



AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

**STOCKWOOD, HENGROVE & WHITCHURCH
NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP
18th March 2015**

Report of: Neighbourhood Partnership Members and Councillors

Title: Projects Update and NP Development

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Note to update for expenditure on Stockwood Library s106
2. Establishing a Local Planning Group
3. Communications:
 - Web Presence
 - Minutes of Meetings
4. Name of the NP

Stockwood Library s106

- The NP allocated s106 for the value of £9,877.53 for improvements to Stockwood Library as indicated in the table below:

Source	Item/s	Quote	Actual Cost
Donation	Urn and Tea Trolley	n/a	n/a
Combined Office Interiors Delivery lead	1.Add books, seating, table, chairs and shelving in the circular area:	£1,667.60	£8,708.37

time approx. 4-6 weeks	Library shelving 2 x soft seating Table 4 x chairs Total + VAT	£1,401.25 £121.28 £281.52 £4,165.98	
Combined Office Interiors	2. Replace shelving with more flexible units: 7 double sided bays in the adult section and 5 double sided bays in the children's area – metal shelving with castors, with standard wood end panels. Estimate quote including delivery, installation and VAT	£4,650.00	Included in above
R M Stephens & Co Ltd	3. Refurbish the empty area so that it is suitable for meetings(Shutter doors) 4. Improve seating in the Local Studies area: To supply and carry out works – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to allow to take out and remove roller shutter • to supply and fit door frame to opening with double doors with viewing • to supply and fit cushion seating (black leatherette) to window 	£1,260.00	£1,260.00
Gresswell	5. Install noticeboards for community posters: 2 X Aluminium noticeboards	£139.90	Being supplied by another group as discussed at NP mtg
Gresswell	6. Improve seating for computer users: 7 computer chairs	£608.65	£441.91 - Paid for from library budget
	Total	£14,296.18	£9,968.37

2. Establishing a Local Planning Group

Recommendation: that the Partnership

1. supports the establishment a Local Planning Group for Stockwood and Hengrove.
2. nominates joint co-ordinators (one from each ward) to establish a structure for the Local Planning Group, drawing on guidance from the Neighbourhood Planning Network (NPN) form a steering group to invite and encourage residents and local businesses to join such a group, with a view to electing officers as soon as practicable.
3. apply to join the NPN as a member group.
4. provides a sum to be agreed as 'seed funding' for the Group.

Background

Local Planning Groups already cover most of the city – but not Stockwood or Hengrove. This means that, on the one hand, there's little opportunity for residents to know about, let alone influence, local planning decisions that might affect them. On the other hand, developers have no way of finding out what factors are important to residents until they've already drawn up their applications for planning permission.

Local Planning Groups can also, and sometimes do, have a role in drawing up Neighbourhood Development Plans under the 2011 Localism Act.

This proposal is prompted by two recent requests from developers (via the NPN) for pre-consultation with the local community, well before any planning application went in. One was for the 'Man in Space' site in Stockwood; the second (current) is for developing the Bowmead APH site opposite the main Stockwood shops. At present we just don't have the means to provide a local input.

Here, I suggest a single Local Planning Group for the two wards. That's because it's the simplest 'start-up' position. If it later devolves into independent groups serving smaller areas (not necessarily defined by ward boundaries) so much the better. Equally, the initial group could define its area much more narrowly if there's no 'across-the-wards' interest.

Rather than attempt to re-invent the wheel here, I suggest a look at the Neighbourhood Planning Network website www.bristolnbn.net, for more information.

3. Communications:

Web Presence

There is a request for a sub group to get together to look at establishing a Facebook pages and other such social media presence.

The purpose of the sub-group would be getting together on this issue, and preparing recommendations (and costings) to be considered at the AGM

Minutes of Meetings

Is the NP able to record in their minutes a bit about the issues raised in discussions for each agenda item (including the public forum, which can include statements, questions, answers, and agreed actions).

4. Name of the NP

Can the NP debate about finding a better name than the cumbersome “Stockwood, Hengrove, and Whitchurch NP”

Legal Information

When councillors decide how the wellbeing fund is spent they should have due regard to the public sector equality duty that applies to all public bodies. This duty is contained in the Equality Act 2010 and came in to force on 6 April 2011. It replaces previous equality duties under the Sex Discrimination, Race Relations and Disability Discrimination Acts.

The duty means that councillors are required to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Promote equality of opportunity between different groups
- Foster good relations between people from different groups

The duty covers the following protected characteristics:

- Disability, Sexual orientation, Age, Gender reassignment, Religion and belief; Sex, Race, Pregnancy and maternity.

It also applies to marriage and civil partnership, but only in respect of the requirement to eliminate discrimination and harassment.