



**GREATER BEDMINSTER COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP
7.00 P.M. ON 23RD OCTOBER 2012
AT ASHTON GATE SCHOOL, BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL BS3**

PRESENT:

GBCP Board

Councillor Green	Southville Ward
Councillor Bradshaw,	Bedminster Ward
Councillor Colin Smith	Bedminster Ward (<i>Chair - Neighbourhood Committee</i>)
Ben Barker	Dame Emily Park Project
Anna Bryant	Ashton Gate Triangle NIG
Helen Thomas	University of the Third Age
Les Potter	BS3 Churches Together
Simon Hankins	Southville CDA
Matthew Symonds	Neighbourhood Partnership Chair
Malcolm Brammar	WOW
Alan Pratley	Swiss Drive Neighbourhood Watch
Claire Dadswell	Local business representative

Statutory Sector and Observers

Nick Christo (NC)	BCC Area Co-ordinator
Lorna Heaysman	BCC Neighbourhoods Officer
Ruth Quantock	BCC Democratic Services Officer
Deborah White	BCC Area Environment Officer
Sgt. Paul Honeychurch	Avon & Somerset Police
E Owen	
Stef Brammar	WOW
Bob Stanfield	B.S. Scouts
Christine Dyer	Girl Guiding UK – local units
David Milton	Scouts
Brian Richards	Bristol Older Peoples Forum
Brenda Wright	
Stephen Wickhan	
Scott McKenzie	

For item 8 Resolutions to the GBCP

T Stone	Resident of Ashton Road
Heather Barham	Resident of Ashton Road
Vanessa Edwards	Resident of Ashton Road

Apologies: Cllr Sean Beynon, David Holford, Nigel Singer, Vicky Harrison and Cora Paine.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Matthew Symonds NP Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly new Board Members and asked all those present to introduce themselves.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 25TH JUNE 2012

The following amendments were noted:-

P1 - Cllr Sean Beynon welcomed everyone to the meeting (not Matthew Symonds as stated)

P1 - Alan Pratley had tendered his apologies for the last meeting but they had not been recorded.

P1 & P2 - The correct spelling of the surname Brammar (not Brammer as stated)

Bottom of P3 - Six monthly update on Clean and Green spend will be on the agenda for January 2013 (not December as stated).

Para 3, P6 Former Mail Marketing Site (not Main Marketing as stated)
Bottom of P8 CCTV on British Road (not Britton Road as stated)

It was AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th June 2012 were a correct record subject to the above amendments and were signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising:-

- A nomination had been received for the post of Treasurer which was currently vacant. Upon a vote be taken it was unanimously agreed that Anna Bryant be appointed to this post for 2012/13.
- P5 May Gurney – Councillors indicated that they had not yet received the map showing collection frequencies which would be useful for their Ward work. It was agreed that this would be circulated by the Area Co-ordinator. **Action NC**
- P6 – Cumulative Impact Area (CIA) – the NP was frustrated about the amount of time which had elapsed since the resolution had been made with still no progress. Cllr Tess Green indicated that she had received conflicting advice from officers and Members of Licensing Committee regarding the process. It was agreed that a meeting would be arranged as soon as possible with Licensing Officers to clarify the procedure and progress the issue by the next meeting. **Action NC**

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

With the agreement of the NP, item 8 was brought forward on the agenda as a number of residents had attended specifically for this item.

4. RESOLUTIONS TO THE GBCP (Agenda Item 8)

Proposed football changing rooms in Greville Smythe Park

On behalf of residents of Ashton Road (between numbers 64 and 47), Heather Barham presented the resolution which raised a number of concerns in respect of the plans the council were putting together for a football changing facility in Greville Smythe Park.

The following key issues were noted during the discussion that took place:-

- It was understood that a planning application was due to be submitted next Monday, however very little consultation had taken place to date. It was felt that the needs of one group of park stakeholders was taking precedence over the needs of all other users. Park Stakeholders wished to take an active role in shaping these plans for the benefit of all users including the option to improve the existing pavilion building.
- Greville Smyth Park was currently in receipt of Green Flag status so any future development must not jeopardise the retention of this very prestigious award.
- The Area Co-ordinator explained that he had not been aware of this proposal until the receipt of this resolution. However, he had subsequently found out that the proposal was being put together by the sports development team but there had been no consultation with Neighbourhoods or the Parks team as key stakeholders. As far as he was aware the proposal was not driven by time limited funding or any time constraints.

Upon a vote being taken it was unanimously AGREED that:

The GBCP notes this statement and calls for urgent talks with representatives of Bristol City Council and other park stakeholders. GBCP also requests that the council does not submit a planning application for the proposed football changing rooms in Greville Smythe Park until the necessary pre-application consultation has been carried out with park stakeholders and local residents.

5. COMMUNITY UPDATE

The following key issues were noted:-

- Bedminster Town Team. GBCP has won £100K from central government to set up a 'Town Team' and a newsletter has been produced to explain what is being done to help Bedminster businesses thrive by both growing sales and reducing costs. In the longer term, elements of the budget have been set aside for the creation of a business led partnership that will enable the work of Town Team to continue after year 1. With the support of local businesses trading conditions can be improved by becoming a Business Improvement District. This is where businesses agree to club together to back a 5 year business plan that sets out a range of activities to be funded by a BID levy that is 1.5 % of the business rate. Typical activities include more street cleaning, focussed policing and increased marketing. All were encouraged to support the BID.
- Balfour Scout Hut. It was noted that the current occupiers South Bristol Scouts have been served notice of eviction by 31st March 2013 because the owners wish to demolish the building and develop the area. The scouts had used this building

for over 60 years and concerns were raised that there was currently no alternative meeting place in this area. The following actions were agreed:-

- The scout group contact John Bos, BCC to find out about 'Community Right to Bid'. This scheme gives people the chance to bid to buy and take over the running of assets that are of value to the local community.
- The NP write to the owners to request that the current occupiers remain in the building for as long as possible until such time as the demolition work is carried out. **Action NP Chair/NC**
- The community building exercise undertaken recently will be revisited to see whether the scout hut had been included as part of this audit. It was suggested that the information from this audit would be useful and should be made available on the website. **Action NC**

It was noted that at times like this it emphasised the importance of having a Neighbourhood Plan. This was acknowledged however the difficulty was getting volunteers from the partnership to undertake this piece of work.

- Toll House Junction. An update was provided on the safety improvements to be prioritised and progressed from the devolved transport budget (£14K). Some additional funding had been secured of £8K and it was anticipated that the works would be completed by March 2013.
- Ashton Gate Primary School – after school club. With help from the council, a viable and sustainable alternative location had been identified at the Southville Centre.
- The Independence Bus. A leaflet has been produced and was made available at the NP meeting to promote this new bus service which had been part funded by GBCP.
- Police update. Working with ASDA security, an automatic escalation procedure was now in place to deal with offenders of violent crime. There was currently a drive to reduce burglaries and all were encouraged to register their property as in future this would help prove that a known offender was in receipt of stolen goods. It was noted that the mobilise scheme was very simple to do and should be promoted through the next e-news letter and The Pigeon. **Action BB / PH**
- West Street Traders Group. The AGM will be taking place on 13th November to include a session to develop a vision for West Street.
- Bedminster Winter Lantern Parade. To take place on 8th December from 4.30 pm to include a seasonal balloon glow by Cameron Balloons, weather permitting. Organisers are keen to involve local traders in the event and encourage them to support and participate. (Contact: Malcolm Brammar).
- Warden Road Street Event 24th Sept Consultation responses. An update was provided and it was agreed that the results would be circulated for information with the minutes of this meeting.

6. PARKS CAPITAL STIMULUS FUND – MATCH FUNDING REPORT

The Community Partnership received a report from Deborah White, Area Environment Officer (agenda item 5) which set out the capital investment projects within Greater Bedminster, which have been approved by Cabinet for funding. It was highlighted that no additional match funding would be required from this Partnership to deliver these projects. It was anticipated that the schemes would be in place by summer 2013.

The following comments were noted during the discussion that took place:-

- Councillors indicated that whilst the funding was to be welcomed the application process had been manic with very little notice to provide detailed project plans. Under the circumstances it had not been possible to submit very many applications. It was felt that Greater Bedminster had therefore not received a fair share of the £3.5M capital stimulus available for the improvement of parks and green spaces across the city and a copy of the assessment criteria was requested. **Action DW**
- It was highlighted that Neighbourhood Partnerships with established Park groups had had the advantage in this exercise. It was confirmed that this was 'one off' funding, however it was important to have a parks investment plan to be able to prioritise funding through unallocated S106 money available and attract additional external funding. It was agreed that a report would be brought back to the next meeting to look at future involvement of partners in the improvement of parks and green spaces in the local area. **Action DW / BB**

RESOLVED - that the funding secured for the Greater Bedminster Neighbourhood Partnership area from the Capital Stimulus fund, be noted.

7. DEVOLVED SERVICES UPDATE INCLUDING COMMUNITY CHEST AWARDS

The Community Partnership received a report from the Area Co-ordinator (agenda item 6) which provided an update on devolved services.

The following key issues were noted during the discussion that took place:-

Clean & Green. The 3 applications submitted to the city-wide funding pot had been unsuccessful because Greater Bedminster was not one of the priority wards for cleanliness projects outlined in the criteria. It was agreed that the Neighbourhood Committee would look at these projects again with a view to funding them out of the remaining devolved budget (£1261). A decision would be made outside of this meeting which would be reported back to the Partnership in due course.

Community Chest. The Awards Panel had met on 10th October (after publication of the agenda papers). Appendix B was circulated at the meeting, which outlined the Panel's recommendations for the approval of the Neighbourhood Committee.

It was suggested that a booking system be devised for the release of the Recording & Editing Equipment and to ensure that users have been appropriately trained.

**RESOLVED - (1) that the report be noted; and
(2) that the Community Chest recommendations from the Awards Panel be approved by the Neighbourhood Committee.**

8. S106 SPEND – ELIGIBILITY AND PRIORITY

The Community Partnership received a report from the Area Co-ordinator (Agenda item 7) which provided an update on the S106 budget that GBCP have influence over, prior to a

decision being made by the Councillors on the Partnership. The Traffic and Transport team had also made a suggested priority order for implementing the schemes.

The Community Partnership requested more detailed plans and drawings of the individual schemes in order to make an informed decision. It was agreed that supporting information would be circulated to Board Members and a decision regarding the priority order would be made by email outside of this meeting. **Action NC/Traffic and Transport officers.**

RESOLVED -	(1)	that the report be noted; and
	(2)	that further detailed information on the individual schemes be circulated to the Board Members for a decision regarding the priority order, to be made by email communication outside of this meeting.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- It was noted that there was currently significant on-line discussion/debate regarding residents parking schemes. It was agreed that a report on the issue would be brought back to the next meeting in January 2013. **Action NC**
- The Waste Plan for the Community Partnership was circulated for information. The three priorities identified by the Environment Sub Group were Littering and dog mess, Fly tipping and waste and recycling bins obstructing the highway. Partners were invited to identify hot spots on the Map provided, on their way out.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

AGREED: that the date of the next neighbourhood partnership meeting be held on Monday 21st January 2013 at 7.00 pm at a venue to be confirmed.

(The meeting ended at 9.05 pm)

CHAIR

Warden Road Street Event 24th Sept Consultation responses

Background:

A day of action was organised to focus on improving the local area and working on problems and concerns raised by local residents. As part of the day of action a street café was set up from 12 till 2pm at the end of Warden Road/East Street to attract local visitors to stop and have a cup of tea or coffee and talk to members of the Neighbourhood team. The aim was to find out what local people say about the local area in particular any concerns including safety, travel, the local environment and any suggestions for any improvements to make the area better.

Activities on the Day of action included:

- Police - targeting traffic using East Street in the restricted hours.
- Community Payback cleaning up the area - Targeting four areas Whitehouse Lane, Catherine Mead Street/Herbert Street, Sheene Road Car Park, and the lane off Dean Lane at the side of Dame Emily Park
- Parking Services - Targeting streets off of East Street.
- Waste Services - Enforcement officers dealing with littering and waste issues
- Town Team - Engaging with businesses around the Portas pilot and the Business Improvement District

Consultation results:

Question	Response
What do you think about the local area?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Like it 2. Happy most of the time 3. Very happy here 4. Like it 5. Love it, and its affordable to rent 6. Happy here 7. Best shopping area in bristol 8. Its okay it could be improved 9. Mixed- good local shops/local high street 10. Could look nicer 11. People are nice local to town 12. Friendly 13. Feel at home 14. Okay

Question	Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15. It could be better 16. Not very clean 17. Locality i like it 18. Its good
<p>What bothers you?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wish it was all like north street 2. Reduce drinking on streets 3. Crazy people 4. Street atmosphere fighting and shouting east street mainly 5. Variety of shops and venues 6. Asb albert place 7. Yobbos' older people afraid to go out at night 8. Poundland, security-guards and management mistreat customers 9. Intimidating on a night time 10. young people don't feel part of Bedminster 11. Current problem vehicle damage on route to centre-commercial road smashed glass 12. Bikes on pavement 13. Needs investment to improve area 14. Street drinking 15. Take away rubbish, littering outside the green house 16. rubbish from houses being dumped on pathway by my house 17. Littering white house lane 18. Looks a bit unloved in places
<p>Are there particular places that need improving?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. East street more cafes and bars, venues that encourage people to visit at night. 2. Community village type atmosphere 3. Entice people in the evenings to use east street 4. Poor shopping area lots of cafes and charity shops 5. Increase the venues like grounded, places that encourage people to visit and

Question	Response
	<p>stay for a while</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Cannon street/ british road area 7. Stop traffic on east street 8. Shop signs are ugly 9. Area which leads from the car park.grass verge area near public toilets 10. East street hanging baskets 11. No comment 12. Side alleys off east street 13. Whole area 14. East street 15. Sometimes negative atmosphere from characters on east street 16. Improve shops on west street variety and brightening up, better pavement 17. White house lane area/shopping precinct/swimming pool 18. All over the place
<p>What makes you happy about living here?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The atmosphere 2. Everything nearby –bakers grocers bank etc 3. Variety of things going on 4. Nice place to meet friends good transport buses and car parking ok 5. Windmill hill city farm is a great asset 6. Central feel safe 7. Familiar lived here all my life 8. No comment 9. Good variety of shops 10. Variety 11. Local character 12. Community 13. Family are here 14. No comment 15. Work here local pool /shops/ green space 16. Local central friendly 17. Green space. Easy walking

Question	Response
<p>Do you think there are too many waste and recycling bins on the pavement?</p>	<p>18. Facilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More recycling 2. Some recycling option bins on east street 3. No 4. Not an issue 5. No answer 6. No answer 7. No answer 8. Lots of bins make area look ugly 9. More emphasis on recycling 10. No 11. No comment 12. problem if you cant get passed them 13. Can look tatty 14. No comment 15. keep them tidy 16. There are but where can they go 17. Makes streets narrow 18. birds make a mess of bags
<p>Do you think there are lots of places to by and consume alcohol in the area. Does this matter?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes it put me off buying a house here 2. No 3. Yes 4. No comment 5. Yes partly, pubs and bars need to be more friendly focussed pleasant places to drink 6. Street drinking is a concern 7. Good communities have good pubs 8. No comment 9. Doesn't matter, places to drinks means there are some people around 10. No 11. No 12. No as long as people behave 13. No 14. No comment 15. Don't notice 16. There have been problems we

Question	Response
	<p>want family venues</p> <p>17. Not too bad everyone goes to asda to buy it</p> <p>18. Not sure</p>
<p>What would you like to see in the shopping areas?</p> <p>More plants</p>	<p>Planters</p> <p>Plants</p> <p>Plants</p> <p>Planters</p> <p>Trees</p> <p>Plants</p> <p>More greening</p> <p>Trees- west street</p> <p>Planters /trees for east street</p>
<p>More art</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Art in empty shops</p> <p>Coloured lighting/street sign 'this is bedminster'</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>

Question	Response
More seats	Yes Yes Yes –west street
More bins	Yes – west street
Other	Improve shop fronts Improve look of streets Improve public spaces
How do you travel about?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cycle/walk 2. Bike 3. Walk 4. Walk/drive 5. Walk 6. Car/walk 7. Walk 8. Walk 9. Car/walk 10. Walk 11. Walk/bike 12. Walk/bus 13. car/walk/bus 14. No comment 15. Walk 16. Walk 17. Walk/bike 18. Cycle
Would you walk more if the routes were improved to make it a nicer experience? (Walk/cycle to work, school or leisure)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve lighting 2. Lots of bumps and potholes in the road bedminster parade particularly terrible 3. Improve and make routes clearer 4. Improve look of streets 5. Cycle friendly 6. Improve streets for walking make it prettier 7. All okay 8. No comment 9. Yes beter connections would be good. More signage to pedestrian bridges 10. I walk all the time 11. Clean streets 12. Smarten the place up a bit 13. No comment

Question	Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14. No comment 15. Yes 16. Yes more for train station routes 17. Yes definitely improve cycling routes 18. Not more but it would make it better
<p>What would make it better?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve lighting 2. A tidy up streets look a bit tatty 3. Up lights 4. Improve look of streets 5. Lighting on cycle routes- side streets/ have a street market. 6. More planter 7. No comment 8. Lighting for after dusk 9. More community policing 10. More street cleaning 11. No comment 12. Refresh the streets 13. Make place look more pleasant 14. No comment 15. Make routes more attractive 16. No more takeaways 17. Improve lighting 18. Good design
<p>Do you feel safe living here?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safe really 2. I feel safe i have heard some bad stories recently though 3. Yes 4. Feel ok 5. I have been mugged twice on my way home 6. Feel safe 7. Yes 8. Bit eerie when dark 9. Yes 10. Yes 11. Yes 12. Not as bad as it was 13. Yes 14. Yes 15. Mostly 16. Yes

Question	Response
	17. When its quiet i feels eerie but generally okay 18. Yes

Conclusions

Despite it being a windy day the café was busy serving free coffee and tea. Plenty of people stopped and wanted to share their views, we had 18 completed responses to the consultation and others sharing views in general. The results to the consultation are detailed above.

How people feel about the area- In response to what people think about the local area 13/18 responses were positive describing the area as friendly, a good location with good shops. There were five comments showing that the area could be better or was just okay.

What are the problems- In response to what bothered them people's answers ranged from street litter and the area needing a little care to smarten it up, street drinking and negative behaviour from some people creating a bad atmosphere on the street with a focus on East Street as the trouble spot.

What could make it better- In response to what people think about particular places that need improving people were interested in creating an environment where visitors would want to visit in the evening. People used the example of North Street or Grounded on Bedminster Parade as a positive example of cafes, bar and quality leisure facilities. Other comments raised included the need to improve the shops and shop frontages in the area and the side streets needed brightening up.

Happiness - In response to what makes people happy, people said the character and atmosphere being friendly.

Waste and recycling bins -There was no firm responses to if there are too many waste and recycling bins - some people did not have a comment, a few people felt that there should be more street recycling bins and two comments said that bins on the street was a problem creating narrow walkways and bins looked ugly.

Drinking in the area- 5/18 people raised concerns about too many venues selling alcohol. Most people made the point that if drinking venues were more family focussed this would improve the area.

What can make the area look better- We asked people specifically what street improvements they would like to see:

- Nine requests for street greening plants or trees.
- Six requests for more art.
- Three for seating.
- Two for bins.

Travel options- We asked people how they travel and what would encourage people to travel differently - most people travelled by walking and cycling. To make the walking and cycling experience better people requested better lighting, improving the look of the area, road surface improvements and signage.

Community Safety- 10/18 comments were very positive to feeling safe in the area, others felt okay and had a perceived feeling of being unsafe - some mentioned it felt a bit quiet at night and one person had experienced crime.