



MY NEIGHBOURHOOD

Agenda Item No.6

**Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership
Thursday 8th Oct 2015**

Report of: Subgroup Champions, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator.

Title: NP Activities- Business Report

Recommendation:

- 1- **Briefing on Expansion of Discretionary Licencing Consultation.**
- 2- **Co-ordinating Subgroup:** NP members to note progress and make decisions.
- 3- **Environment:** NP and NC to note Environment subgroup update and NC to approve Neighbourhood Budget expenditure.
- 4- **Community Buildings:** NP to decide a representative to take part in a meeting with the Downend Amateur Boxing Club about Oldbury Community Centre.
- 5- **Wellbeing:** NC is asked to approve Wellbeing applications received since July 2015.
- 6- **Bristol Arena:** NP to note consultation for the Bristol Arena development.
- 7- **City Wide NP event 24th Oct 2015:** NP to respond to requests from the Working Group organising the event.

Part 1: Briefing on Expansion of Discretionary Licensing for Neighbourhood Partnership meeting:

- 1- Bristol City Council already does many things to help deal with poor conditions in the private rented sector. It is already within our powers to respond to complaints about property conditions and take enforcement action where applicable. For large Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) mandatory licensing ensures that landlords /agents managing 3 storey properties occupied by 5 or more people must apply for a licence and comply with licensing conditions relating to both property condition and management. A fee is charged by the local authority to cover administration costs for this.
- 2- However, the majority of smaller privately rented properties do not fall into this category and many are in poor condition. This rental sector is growing rapidly and many of the new landlords are not aware of, or deliberately ignore the minimum housing standards that their properties should meet under the Housing Act 2004. Their tenants are often also unaware of their rights to living in decent housing conditions and often believe they cannot do anything about it or are too afraid to report these problems for fear of repercussions from the landlord. Discretionary Licensing would give us additional powers to tackle these problems proactively on an area based approach. This will allow us to, inspect all privately rented properties and ensure they meet licensing conditions and therefore improve the living conditions for many private tenants. A fee is charged to landlords to cover the cost of administering such a scheme.
- 3- We are currently consulting on expanding Discretionary Licensing to the wards of Eastville and St George West. Consultation closes on 3rd November 2015. Verbal update available at the meeting. For more information go to www.bristol.gov.uk/discretionarylicensing and complete our online survey at www.surveymonkey.com/consultationdl
- 4- Follow us on Twitter @BCC_licensing

Part 2: Co-ordinating subgroup

- 5- The Co-ordinating subgroup met on Thursday 10th September 2015. The group discussed the Community Development response to the NP Plan. The group also discussed the Mayor's Action Summary following his visit on 23rd July 2015 to the NP area.
- 6- Denis Wise who is now part of the Community Development Team and used to be the Neighbourhood Development Officer for the St George and Greater Fishponds NPs has been appointed to cover East and

Central area of the city. This area is ten wards area, stretching from Cabot, Clifton and Clifton East, to Greater Fishponds and St George NP areas.

- 7- Following the NP request to the Mayor and Community Development Team for a Community Development worker to specifically support East Park Resident Association with wider community engagement. We have received additional Community Development worker Raquib Khandker to work with the group for 6 months after which will be reviewed.
- 8- Moreover, the Community Development Team is also focussing on citywide Equalities & Community Cohesion, Active Citizen and Neighbourhoods whilst using Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Approach.
- 9- Due to limited resources they confirmed that they will not be able to progress all of the NP Plan priorities. However they have agreed to take on Families and Young People P1, Activity 2; Community Cohesion & Development P1 Activity 3, P1 (Helping and supporting existing community events) and P3 (Celebrate Community Volunteering); Community buildings and facilities P1 Activity 1 and Activity 3; Crime and Community Safety P1 Activity 3 and Environment P1 Activity 8. Where relevant regular updates will be provided to Neighbourhood Partnership meetings. See agenda item 7 for an update.
- 10- When discussed the M32 Junction 2 roundabout and Eastgate Retail Park, which are in the Action Summary from the Mayor's visit, the group highlighted that there is a real need for a joint approach between the Greater Fishponds and Lockleaze & Horfield NPs to work on this project. The Mayor also agreed to co-sign a support letter.
- 11- It was suggested to invite the businesses to an environment themed meeting rather than writing them a letter to request financial contribution to enhance the roundabout. The NP is asked for steer on this.

Part 3: Environment

- 12- The Environment Sub-Group met on Wednesday 26th August 2015.

- 13- The group is currently reviewing the Parks Investment Plan, first created in 2011 from the Area Green Space Plan. Although the full plan was not adopted by Bristol City Council, it was agreed in October 2011 for element to be progressed under the Neighbourhood Partnership structure. At the next meeting of the Environmental Subgroup in November the group will be agreeing and prioritising the remaining actions and bringing completed projects to closure.
- 14- The Environmental Subgroup is also working with the event organisers who have used Eastville Park this year to make recommendations on where the funding collected from these event should be reinvested into Eastville Park.
- 15- Subsequently the Neighbourhood Partnership received a letter from Bristol TreeForum providing an update of a citywide Street Tree Planting scheme, which they have been working on. BCC Tree Bristol team is seeking NP support for their Street Tree proposal presented in appendices A & B map showing proposed locations and notes for the map and the letter from TreeForum.
- 16- Finally this year there is an aspiration to have winter planters in key high street locations, including Fishponds Rd and Lodge Causeway shopping districts. The NP also received a request from local residents from Stonebridge Park to have planters installed as part of a healthier, safer street project they currently working on. However the NP allocated all its Environment budget.
- 17- The Neighbourhood Committee is hereby asked to approve Officer recommendation summarised below.

2015/16 Neighbourhood Budget available			£42,084.82
NP Plan Priority	Activity/Description of works	Amount £	Running Balance £
Environment P1, P2, P3, P3	It is recommended that the Environment Budget is topped up for the amount of £2,500	£2,500	£39,584.82
Remaining Neighbourhood Budget			£39,584.82

- 18- The Neighbourhood Committee is hereby asked to approve the Environment proposals shown below.

2015/16 Environment Budget available			£2,500
NP Plan Priority:	Activity/Description of works	Amount £	Running Balance £
Environment Ref: P1 Activity 5 The NP is Clean, Tidy and Well Maintained.	It is recommended that £480 of Environment budget allocated to 2015/16 winter planting scheme for Fishponds Rd and Lodge Causeway shopping districts.	£480	£2,020
Traffic and Transport P1, Pedestrian Safety. Environment Ref: P3 Activity 1, 2. Improve Local habitats for wildlife Community Cohesion & Development Ref: P1, Activity 3 Supporting and empowering local residents wanting to make their neighbourhood a better place..	Stonebridge Park does not have high footfall, however attracts large traffic volume during rush hour periods, local residents want to do something about this and are seeking to have 1 X bee-planter, bench; small tree; bee friendly plants and 2 other smaller planter. This is part of a bigger project supported by Green Capital funded schemes.	£1,479	£541
Remaining Neighbourhood Budget			£541

Part 4: Community Buildings:

19- Downend Amateur Boxing Club applied to the council in 2014 for a lease of Oldbury Court Community Centre (through Community Asset Transfer). The council has in principle approved a 15-year Lease, linked to a Service Agreement, subject to the club obtaining funding and carrying out renovation works within a reasonable time. An urgent meeting is now needed to discuss the timescale and the next steps, in order to meet the requirements of Sport England and other potential funders. A representative of the Greater

Fishponds NP is asked to be part of this process and to attend a meeting with club officials and council officers on Monday 12th October.

Part 5: Wellbeing Grant:

- 20- The Wellbeing subgroup met on Monday 8th of June 2015.
- 21- At present the total amount of Wellbeing Grant available for the remainder of 2015/16 financial year is £10,038.55. This is because the NP received back £3,084 which was allocated to Pondlife. Their planning application was turned down and therefore are unable to pursue with the project. The NP also received back £999 allocated to Beechwood Club.
- 22- In total three applications were assessed by the panel with the total value of £10,309. The group's recommendation is summarised in the table shown below "Funding Appraisal Top Sheet".
- 23- The NC is asked to approve recommendations from the Wellbeing Panel summarised in the table shown below.

Greater Fishponds NP Wellbeing Sub-group: Funding appraisal Top sheet 7/9/15				
Name of organisation	What's the funding for? Brief summary of project	Amount requested	Amount recommended	Conditions
Eastville Workhouse Memorial Group	The group is seeking to fundraise for a memorial to mark the site of the Eastville Workhouse paupers' burial ground at Rosemary Green. Eastville Workhouse Memorial Group secured funding from John James Trust and therefore reduced the amount of money they are seeking from the NP from £7,585 to £535. If granted the money will be used to pay for art workshop for local children to help design art work and project management fee.	£535	£535	Secure £7,000 match funding and ensure the group is eligible.
Bristol Playbus Project	The group would like to carry out six months trial of "Walking Playranger" scheme in Meadowvale & Speedwell Area. The project involves collecting children from local schools, walking them to Playranger session in Meadowvale Park. The funding will pay for staff cost, liaison with school, DBS checks, Volunteer expenses, Monitoring report and equipment.	£1,224	0.00	The main area of work is in the St George NP area. The panel advised the group to approach the St George NP Wellbeing Grant.
Fishponds Business Forum	Fishponds Business Forum would like to develop Christmas lights project. The Project is aimed at enlightening the community shopping area to encourage more local shopping which provides a healthy heart for the community, a joyful tableaux of light and spirit at this festive time which lifts the whole community and hopefully will encourage more community led activities. The funding will be spent on lights for 3 trees in Fishponds Park, Lights for the Old Library building, License fee. Total cost of the project is £6,500 of which local businesses will contribute £5,000	£1,500	£1,500	Confirm how Public liability insurance will be paid. Promote activities planned in Fishponds voices, develop different activities to encourage citizens to participate and feel part of the celebration event. Advise: Late opening events with different traders opening late and publicising widely with community events in the park.

24- The following table sets out the principal benefits to Equalities groups and groups with protected characteristics as described in Section D of the application form.

PROJECT	CONTRIBUTION TO EQUALITIES
Eastville Workhouse Memorial Group	The Workhouse Memorial Remembrance area can be used by all sections of the community. The committee are keen to ensure it is inclusive. The workhouse was particularly oppressive place for women who were separated from their children after infancy as children were in separate dormitories. It is envisaged there may be a higher proportion of elderly women coming to visit the site. The workhouse will have a lesson plan for school children to learn from.
Fishponds Business Forum	The project is inclusive to all sections of the community, older people will be invited and an effort will be made to bring those who are less mobile to participate the lights and various ceremonies. It is not envisaged for this project to have a negative impact on any of the protected characteristics.

25- If the NC approve the Wellbeing subgroup's recommendation of £2,035 the NP will have £8,003.55 remaining in the Wellbeing Grant budget.

26- As part of the Wellbeing Subgroup members Mo Lewis, Scot Jacobs-Lange and Bradley Wilde assessed the Wellbeing applications.

Part 6: Bristol Arena Consultation

27- A four week programme of public consultation on plans for the new Bristol Arena will run from 16 September to 13 October.

28- The Bristol Arena will be a 12,000 capacity venue hosting over 100 events a year. These events will be a mixture of music, comedy, family entertainment and sports and the proposed arena can seamlessly convert into a smaller, more intimate 5000 seat venue. The Arena development includes proposals for improved transport links into the area, including new pedestrian and cycle routes. The area surrounding the Arena will be transformed over time into a vibrant, mixed use space that encourages daytime and evening use.

- 29- The development proposals will be the subject of two separate planning applications - a full planning application for the Arena and an outline application for mixed-use development on the remainder of the Arena Island site. In advance of these planning applications the Council would like to share the emerging proposals and invite feedback from key stakeholders, groups and organisations with an interest, as well as the local community and the wider public, to help inform the final plans.
- 30- The public consultation will be focussed around an exhibition of the proposals and at www.bristoltemplequarter.com/arenaconsultation where people can see the plans and comment online. A printed copy of the consultation material will also be available in local libraries.
- 31- The main exhibition will be at the Customer Service Point, 100 Temple Street, on weekdays from Thursday 17 September until Tuesday 13 October, with staffed early evening public drop-in sessions on 23 September and 1 October from 6pm – 7.30pm. The same exhibition will also be on display in the Galleries on Saturday 26 September and as a stand-alone exhibition in the main foyer of the Central Library from 28 September until 13 October.
- 32- If you would like a representative to attend a neighbourhood meeting or forum during the consultation period please contact jon.toy@bristol.gov.uk.
- 33- For any further comments/queries please email Avril Baker, Consultation co-ordinator on behalf of the project team on info@abc-pr.co.uk.

Part 7: Citywide NP event 24th October 2015.

- 34- The next City Wide Event will take place at the MSHED on Saturday 24th October, all NP members should have received their invitation via Event Bright. At the event there will be workshops and presentations to explore the following subjects.
- Street Champions/ Environmental Action
 - Local Walking Strategies
 - What the legacy of Green Capital will be for our Neighbourhoods
 - NP resources, Neighbourhood Charters, the Toolkit and Neighbourhood Partnership Boundaries

- Working together with young people
- Communicating the work of the Neighbourhood Partnership
- How to speak on the Radio
- Community Plans

35- If you did not receive an invitation you can register and book into a workshop by following the link below.
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/2nd-citywide-neighbourhood-partnership-conference-october-24th-2015-tickets-18154019160>

36- As you are aware the working group have been meeting up to plan this event and we are now in a position to ask all NPs to take part in three key activities:

- ASK 1:** We would like each NP to identify 2 people who would be willing to take the one hour Speaking on the Radio training session which will lead into actually speaking on the radio about the event and the world of NPs in general.

37- There will then be an opportunity between end of October and Christmas for each NP to have a slot on a breakfast show to discuss their NP and publicise the work that you are doing, recruit more people to your forums and working groups (each NP will have the chance to plan this input to suit their needs)

- ASK 2:** The group have agreed the concept for the Exhibition is to be about showing a problem, and then the solution that the NP has worked to achieve. - the Exhibition needs 14 different posters (one A2 poster per NP with 1, 2 or 3 pictures about something great that they have achieved). This is to illustrate how working together to solve an issue can bring about positive change or bring many people together. It is important that we do not duplicate projects, so request that each NP send in 2 or 3 case studies (a short paragraph of what the issue was and how it was solved) and some pictures so that the group can pick the best combination of pictures and ensure 14 different case studies.

38- To get you thinking a list of some ideas are presented in the table shown below. However you might have better ideas which would be welcomed.

Play equipment (eg. I didn't have a place to play, but my mum worked with the NP to help develop the park play area) all examples at this stage not agreed by NPs
Zebra crossing/other traffic project
Trees
Problem litter
Benches
Community Projects
Luncheon Clubs -
Festivals
Youth project
Bus stops
Play groups
Traffic schemes
Something else perhaps 'problems in my area' flytipping perhaps with reporting
Project – bins on streets?

39- To get the case studies agreed and posters made we need to have **received them by the 28th September**. The working group will then pick the best pictures and case studies to put the Exhibition together.

iii. **Ask 3:** Could you please send in as many photos of activities and events that have been linked to your NP. This is to be included in the montage of pictures which will be shown in the foyer of the MSHED on the 1st floor to bring people into the Exhibition.

40- Many thanks for helping out in this way, and I look forward to seeing you all on the 24th October. .

Note to Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership
22nd September 2015

The University of Bristol have committed £60,000 to fund tree planting across the city over the next three years. Greater Fishponds NP has been selected as one of six NP to receive support this year. It was decided to prioritise tree planting to replace existing tree stumps or fill empty tree pit i.e. to plant in locations where there has been a tree until recently. Site surveys were undertaken by University of Bristol students under a volunteer programme and this has been checked by Council staff. We are now able to confirm that a total of nine (9) locations have been selected for planting in your Neighbourhood Partnership, see below.

The University of Bristol funding will pay to purchase, plant, protect and water each tree for two years. The trees will typically be 3 metres tall when planted.

The next step is to remove any tree stumps. It is then expected that all trees identified with the Greater Fishponds NP area will be planted by the end of December 2015. It may still prove necessary to adjust this list should underground utilities prove to be a constraint.

Further, there is an offer from the University to provide information / education about some of the trees being planted in each NP area; details will be provided in due course.

We are grateful to the support from the University of Bristol which will see 60 trees planted across the city this winter.

	Map Reference	Location	Tree
1	54301	south side Fishponds Road opposite Elmgrove Road	Lime <i>Tilia cordata</i> 'Greenspire'
2	54286	North side Fishponds Road between Guinea Lane and Yalland Close	London plane <i>Plantanus x hispanica</i>
3	53321	North end Guinea Lane west of junction with North Devon Road	Callery pear <i>Pyrus calleryana</i> 'Chanticleer'
4	53879	Trendlewood Park West side near junction with Timber dean part of Manor Court landscaping	Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>
5	53363	South side end of Timber Dene	Scots pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>
6	224568	East end Lawn Road next to entrance to Birch House	birch <i>Betula pendula</i>
7	51702	Gill Road On south side of junction Gill Road and Frenchay Road	whitebeam <i>Sorbus aria</i>
8	53208	North side of Sumerleaze Avenue opposite junction with Cherytree Crescent	Catalpa <i>Catalpa speciosa</i>
9	54329	Wesley Close East side near junction with Gordon Avenue	whitebeam <i>Sorbus aria</i>

Dear Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership
From: Bristol TreeForum

Street Tree Planting

Since you prioritised trees some amazing things have happened in your Partnership!

1. Bristol University has agreed to sponsor some tree planting in neighbourhood partnerships that have prioritised trees, which includes yours. Unfortunately students from Bristol University weren't able to survey the stumps and tarmac covered tree pits in your Neighbourhood, so I did instead!. These sites have been reviewed by the Council (TreeBristol) and they will bring a paper to your next Partnership meeting requesting that you approve planting of trees in the locations described in the paper. The costs of the planting will be fully covered by the University of Bristol.
2. Highways Department have started local traffic schemes again (which is good news in itself) and we have requested they automatically plan new trees into such schemes, build outs for example, unless services or sight lines mean it is not possible. The cost of a tree pit when work is being done is usually small, even minimal, compared to the cost of the scheme itself. You will still need to fund the tree; that can come from S106, CIL, your own NP funds or you can apply to Bristol University for help in 2016. (In the longer term we hope there will be other donors too). At this stage all we ask please is that you write to Highways and ask them to put in tree pits in new schemes wherever possible.

So replacement trees and now new trees in new locations; as we expect this process to continue over the coming years we need to build a community in each Neighbourhood Partnership that supports tree planting. The TreeForum will ask Neighbourhoods Dept. to see if they will contact those on their mailing list to find out if others are interested to help continue this process. And maybe you have someone who would like to be the lead (or joint lead) contact, currently we don't have anyone specifically designated as Tree Champion for your area; Joseph Glasgow has expressed an interest.

The Bristol TreeForum would like to thank you for prioritising trees, thank Bristol University, and thank the Council's Highways and Tree Bristol Departments for coming together and using this Green Capital Year to start off a process that will help your Neighbourhood, and Bristol, to become an ever better place to live and work in.

Yours faithfully,