allow pedestrians to cross the road. This would have the following impacts:

- Reduced capacity at junction

Aside from increasing congestion along the Fishponds Rd corridor this would also negatively affect the signals on the rest of the corridor – particularly the pedestrian crossings. This would result in longer delays for pedestrians at these crossings

- Delays to buses

Queues on Fishponds Rd would extend beyond the ends of the existing bus lanes delaying buses attempting to enter them. Buses would also suffer some minor delays at the junction itself due to vehicles queuing in the bus lane to turn left.

- Reduced green man time for pedestrians

Pedestrian delays would be increased at the junction and pedestrians would receive a much shorter green man time

- Morrisons traffic may divert to this route

Currently over 90% of Morrisons traffic uses the prescribed route via Station Rd to access the store. Traffic diverting away from this route to Hockey's Lane would benefit frontages along Station Rd but would also increase traffic levels and therefore congestion on Fishponds Rd

Removing the left turn ban would have a significant impact on the area as a whole as detailed above. Whilst it is accepted that driver behaviour is creating a hazard, the hazard is not significant enough to warrant removal of the left turn. Other hazards would be created by removing the left turn ban and the impacts on bus reliability and journey times would be significant. It has therefore been decided to retain the left turn ban and leave the junction layout as it is currently.

Future Options / Mitigation

The government may at some point decriminalise the contravention of banned turn movements enabling the council to enforce this banned turn with CCTV cameras. If this happens the council will commit to enforcing this banned movement to further reduce the hazard at this site.

Currently this is the only safe crossing point of Hockey's Lane. As a new library has opened at the end of Hockey's Lane, pedestrian movements have increased. There is therefore justification for creating an additional crossing point on Hockey's Lane at the existing dropped kerbs by Lower Station Rd. This would remove some of the pedestrian movements currently occurring at the crossing by Fishponds Rd reducing the hazard at that point. An uncontrolled pedestrian crossing island could be provided for £5k or a zebra crossing could be provided for £10k if budget is made available.

Peter Mann

Service Director, Transport

Bristol City Council