



Agenda Item No. 6

Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership Thursday 10th December 2015

Report of: Subgroup Chairs, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator.

Title: NP Activities- Business Report

Recommendation:

- 1- **Citywide NP Event.**
- 2- **Co-ordinating Subgroup:** NP members to note progress.
- 3- **Environment:** NP to sign off completed projects and agree Environment subgroup recommendations.
NC to approve Environment Budget and Section 106 expenditure proposals.
- 4- **Wellbeing:** NC is asked to approve Wellbeing applications received since October 2015.
- 5- **Consultation:** Proposed new approach to grant funding.
- 6- **Consultation:** Joint Spatial Plan and Joint Transport Study.

Part 1: Citywide NP Event:

- 1- Over 80 people took place in the 2nd Citywide NP Conference, energetic discussions took place covering many subjects, such as Community Plans, Communications, Community Charter, etc. There was a lively debate about the role of young people in NPs. The general consensus was to develop youth inclusion model led by young people.
- 2- Resident led working group responsible for organising the event is scheduled to meet mid-December. They will consider the evaluation surveys and will produce a full report, which will be shared with all the NPs.
- 3- At the event several volunteers received training in how to speak on the radio and spoke live on Ujima and BCFM community radios. Each NP will have a chance to take part in a breakfast show between now and Christmas and we have contacted all those who did the training to set this up. Those NPs which did not have anyone take the training have also been offered a slot via their NP Co-ordinator.

Part 2: Co-ordinating subgroup

- 4- The Co-ordinating subgroup met on Thursday 12th November 2015. The group discussed mainly Discover East Bristol project and went through the Action Tracker.
- 5- The group were notified that joint Bristol East NP event is organised for Tuesday 8th December from 6:30pm at St George Library, Church Rd, Bristol, BS5. The Discover East Bristol Map project will officially be launched at this event and both NP members from Greater Fishponds and St George are invited. The event is predominantly to celebrate the joint project and network with NP members. Other invitees will include Destination Bristol, the Neighbourhood Management and Green Capital teams.

Part 3: Environment

- 6- The Environment Subgroup met on Wednesday 25th November 2015, the meeting was well attended.
- 7- Janice Gardener and Matt Collis from the Avon Wildlife Trust (AWT) gave 10 min presentation. They explained “My Wild City”. They explained that this is an ambitious project, which involves making Bristol a city where wildlife flourishes. They are looking at how green spaces including gardens, streets, office/commercial

spaces and parks could be better used to promote wildlife. Details of the projects can be found here <http://www.avonwildlifetrust.org.uk/mywildcity>

- 8- AWT is currently asking groups and Neighbourhood Partnerships to look at their area and think of ways they can increase the value of the green spaces for wildlife. Focusing on green corridors whether that's front gardens or workplaces. The aim is to link up the spaces and create corridor for wildlife. Support and advice will be provided to anyone who is interested getting involved.
- 9- The rest of the meeting was used reviewing and updating the investment plan priorities. The group received comments from NF and a list of completed projects, which they were asked to comment on before the NP signed off the projects as completed. The group's comments have been incorporated, the NP is hereby asked to sign off the list of completed projects shown in appendix A.
- 10- Once the revised Fishponds Investment Plan is ready it will be uploaded on to the NP website.
- 11- The group also considered key Investment Plan priorities to include in the NP Plan. These will be progressed during the periods of 2016/17 to 2019/2020, keeping us on track maintaining the three year NP Plan. The NP is hereby asked to agree schemes the Environment Subgroup recommended to include in the NP Plan as follows:

Hillfields:

- Commission accredited organisation to develop plans for all the parks and open spaces in the neighbourhood.
- Support Friends of Groups (the newly formed one for the Gozzie)

Frome Vale

- Fishponds Park: Play and Planting
- Begbrook Park: Bowling Club fencing & Planting formal area

Eastville

- New play for older children in Eastville Park
- Signage for toilets in Eastville Park
- Develop plan for Eastville Park

- 12- There was a general consensus that where applicable priority should be given working with the Friends of Groups.
- 13- In addition the group discussed proposed Brightening Fishponds Project, which involves enhancements for Eastville end of Fishponds Rd. The aim is to connect enhancements nearby the straits area. Although the group supported the idea in principle, they requested more information to be made available at NP meeting.
- 14- Finally the group were made aware of S106 amount £19,579.28, which had to be spent. Following brief discussion and given the money could only be spend within a defined area the group agreed to recommend allocating this amount to Fishponds Park Play and Planting (Subject to NP approval, as detailed above point 11).
- 15- The Neighbourhood Committee is hereby asked to approve Environment Subgroup recommendation summarised below.

<u>2015/16 Environment Budget available</u>			<u>£541</u>
NP Plan Priority:	Activity/Description of works	Amount £	Running Balance £
Environment Ref: P1 Activity 5 The NP is Clean, Tidy and Well Maintained.	Brightening Fishponds: Planters, Decorations, Wool. More detail to be provided at the NP meeting.	£300	£241
Remaining Environment Budget			£241

<u>2015/16 Section 106</u>			<u>£71,872.23</u>
NP Plan Priority:	Activity/Description of works	Amount £	Running Balance £
Environment Ref: P3 Activity 5 The NP has	The Environment subgroup recommends the initial allocation of £19,579.28 for Fishponds Park Play development.	£19,579.28	£52,292.95

quality of Parks and Play areas accessible to all.			
Remaining Section 106 Budget			£52,292.95

Part 4: Wellbeing Grant:

- 16- The Wellbeing subgroup met on Monday 23rd November 2015.
- 17- At present the total amount of Wellbeing Grant available for the remainder of 2015/16 financial year is £8,153.03.
- 18- In total three applications were assessed by the panel with the total value of £3,060. The group's recommendation is summarised in the table shown below "Funding Appraisal Top Sheet".
- 19- 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
Bristol 5 Community & Leisure Centre Ltd	Operation Hot Water is about providing heating system in main parts of the Centre. If granted the money will be used to pay for installing heating system in the canteen area, male and female toilets.	£1,200 + VAT	£1,200 + VAT	To provide 3 quotes for the proposed works. Property owner agrees to maintain community access as stated in the group application and the centre offers community use and access.
Holy Trinity Church	This is to support Senior Citizens Lunch Club organised by the Stapleton Church. The project entails providing 2 course hot meal once a month (usually the last Monday of the month). The meals are provided by volunteers who also provide transport where necessary. As well as providing a hot meal the project enables a good social environment where elderly people gets the chance to come together socially. If granted the money will be used to pay for room hire.	£250	£250	Advertise widely and seek support from Community development to sustain the project.
Begbrook Retirement Club	Begbrook Club aims supporting retired elderly community members. The group is looking to organise activities, which address isolation for its members. If granted the funds will be used to pay for coach trips, stationery including publicity, etc.	£1,370	£1,370	Advertise widely.

20- 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
Bristol 5 Community & Leisure Centre Ltd	The community centre is currently used by Happy Dayz pre-school. The group provides childcare for parents, particularly women who want to return back to work. The centre is also used by young people who would like to access sports. Both these groups are covered by the Equality Act 2010.
Holy Trinity Church	This project is targeting some of our most vulnerable community members in Greater Fishponds NP area. Most of the users are covered by the Equality Act 2010 as protected characteristics, including women, men some who are widowhood and/or disabled.
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21- If the NC approve the Wellbeing subgroup's recommendation of £3,060 the NP will have £5,093.03 remaining in the Wellbeing Grant budget.

22- As part of the Wellbeing Subgroup members Mo Lewis, Kate Brooks and Bradley Wilde assessed the Wellbeing applications.

Part 5: Consulting on a proposed new approach to grant funding

23- The Council currently invests over £18m in the voluntary and community sector (VCS) each year through grants, rate relief and reduced rents and leases on council-owned buildings.

24- People from the council and the VCS have agreed that we need to focus the council's grant investment on tackling disadvantage in the city and we believe that by having a clear focus and by working better together, we can use this money more strategically and have a far bigger impact. We have worked together to design a new approach to grant funding. This will align up to £5m of revenue grant funding to make it work better for the people who need it most.

- 25- We are consulting on the proposed new approach from 16th November until 15th February. Our consultation will be with local voluntary and community sector organisations and other interested parties. Information and links to the consultation will be available from the council's consultation finder:
<https://bristol.citizenspace.com/>

Part 6: Joint Spatial Plan and Joint Transport Study.

- 26- The four local authorities in the West of England are seeking the views of local communities in drawing up a plan to steer new housing and jobs growth over the next 20 years. The Joint Spatial Plan being prepared by Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol City, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Councils will identify:
- the amount and broad locations of new homes and employment land to be planned for up to 2036;
 - the transport and other essential infrastructure that will be required to support housing and jobs growth.
- 27- To begin the process of involvement the Councils are consulting on the Joint Spatial Plan Issues and Options document.
- 28- To inform the Joint Spatial Plan and future transport strategies for the area, the Councils are also preparing a Joint Transport Study. This will identify the key transport issues affecting the West of England over the next 20 years and the transport solutions needed to address them. Comments are being sought on the Councils' initial ideas.
- 29- The closing date for comments on this stage of consultation is 29 January 2016. There is information on the consultations at www.jointplanningwofe.org.uk and copies of documents will be available in local libraries.
- 30- An event for Bristol's Neighbourhood Partnerships to find out more and discuss the consultations is being planned for January 2016 – other events are being set up in those parts of the city which are likely to experience the most impact from new housing and employment expansion.

Completed Actions to be removed November 2015

Item 6 Appendix A

Health and Safety

Site Name	Investment Priority	2015 update	Agreed removal/amendment
Eastville Park	Fencing along the River Frome.	Completed 2013	Remove
Begbrook Park	Improve the footbridge and steps that lead from Sterncourt Road	Complete 2015	Amend to request review of cyclist needs at this site

Children's Play

Site Name	Investment Priority	2015 update	Agreed removal/amendment
Eastville Park	1. Improve the existing popular play provision.	Swings replaces in 2014	Remove
Ridgeway Playing Fields	1. Build new children's play area and relocate it to a more central position between the two 'ends' of Moorlands Road. Existing play area is currently in a poor condition.	Completed summer 2014	Remove
Argyle Road	Retain and invest in children's play.	The fields and pitches are managed by Barton hill "fields in trust", but the play area has been retained by Bristol City Council	Remove
Hillfields Park	1. Provide a wheels park.	Completed 2013	Remove
	2. Provide a new hard surfaced play area, (ball court).	Completed 2012	Remove
East Park Housing	New play provision in an area that currently does not have play facilities.	Completed November 2015	Remove

Access and Movement

Site Name	Investment Priority	2015 update	Agreed removal/amendment
Begbrook Park	Upgrade river crossing and steps from Frenchay Park Road/Sterncourt Road and create a new park entrance	Completed 2012/13	Remove
	Create a new path link to Frenchay Park Road entrance.	Site visit: this is no longer required	Amend - review
	Provide a new riverside walkway connecting to Oldbury Court with signs and information.	Site visit: this work appears to be complete	Amend - to review - signage
	Create a new path to Five Acre Drive.	Site visit : not required	Remove
Eastville Park	1. New seating.	Completed 2012	Remove
Hillfields Park	1. Create a new seating area within park to take advantage of the views over Bristol and beyond.	The park is now well served by benches	Remove
	2. New seating alongside main path.	Complete 2012	Remove
	3. Resurface main path.	Complete 2014	Remove
	4. Create new seating area/gathering point at park entrance.	Complete 2013	Remove
	5. Remove boundary fence and hedge in front of the youth centre to open up the area.	Future of building is unknown so have agreed this action is not a currently priority	Amend - Leave on investment plan
Oldbury Court Estate	1. Opening up of the entrance off Goffenton Drive - creation of a secondary parking area.	Not the be feasible due to the highways and utilities	Remove
	2. Expand the car park area to a more 'sympathetic form' and make it safer for pedestrians.	Complete	Remove

Site Name	Investment Priority	2015 update	Agreed removal/amendment
	3. New gates and signs at Oldbury Court entrance.	Complete	Remove
Snuff Mill and Ham Lane	1. Path improvements.	Path to school completed 2013	Remove
	2. Manage and maintain Ham Lane as it currently is and improve the footpath link between the two spaces.	Highways completed 2012	Remove
Meadowsweet Open Space	To improve the north to south footpath along the eastern boundary to create a shared-use facility open to cyclists.	Completed spring 2015	Remove
Lodge Hill	New benches.	Complete	Remove
Coombe Brook - The Gozzie	New bin for the Gozzie Bin in NP plan	Complete 2015	Remove

Nature and Woodland -

Site Name	Investment Priority	2015 update	
Begbrook Park	1. Vary mowing regimes, plant new native shrubs and flowers.	This has been superseded by the new ground maintenance program	Amend - Put back on investment plan
	2. Install a picnic area.	Completed 2003	Remove
Royate Hill Local Nature Reserve	1. Create a new safe entrance at Clay Bottom Road.	Completed 2014	Remove
	2. Provide new signs and information boards.	Completed 2014	Remove
	3. Improve footpaths.	Completed 2014	Remove
Eastville Park	Restore the community gardens.	Restored 2013 H&S maintenance underway 2015	Remove
Hillfields Park	Introduce a variety of mowing regimes and plant native trees around the edge of the park to increase biodiversity and wildlife value	On hold due to citywide review of parks maintenance	Amend - Put back on investment plan
	Plant infill sections of hedge around the boundary	Complete 2013	Remove
East Park Housing	Plant a wildflower meadow along the upper slopes.	No longer required ATM due to installation of new play area	Amend – Put back on investment plan

Sustainable Development

Site Name	Investment Priority	2015 update	
Hillfields Park	2. Retain sports pitches as existing.	Complete	Remove
Fishponds Park	Good location in a central shopping area. Would be able to hold small events. Provide electricity into the site.	Complete 2013	Amend – maintenance is needed on the power point and guttering needs clearing of weeds
Eastville Park	Renovate former swimming pool to be able to hold events and concerts. Issue: may conflict with informal use of the space for fitness/exercise.	The site it not suitable for events due to protected wildlife living under the location	Amend – Power Supply need checking