



**GREATER BEDMINSTER COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP  
7.00 P.M. ON 23RD JANUARY 2012  
AT WINDMILL HILL CITY FARM, BRISTOL**

**PRESENT:**

**GBCP Board**

Councillor Beynon	Southville Ward
Councillor Green	Southville Ward
Councillor Smith	Bedminster Ward
Councillor Bradshaw, Ben Barker	Bedminster Ward ( <i>Chair - Neighbourhood Committee</i> )
Alan Pratley	Dame Emily Park Project
Diane Jones	Swiss Drive Neighbourhood Watch
Matthew Symonds (MS)	Sustainable Southville Project
	Southville Community Development Association ( <i>Chair – Neighbourhood Partnership</i> )
Les Potter	Joint Action Bedminster
Nigel Singer	Windmill Hill City Farm
David Holford	Transition BS3 / DJDH
Mark Letcher	Climate Works Ltd

**Statutory Sector and Observers**

Mike Ginger	Sustainable Southville/ Transition BS3
Guy Malkerson	Sustainable Southville/ Transition BS3
Janine Hale-Brown	FrOGS
Caroline Wilson	Resident
Ed Hall	Neighbourhood Watch
Stephen Wickham	Sustainable Southville/ Transition BS3, Civil Society
Sergeant Paul Honeychurch (PH)	Avon and Somerset Police
Jane Stevenson	Bristol Independents
Stef Brammar	WOW (West Street)
Malcolm Brammar	WOW (West Street)
Simon Hankins	Southville Community Development Association
Mike Meecham	Friends of Hebron Burial Ground
Rachel Lemar	Bristol City FC
Chris Richards	One Planet Bristol
Trish Young	Resident
Helen Moody	Friends of Marksbury Road Library
Chris Pratley	Resident
Debbie Smith	Luckwell Park
Debbie Wills	LinkAge
Richard Fletcher	BCC, Parks
Julian Cox	BCC, Parks
Veronica Pollard	Sustainable Southville/ Transition BS3
Nick Christo (NC)	BCC, Area Co-ordinator, Neighbourhoods
Samantha Mahony	BCC, Democratic Services

## 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Those in attendance were asked to introduce themselves and all were welcomed to the meeting.

## 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was agreed that the GBCP "The Partnership called for officers to take more account of those issues" would be added to the end of the second paragraph on page 8.

**It was AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2011 were a correct record.**

With regards to actions from the last meeting, it was reported that;

- The GBCP contact for the **new waste and cleansing contract** would start their role at the end of February 2012 and it was hoped that they would attend the March meeting of the GBCP (**Action: NC**). A table of direct comparisons of the old and new arrangements was available from NC.
- A map of **mobile phone masts** in the area would be followed up. (**Action: LH**)
- Streets with **Neighbourhood Watch Schemes** in the area had been identified by Sgt Paul Honeychurch and a meeting with the coordinator would take place shortly. (**Action: PH**)
- An explanatory note had been added to anti social behaviour leaflets following the last meeting.
- It was hoped that more information would be available soon about the creation of additional school places in the area.
- A response had been received from Tesco regarding the crossing on North Street and a meeting has subsequently been arranged for the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2012 (**Action: MS**)
- A Senior Planning Officer from BCC had attended a meeting of Sustainable Southville/Transition BS3. Officers had confirmed that specifications for vehicles loading outside retail shops could only be changed for new premises and not those with existing licenses.

## 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

## 4. COMMUNITY PROJECTS UPDATE

- **Windmill Hill City Farm** had launched an Active Citizens Project which would run for three years aimed at the sharing neighbourhood resources. Leaflets were available.
- **Bedminster Energy Group** (a subgroup of Sustainable Southville/Transition BS3) had been awarded a grant to complete a project by the end of March. The project would include a comprehensive survey of the amount of housing stock and consideration of the potential for unharvested energy. A second strand of the project included awareness and running events. Contact Mike Ginger for further details.
- **Sustainable South/Transition BS3** hoped to be awarded funding for a drilled hole to find out if hot water was below the Myrtle Triangle Site and to develop

energy systems for the park. Community engagement events would take place and further information was available from David Holford.

- A **street party event** was planned for the 19<sup>th</sup> May within the Southbank Arts Trail which would involve the closure of North Street, Southville. Consultation letters had been sent out and it was proposed that buses would be directed down Raleigh Road, Duckmoor Road and Luckwell Road. Further details from Chris Richards.
- **Independent Retailers** across Bristol were working to market shops collectively, perhaps appointing a Place Manager to work to strengthen the high street. See Jane Stevenson for further information.
- **The Monday Club at the Southville Centre** was open to older people supported by LinkAge, leaflets were available from the Southville Centre.
- Results of the **Friends of Marksbury Road Library** survey last year had been considered and MACA would be going ahead with a community garden. The library were now working to improve communication with existing customers and young people in schools.
- **Joint Action Bedminster** had organised a very successful carol service attended by over 100 people.
- A **GBCP leaflet** was available that encouraged more community organisations.
- Meetings had taken place with organisations such as Destination Bristol to promote **Destination Bedminster** within the City and promote local retailers, places of interest and overall economic regeneration. The history of the area, conservation issues and a strong community base were selling points. See Ben Barker for further details.
- The walls at the **Hebron Burial Ground** were due to be reinstated shortly. The AGM would take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> March at Ebenezer Parish.
- A conference run by the **Protection of Rural England** would take place at the Watershed on 24<sup>th</sup> March. It is free but you will need to book a space.
- **WOW** had carried out consultation with the public and other organisations and interesting feedback had been received. Issues such as the state of the pavement, lack of greenery, communal spaces and local activities had been raised. A traders survey would be carried out, to support and help traders and shops flourish.
- A book on the history of **Bedminster Coalmines** needed £1500 for publication if anyone worked in printing who was willing to help (via Colin Smith). It was also highlighted that Community Press had just published a book on **South Bristol Coalfields** which had previously been published by CLASS (Continued Learning at South Street).
- The ACTA inspired event **Legends of Light** involving local schools and walking groups processed with illuminated lanterns and art installations before Christmas. It had been a great success and there was hope for an annual winter event.

## 5. POLICE UPDATE FOR THE NP AREA

Sergeant Paul Honeychurch reported on the priorities for beat managers and for PCSOs.

Some updates on problem solving plans were as follows;

- (i) Work was ongoing regarding the brothel on Ashton Road. PH had met with the Vice Team to look at options within a multi agency approach.
- (ii) Over the last quarter the main priorities had been
  - (a) Theft from motor vehicles around the Chessel Street area and resultant burnt out cars. Following patrols and house to house enquiries, intelligence had resulted in four suspects charged with a number of offences. Figures had

subsequently reduced. The GBCP were appreciative of the efforts made and visibility of officers.

(b) Shed break-ins within the allotments on Ashton Drive had increased in December. Increased patrols and intelligence gathering had taken place and residents were encouraged to come forward with any information. Shed alarms were being considered. There had been no reports of offences since the end of December.

(c) There was an increase in shop thefts in a North Street shop. The shop had increased security and the situation was being monitored.

(iii) Everyone was reminded of the importance of reporting any incidences of crime as it built up a picture for the police to show what resources were required and where.

Problem solving and actions would be maintained for the next quarter.

The following points were raised as part of the discussion;

- There was concern regarding the resources used for Coop on North Street in terms of waste, deliveries and shoplifting (therefore using the resources of the Police). It remained a hope that the management would consent to meeting with the Partnership to discuss those issues. **(Action: BB)**
- There was the intention to hold a special meeting to discuss the 20mph zone – as the scheme was one year down the line - and assess the scheme for future resources. A community speedbox could be used as a deterrent and a minimum of six residents were required to be trained to use the kit.

## 6. NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM UPDATE

Neighbourhood Forums had taken place to inform people and gather views. It was a good way to talk to other residents about issues and engage with other local residents. Issues raised at recent forums included the shed break-ins, parking on school zigzag lines, recycling and a presentation on the Myrtle Triangle project.

A special meeting would take place to discuss the 20mph zone with residents, Police and a BCC Traffic officer to look at data and see how it could be further implemented or enforced. **(Action; NC)**

## 7. S106 SPEND FOR PARKS

Devolved S106 money gave spending opportunities to each partnership area to influence parks and open spaces and improve and enhance parks, within caveats. A proposal form had been created and suggestions invited for funds relating to the old Mail Marketing site which needed to be spent by 2013. A meeting took place on the 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2012 and six proposals had been discussed and prioritised by those present. Those with vested interests were not allowed to vote for their own proposal.

The following points were made in the ensuing discussion;

- The methodology for the prioritisation was questioned as ten of those present at the meeting had been directly involved in one of the projects. Only six people were therefore considered neutral. It was agreed that the format would be evaluated, learned from and developed, including with a variety of days and times offered **(Action: NC)**. It was argued that notice of the meeting had been given well in advance, and people had been encouraged to attend to play a part.
- Some questions were raised regarding the eligibility of some of the projects to receive the money. The Council believed that Windmill Hill City Farm was not

eligible as there was no public right to roam, although steps could be taken in the future to change that. South Street Park was ineligible as access could not be guaranteed for 15 years, with maintenance costs met over that period of time. It was agreed that in future, such ineligibilities needed to be known earlier in the process.

- There were queries regarding the terms 'public open space' in its legalistic definition contained within planning applications and whether S106 money could be allocated to bring potential open spaces into use.
- It was suggested that groups should work together for a strategy for the area and a sequence for development of parks rather than advocating one project at a time. The learning process was valuable to future decisions.

*Councillor Bradshaw took the chair of the Neighbourhood Committee, for the following discussions and decisions.*

It was proposed that the bid for MACA community garden could be applied to the Better Bedminster Community Chest/ Wellbeing Fund as it had different requirements to the other five bids as a project to enable the park to develop.

The cases of 'ineligibility' were challenged and it was acknowledged that some queries needed to be answered to ensure the decision was free of challenges, in terms of legal planning issues and eligibility for section 106 funding, as well as the practicality of changing status of some land. **(Action: NC).**

**The Neighbourhood Committee AGREED;**

**(1) That the MACA Community Garden bid for £1528 be met from the remaining funds within the Wellbeing (Community Chest) Fund.**

**(2) that the remaining priority order of;**

- 1. South Street Park**
- 2. Luckwell Park/ Sturden Road**
- 3. Windmill Hill City Farm**
- 4. Greville Smythe Park**
- 5. Gores Marsh Park**

**be agreed in principle subject to return report to the GBCP in March 2012 presenting;**

- a. answers to queries raised through discussion**
- b. phasing and resources implications with consideration of a strategic plan across the area**
- c. consideration of broken down proposal of figures and proposal for the final allocation of funds**

## **8. DEVOLVED SERVICES UPDATE**

The Neighbourhood Partnership received a report of the Area Co-ordinator (agenda item no. 9) updating the GBCP about devolved services decisions. The following points were discussed;

- Consultation regarding the crossing on West Street had taken place and six replies received.

- The 2012-2013 minor traffic budget would be approximately £17,000 for the partnership area. Approx 20 proposals had been received to date and a meeting would take place to discuss all the different schemes.
- Ideas for uses for the non-devolved budget of £1,000 to improve communications had been submitted to Nick Christo. There were ideas for Noticeboards in the Partnership area, and with high cost of noticeboards there may be a bulk purchase by the Neighbourhoods team to bring the cost down. The suggestions would be circulated with a deadline of seven days for votes and the majority decision would be chosen. It was suggested that local people and services may be able to construct and provide noticeboards at a cheaper cost.

**The Neighbourhood Partnership AGREED that the contents of the report be noted.**

## **9. RESOLUTIONS TO THE GBCP**

A statement was received that asked the GBCP to support open and continued communication with all interested parties regarding plans to develop The Pavilion in Greville Smyth Park. It was noted that the development was being led by the Sports team within the Council rather than the Parks team who had dealt with it in the past, and it was highlighted that a study from several years ago should be utilised. Officers confirmed that the money available was Section 106 money held for providing sports facility. Match funding would also be sports related, although other alternative funding could help broaden the use.

It was agreed that a letter would be written from the GBCP to the Council asking them to engage with FrOGS and other interested parties regarding the site, and consider previous plans including the feasibility study from several years ago **(Action: BB)**.

**The Neighbourhood Partnership AGREED the following resolutions;**

### **1. The GBCP**

- Welcomes the BCC Walking Strategy for Bristol; Our Vision for 2011-2021 published in October 2011
- Calls upon its officers, the Area Coordinator and other relevant BCC and Police Officers to formulate a practical programme of activities to promote the Walking Strategy in Greater Bedminster, including activities already underway and additional ones to be introduced in the future;
- Calls for an interim report at the next GBCP Board meeting

### **2. The GBCP officially support the Bristol Independents campaign (which in turn supports independent traders across the city, primarily by encouraging them to market themselves collectively by high street destination).**

**The Bristol Independents campaign fits in with established priorities of the GBCP by:**

- Encouraging people to shop locally, on foot or by bicycle
- Encouraging visitors to the city to 'keep it local' by using local (independent) pubs, cafes and restaurants as part of their Bristol trip
- Strengthening the local community, using high streets as a social focal point, and keeping money circulating locally.

**It also fits in with Bristol City Council policy to promote retail diversity. We further call upon the GBCP to set up a working party which brings together interested parties – traders, community groups, police, local Councillors, shoppers, etc together to strengthen and support The Greater Bedminster high streets, alongside the Bristol Independents campaign.**

It was agreed that Sustainable Southville/Transition BS3 would be willing to help support and lead the project. It was suggested that the 'place management' approach could be beneficial. **(Action; BB)**

3. A third resolution had been received which asked the GBCP "to express opposition to the proposed BRT2 scheme, due to the impacts on the environment, heritage, walking and cycling and its doubtful value for money in the current funding climate."

It was suggested that a special transport meeting take place to consider the BRT2 (and future BRT3) scheme at a Partnership meeting, rather than through the forums. It was suggested that the GBCP would benefit from a more detailed discussion with information provided in advance on the scheme, the money involved, views of the positive and negatives and the public transport options. A special meeting would be organised as soon as possible to provide information and facilitate debate. **(Action: NC)**

Different groups were interested in the public enquiry to be held in late May 2012 and it was unclear which ones would be involved and a list of contributors was sought as it was possible that a response could be coordinated.

## **10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was concern that the area of land next to Greville Smythe Park, known as the Dame Sylvia Crowe Park appeared to be undergoing developments without consultation. It was suggested that a letter be written to Graham Sims to express concern over the works and ask to be advised of the plans. **(Action: BB)** Subsequently a meeting was arranged for the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

There was concern that a further Bargain Booze in the area and objections were invited however, it was felt inappropriate to consider a resolution on the matter at the meeting. It was suggested however, that the principle of the establishment of a Cumulative Impact Area was supported. It was agreed that a letter should be written to the Licensing Manager to oppose to the principle of further similar outlets and request a move towards a CIA study similar to that on Whiteladies Road. **(Action; BB)**

## **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**AGREED: that the date of the next neighbourhood partnership meeting will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at the Compass Point School.**

(The meeting ended at 9.20pm)

CHAIR