



AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

HORFIELD AND LOCKLEAZE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

Tuesday 2nd December 2014

Report of: Caroline Hollies, Neighbourhood Partnership Coordinator, Neighbourhoods

Title: Environment Group Report

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Recommendation:

1. Note updates from the Environment Group
2. Neighbourhood Partnership to decide whether to make tree planting a priority (Clive Stevens)
3. Neighbourhood Committee to make final decisions on Clean and Green budget
4. Neighbourhood Committee to make final decision about match funding access work in Stoke Park from the available s106 (Andrew Gordon)

1. Environment Group

Meeting held 15th October 2014.

Section 106 funded Parks Projects Update

Description / Location	Ward	Status	Budget
Monks Park Open Space - Play Equipment	Horfield	Work has started	£110,000.00
Dorian Road playing field – path, bench/es & bins	Horfield	Due to start in November 2014	£57,386 allocated but awaiting final costing

2. Tree Planting - Clive Stevens (letter was introduced as AOB in the September meeting)

In case you are not aware of Bristol's TreeForum; we are made up of hundreds of volunteers, councillors, officers and representatives from other bodies like the Universities. Our aim is to increase the tree cover of Bristol because recent studies show how important trees are to the health of residents in a city. Trees reduce air pollution, flood risk and the dangerous effects of summer heat-waves. Trees do have some downsides but nowadays these can be managed. Studies show the benefits of trees often outweigh the costs by five to one or more.

The TreeForum has been working on your behalf, behind the scenes, for some years now; securing developer contributions (S106 money) and working with the Council to come up with some simple and relatively inexpensive tree planting approaches. These are now ready and we can submit these new approaches to you if you wish.

You should note that there is no longer any available funding in the council specifically for new and replacement trees (including dead street trees and stumps). In light of this we are asking your NP to consider using devolved funding in the future to invest in trees in your neighbourhood. You may already have s106 contributions allocated for tree planting, and the Mayor's PiPS scheme may be planting trees in your area, you may also wish to allocate

funds from your well-being fund. But some other sources will be easier to access if your NP decides that tree planting is to become one of your NP's Priorities. These other sources include BGC2015's initial tranche of £10,000, centrally sourced sponsorship, plus help in setting up local initiatives which NP3 (Henleaze Stoke Bishop and Westbury on Trym) and NP6 (Bishopston Cotham and Redland) are running pilots this year.

So I am writing to you to ask your NP to formally consider making trees a priority for your Neighbourhood. There is no urgency as we couldn't cope with all the remaining NPs signing up at once but if you do it will make it easier for you to improve the look of local streets, shops and parks.

3. Clean and Green budget 2014-15

Reallocated 2013-14 budget	£260.00
Annual budget	£1,500
TOTAL budget available	£1,760

The Environment Group are requested approval for:

- Replant existing annual meadows £1,000.00
- Re-install hanging baskets on Filton Ave £450.00

The Group are also considering:

- Install new hanging baskets Gainsborough Square £ to be confirmed
- Plant new annual meadows at various locations £ to be confirmed
- Replanting of trees on Monks Park Avenue £ to be confirmed

4. Stoke Park access work (Andrew Gordon)

From s106 from 04/00721/ Former Hewlett Packard Site £172,404.17 for "The provision and maintenance of

off-site play areas and recreational public open space with Lockleaze ward”

BCC Estates have been successful in obtaining 80% (based on standard FC calculated costs) Forestry Commission Woodland Improvement grant for carrying out access improvements in BCC estates including Ashton Court, Blaise Castle, Oldbury Court, Stoke Park and Kings Weston. The total grant from carrying out access works at Stoke Park is £22,752. The breakdown of the access works is as follows:

1. Construction of 900m of footpaths in Barn Wood (300m), Long Wood (500m) and Hermitage Wood (100m) receiving £21,600 of grant. The aim is to make major lengths of woodland paths accessible all year round
2. Construction of 80m of post and rail fencing to better define pedestrian entrances for Long , Barn and Hermitage Woods receiving a grant of £1,152
3. Installation 3 simple benches in Barn Wood, Long Wood and Hermitage Wood this would be carried out by rangers at total cost £390 no cost BCC as grant covers the work

Benefits to the community are:

1. Providing additional 900m (above that already completed by the Developers consortium) of all year access for users (including wheel chair users) in Long, Hermitage and Barn Woods for the Estate having. The footpaths link up with existing paths. The access work will be carried out by The Conservation volunteers.
2. Better defined pedestrian entrances to the woodlands.
3. Seating by or within the above mentioned woodland.

The best quote received by BCC to undertake the construction of 900m of footpath and 80m post of rail fencing is for £25,468 which means there is shortfall between the grant and actual cost of £2716 (there is no expected cost for

installation of simple benches) therefore the Neighbourhood Partnership is requested to make up the shortfall using appropriate Section 106 money.

The Environment Group discussed this application and their recommendation is that this match funding should come from the Stoke Park dowry.