



**MEETING OF THE
ST GEORGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP
HELD AT 7.00 p.m. ON 11 SEPTEMBER 2012
AT SUMMERHILL METHODIST CHURCH HALL,
5 AIR BALLOON ROAD, ST. GEORGE, BRISTOL BS5 8LB**

PRESENT:

MEMBERS OF THE PARTNERSHIP

P	Councillor Ron Stone	St George West ward
P	Councillor Peter Hammond	St George West ward
P	Councillor Fabian Breckels	St George East ward
P	Councillor Alex Pearce	St George East ward
P	Philip Bird	Resident St George West
P	Pete Franklin	Resident St George
P	Jonathan Usher	Resident St George West
P	Judith Price	Resident St George East
P	Michael Deadman	Resident St George East
P	Margaret Gray	Bristol Equalities Representative
P	Rob Acton-Campbell	Friends of Troopers Hill
P	Susan Acton-Campbell	St George West Community First Panel
P	Grenville Johnson	Kensington Rd Residents Association & NW
A	Ann Radnedge	Chair, Meadow Vale Community Assoc
P	Jo Curtis for Richard Curtis	Church Rd Action Group
A	James Billinghamurst	Littleescapes
A	Sally Shenton for Vicky Holmes	Friends of St George Park

OFFICERS:

P	Abdulrazak Dahir	BCC, Area Co-ordinator
P	Ian Hird	BCC, Democratic Services
P	Sergeant Darren Warr	Avon & Somerset Police
P	Denise James	BCC. Clean and Green
P	Gemma Dando	BCC, Service Manager, Neighbourhood Partnerships
A	Roger Eynon	BCC, Project Officer

OTHER ATTENDEES:

P	Margaret Clements	Resident
P	Alex Wingrove	Resident
P	Len Hynam	Resident
P	Sally King	Resident
P	Tamsin Harcourt	Resident
P	Paul Fudgell	Resident
P	Jackie Freeman	Resident
P	Leanne Hanna	Resident
P	Steve Pearce	Resident

1. CHAIRING ARRANGEMENTS

It was noted that Grenville Johnson was Chair of the neighbourhood partnership and would chair the neighbourhood partnership items, as indicated on the agenda.

It was noted that Cllr Ron Stone was Chair of the neighbourhood committee and would chair the neighbourhood committee items, as indicated on the agenda.

2. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Attendees were welcomed and introduced themselves.

Apologies for absence were received from Ann Radnedge, Richard Curtis and Roger Eynon. Apologies for late arrival were received from Sergeant Darren Warr and Vicky Holmes.

It was noted that Ann Radnedge was recuperating after a recent operation (a card expressing the partnership's best wishes was available at this meeting for partners' signature / messages).

3. MINUTES OF PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD ON 26 JUNE 2012
(agenda item 3)

The Neighbourhood Partnership

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2012 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to the following minor amendment:

Page 9, item 12: in the action section, delete the initials “JA” and replace with “JU.”

Matters arising:

a. Page 3 (Parking Services): It was noted that Wayne Dewfall (BCC Parking Services) would attend the next meeting of the Traffic and Transport sub-group. Any further issues for discussion at this meeting should be sent to the Area Co-ordinator.

b. Page 6 (AGM report): It was noted that it had been confirmed that the representation of St George West Community First Panel on the neighbourhood partnership had been nominated via that group.

Neighbourhood Partnership item:

4. BETTER NEIGHBOURHOOD WORKING PILOT
(agenda item 4)

The Neighbourhood Partnership received a report from the Service Manager, Neighbourhood Partnerships (agenda item no. 4) on the council's proposals for piloting a new approach to neighbourhood working, including the St George neighbourhood partnership area.

Key points raised / noted included:

- a. The fundamental aim of the pilot was to improve neighbourhood working. This would involve council staff working in a new way, within defined geographical areas. The intention was that front line staff would accept much wider responsibility and would be empowered to deal with and resolve a much wider range of local issues (rather than just operating within “narrow” service remits). For example, it was anticipated that a wide range of officers would deal with dog fouling offences rather than this being the responsibility solely of dog wardens. This approach should result in local issues being resolved more swiftly.
- b. Paragraph 10 of the report identified the range of officers (forming the new neighbourhood teams) who would be involved in the pilot. Approximately 30 staff would be involved, across the pilot area (which comprised 4 neighbourhood partnership areas, including St George).

- c. It was anticipated that a range of approaches to better neighbourhood working would be tested through the pilot period. Learning from the pilot would inform the anticipated citywide roll out of the arrangements, to take place from April 2013.
- d. Each neighbourhood partnership involved in the pilot was being asked to work with council officers to develop clear customer standards and targets, which would form a local customer charter, identifying the standard of service(s) and response times which local residents could expect from the council. Neighbourhood partnerships were also being asked to shape local priorities. There would also be improved feedback to residents about action taken on issues they had raised.
- e. It was noted that highways and parking services officers were not included in the list of officers set out in paragraph 10. In discussion, it was clarified that an initial, manageable number of key officers had been identified for the early stages of the pilot; it was anticipated that a wider range of officers would link in with the new approach, as it developed through the pilot period.
- f. In terms of communications, it was suggested that it would be essential for residents to be given clear information about contact points. It would also be useful for progress updates on the pilot to be reported to the neighbourhood partnership.
- g. It was suggested that a clear, overall assessment of the pilot would need to be carried out, and communicated effectively to residents, giving clarity about the results and improvements achieved.
- h. It was agreed it would be essential to ensure full engagement and commitment from Children & Young People's Services in this initiative.

Taking account of the above, the Neighbourhood Partnership RESOLVED that:

- 1. the council's proposals for piloting a new approach to neighbourhood working within the St George neighbourhood partnership area be noted.**
- 2. the neighbourhood committee and neighbourhood partnership agree to work with the council to help develop a customer charter for neighbourhood working, and to identify local priorities to inform the work of the team.**

Neighbourhood Committee items:

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
(agenda item 5)

With regard to agenda item 6, it was noted that Cllr Ron Stone was a trustee of St George Community Association.

6. WELLBEING BUDGET REPORT
(agenda item 6)

The Neighbourhood Partnership considered a report from the Area Co-ordinator (agenda item no. 6) setting out the financial position to date, and recommendations from the Wellbeing Panel relating to current applications.

Key issues raised / noted included:

- a. Additional documents were circulated as follows:
 - A summary of applications considered by the Wellbeing sub-group.
 - A commentary from John Bos, Community Assets Manager.
- b. In relation to item 5. 2 (commissioning an independent firm of architects to review the feasibility and options for the future use and development of Meadow Vale community centre), Cllr Pearce expressed reservation about committing resources for exploratory / feasibility work. The other committee members, however, expressed the view that it was essential to find a solution for this site for the benefit of the community, and felt that an independent report could be crucial in terms of enhancing a future bid for external funding to support the development of the site.
- c. In relation to item 5.3 (Primrose Close social club – sheltered accommodation storage for electric scooters), members agreed that it would not be appropriate and that they were not in a position to be able to agree (at this meeting) to fund this application from the wellbeing budget. It was agreed that it would be more appropriate for Landlord Services to be approached (as part of the better neighbourhood working pilot) about finding a solution; if needed, the group could re-submit a suitable application.

Taking account of the above, the Neighbourhood Committee RESOLVED that:

- 1. the financial report for 2012/13 be noted.**
- 2. the amount committed by the Neighbourhood Committee but not yet paid be noted.**
- 3. the following applications approved through the agreed 'exceptional circumstances' process be noted and supported from contingency:**
 - (a) Bristol Youth Links programme - £937; and**
 - (b) Friends of St George's Park - £858**
- 4. the Wellbeing Panel summary appraisal sheets be noted.**

5. the following wellbeing applications which had been received since the last meeting be approved :-

- 1) St George Community Association - £3,000**
- 2) Community Buildings Team – feasibility options for Meadow Vale community centre- £5,000 (with conditions as per the report).**

Re: Primrose Close Social Club – mobile scooter shelter - no award but that Landlord Services be approached (as part of the better neighbourhood working pilot) about finding a solution .

(Note: Cllr Alex Pearce abstained from the decision taken on 5. 2) above)

7. PARKS INVESTMENT PLAN - S106 FUNDING RELEASE REQUEST
(agenda item 7)

The Neighbourhood Committee considered a report from the Area Environment Officer (agenda item no. 7) on a proposal to release S106 funding relating to the parks investment plan.

Key issues raised / noted included:

- a. In discussion, there was general support for the proposals set out in the report.
- b. The position in relation to the deadline for using S106 funds from the Prefab site, Mallard Close, Speedwell was noted. It was agreed it was essential to utilise these funds by the deadline date.

Taking account of the above, the Neighbourhood Committee RESOLVED that:

- 1. the proposed projects, funded through S106, as identified by the Environment sub-group on 20 August 2012 be agreed, and that £26,000 be allocated to these projects (appendix 1 to the report refers).**
- 2. £30,000 be allocated to carry out resurfacing works, line markings and improvements to lights to the MUGA area. This is in addition to the £30,000 allocated by Bristol City Council for fencing around the MUGA (appendix 2 to the report refers).**
- 3. the deadline of 25 January 2013 for the spend / commitment of the funds from the 06/03243 Prefab site, Mallard Close, Speedwell be noted.**
- 4. it be noted that the proposed projects, once approved by the Neighbourhood Committee, will then be progressed by the relevant parks officers.**

8. ST GEORGE PARK CAR PARK IMPROVEMENTS
(agenda item 8)

The Neighbourhood Committee considered a report from the Traffic Management Project Officer on proposed improvements to the car park improvements at St George Park.

Key issues raised / noted included:

- a. The contents of a public forum statement from Philip Bird were noted. It was noted that the statement raised concerns about the implementation of a previous neighbourhood committee decision taken on 4 October 2011, particularly in relation to ensuring improved cycle access to St George Park. In discussion, it was acknowledged that the decision had not been fully implemented in this respect. It was also noted that, in future, the Area Co-ordinator would be ensuring the use of a performance management tool (to operate as an “action tracker”) and which would be circulated with future agendas (alongside the minutes) to ensure that partnership and committee members were updated about decision implementation.
- b. In discussion on the CCTV options presented in the report, there was general support for a proposal (from the Chair) that option 4 should be approved, on the basis that it was important to obtain the best achievable CCTV solution, both in terms of the quality of the CCTV, and the size of the area covered. It was noted that this option would include coverage of the skate park.

Taking account of the above, the Neighbourhood Committee RESOLVED that:

- 1. in relation to the CCTV options presented in the report, option 4 be approved.**
- 2. approval be given to the spending of £7,228.88 (S106) to improve St George Park car park.**

9. DEVOLVED SERVICES REPORT
(agenda item 9)

The Neighbourhood Partnership considered a report from the Area Co-ordinator.

Key issues raised / noted included:

- a. There was general support for the expenditure proposals set out in the report.
- b. With regard to section 1.1 of the report, it was noted, with reference to the Crews Hole / Beaufort Road / Queens Road / The Avenue

schemes, that potential options would be presented at a Traffic and Transport consultation event being organised for 7.00 p.m. on 24 October at the Beehive Centre. It was noted that this meeting would be open for the public to attend.

Taking account of the above, the Neighbourhood Committee RESOLVED that:

1. Highways schemes:

(1.1) the progress of schemes carried over from 2010/11 be noted.

(1.2) the progress of schemes carried over from 2011/12 be noted.

(1.3) the progress of the carriage and footway schemes for 2012/13 be noted.

(1.4) the progress of the devolved traffic S106 schemes for 2012/13 be noted.

(1.5) an additional £6,000 be approved from the devolved local traffic budget to complete the Kingsway scheme.

(1.6) £10,000 be approved from the devolved S106 budget to pay for road closure on the south side of Stibbs Hill.

2. Clean and Green:

(2.1) the progress of 2011/12 schemes be noted (supported from the bid for £29k from the Clean and Green central pot).

(2.2) approval be given to the allocation of £1,640 to the schemes identified in section 2.2 of the report from the 2012/13 devolved Clean and Green budget.

(2.3) the proposed 2012/13 schemes submitted to the (£19k) Clean and Green central pot be noted.

3. Parks S106:

(3.1) the progress of the 2011/12 S106 funded projects be noted.

(3.2) the progress of the 2012/13 S106 funded projects be noted.

Further Neighbourhood Partnership items:

10. ST. GEORGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP REPORT

(agenda item 10)

The Neighbourhood Partnership considered a report from the neighbourhood partnership members.

Key issues raised / noted included:

- a. With regard to part 1 of the report (Recommendations from the Operations sub-group):

The contents of a public forum representation from Philip Bird were noted. It was noted that the statement set out some alternative suggestions for consideration. The partnership then debated the particular issue of whether the term of office of resident members,

once elected, should be for 2 years (as recommended by the Operations sub-group) or for 1 year (as suggested in Philip Bird's statement and as put forward by him at the meeting). On being put to a vote, 4 partners voted in favour of a 1 year term of office and 8 members voted in favour of a 2 year term of office. It was accordingly agreed that the 2 year term of office for resident members should apply. Following further discussion, it was agreed that no further decisions on this aspect of the report should be taken at this meeting, and that the Operations sub-group should be asked to review their remaining proposals in the light of the issues raised in Philip Bird's statement, with a view to a further report being submitted to the next partnership meeting for decision.

- b. With regard to part 4 of the report (Development sub-group update):
Susan Acton-Campbell clarified that, at this stage, the intention was to e-mail all partners with details of the proposals for reinstating the development sub-group. The neighbourhood partnership would be notified once the group was re-instated and they had established what relationship they would like to have with the neighbourhood partnership.

Taking account of the above, the Neighbourhood Partnership RESOLVED that:

- 1. with regard to the recommendations from the Operations sub-group, it be agreed that, once elected, the term of office of a resident member should be for 2 years; and that the Operations sub-group be asked to review their remaining proposals in light of the issues raised in Philip Bird's statement, with a view to a further report being submitted to the next partnership meeting for decision (information about the recommendations to be circulated to partners following the Operations sub-group meeting, i.e. suitably in advance of the next neighbourhood partnership meeting).**
- 2. approval be given to Alex Wingrove taking the vacant young people's representative position.**
- 3. the update from the Traffic and Transport sub-group be noted.**
- 4. the update regarding the reinstatement of the Development sub-group be noted.**
- 5. the Neighbourhood Partnership performance management tool be noted.**
- 6. the specific item regarding Meadow Vale community centre be deferred to the next meeting.**

7. the progress update from the Environment sub-group be noted.

11. ST GEORGE PARK LAKE – FISHING BY-LAW UPDATE
(agenda item 11)

The Neighbourhood Partnership considered a report from the Area Environment Officer on options regarding the council's role in attempting to resolve anti-social behaviour and injuries to wildlife associated with fishing at the lake in St George Park.

In discussion, there was general support for the proposal to progress a new bye-law, as outlined in the report. It was stressed, however, that it would be important to ensure the bye-law was in place by March 2013, i.e. in advance of the 2013 wildlife breeding season.

Neither the Environment sub-group nor the Neighbourhood Partnership/Committee supported the setting up of a fishing club as recommended by the Environment Agency and requested that the resolution be amended accordingly.

Taking account of the above comment, the Neighbourhood Partnership RESOLVED that:

- 1. the council's recommendation to progress a new bye-law for St George Park lake be noted.**
- 2. the council's preference for a permit system be noted.**
- 3. it be noted that the council will also be considering whether it is appropriate to extend the proposed bye-law to cover other fishing sites.**
- 4. the actions set out in appendix 1 of the report be noted.**

12. PUBLIC FORUM BUSINESS
(agenda item 12)

It was noted that the following public forum business had been received:

- a. A statement from Philip Bird regarding agenda item 8 (St George car park improvements). This statement had been considered earlier at the meeting under the relevant agenda item.
- b. A statement from Philip Bird regarding agenda item 10 (with specific reference to the recommendations from the Operations sub-group). This statement had been considered earlier at the

- meeting under the relevant agenda item.
- c. A statement from Susan Acton-Campbell on behalf of St George West community first panel regarding forthcoming events and funding opportunities. This statement was noted. In discussion, Cllr Ron Stone indicated that he would be happy to join the panel.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 11 December 2012 at 7.00 p.m. at Summerhill Methodist Church, 5 Air Balloon Road, Bristol BS5 8LB.

It was agreed that it would be appropriate for name cards (for partnership members) to be available at future meetings.

*** At the conclusion of the meeting, the Chair and partnership members extended their congratulations to Ruth Kenrick (BCC Democratic Services) with regard to her recent marriage. ***

(The meeting ended at 9.00 p.m.)

CHAIR